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THE SATURDAY NEWS

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WATERTOWN, SOUTH DAKOTA, THURSDAY, APRIL 18, 1912.

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HORRIBLE DISASTER

Hundreds of Passengers Perish in Sinking of Big New Ocean Liner "Titanic."

WOMEN AND CHILDREN SAVED

Male Passengers and Members of Crew of Doomed Vessel All Went to Bottom.

Cape Race, April 17.—Unparalleled in the history of the sea were the scenes on board the Titanic as she sank at 3 o'clock yesterday morning after striking an ice berg at 10:30 o'clock on Sunday night.

With 866 women and children in twenty modern life boats on a calm sea, amid the cakes of ice surrounding the vessel, but at a safe distance, the remaining men passengers and a crew of 800, or 1,492 in all, went down when the crushed plate and bulkheads let in the water faster than the pumps could draw it out.

The last wild scenes on the vessel probably will never be known, for all the participants are dead, including Captain Smith, the commander of the liner.

Whether the crew stood at their posts bravely, or fought with the passengers for the life preservers, will never be known.

The accident is the greatest disaster in the history of the sea, and particularly so because of the large number of prominent and wealthy people on board.

But the meager reports show that the women and children were sent to the boats first, regardless of whether they were rich or poor, prominent or of the laboring class.

In the darkness, very likely the wives or mothers of those who sank were in ignorance of their fate, although not far distant, but details of this part of the tragedy will not be known until the Carpathia arrives here with its 866 survivors.

It is expected that nearly all the passengers were asleep when the crash came, and the women and children were hurried to the boats in their night clothing. They must have suffered terribly for the eight hours they passed in the small boats before they were rescued.

Although a half dozen steamers were summoned by wireless when the tragedy occurred, and they rushed to the scene, they arrived too late. As stated by Captain Gamber of the Virginia, only wreckage of the Titanic was found.

The Carpathia will reach New York with its survivors late Thursday or early Friday morning.

There is a slight hope yet of saving a few more on the life rafts.

Old Pioneer Resident Ludwig Becking Dies

Ludwig Becking, aged eighty years and a pioneer resident of Codington county died at his home near Florence Tuesday morning. The cause of his demise is assigned as old age and general debility. He leaves two sons, Lewis and Theodore, both residents of this county.

The funeral was held Thursday from the Easterly church.

Melham Accidentally Runs Man Down

J. O. Melham, president of the Melham Bros. Lumber company, of this city, is reported as having accidentally run over a man with his big automobile in California last week. Mr. Melham has been spending the winter in California with his family. It is reported that the man died a short time after the accident.

No blame is attached to Mr. Melham for the accident.

The real thing in honest men is one who pays the widow that \$5 he borrowed of the late lamented just before he left this vale of tears.

Death Angel Calls Miss Ruth Craft

Ruth Craft, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. M. Craft, of this city, died at the home of her parents in the southeast part of the city last Monday evening.

The deceased was aged about twenty years and for many months has been an invalid suffering from inflammatory rheumatism.

Although confined to her bed most of the time for several years she suffered her pain with Christian fortitude and always hoped for the best. She was very ambitious and simply had to have something to occupy her mind and hands and she used to crochet the little yarn caps which were worn by her girl friends. She was a bright and pretty girl and was beloved by all who knew her.

Funeral services were held from the Congregational church Thursday afternoon at 3 o'clock, conducted by Rev. C. H. Kearns of the Presbyterian church, in place of the regular pastor, Rev. A. B. Keeler, who is out of the city. Interment was made in Mt. Hope cemetery.

Drowned While Crossing River

Roy Edison, son of Mr. and Mrs. Snow Edison, was drowned while attempting to cross a swollen stream near Gravelborg, Canada, where he has been holding down a claim. The horse which the unfortunate man was riding swam ashore, but Mr. Edison went down and never came to the surface until his body was recovered a few days later. The sad accident happened on April 10th. The deceased had a brother also residing there.

The parents were notified and immediately left this city on their sad mission.

Tree Grub Worms Do Much Damage

Mrs. Isabella Faragher, of this city, was a pleasant caller at the Saturday News office Wednesday and called the attention of the editor to something which is of vast importance to the property owners of Watertown. Mrs. Faragher said in part as follows: "Perhaps you have noticed that there have been hundreds of fine shade and ornamental trees in this city killed within the past couple of years. I have been making a study of the cause of these trees dying and I find it is caused by a grub worm which embeds itself in the tree and drills it full of holes and finally eats the heart out of it. We never knew of such a pest until the lumber yards and telephone and electric light companies commenced to ship worm infested lumber and poles into this city from the coast country. I observed not long ago where a telephone pole had been broken off by the wind that the whole pole was literally infested with this worm and the wood was honey-combed. Upon investigation I learn that the worm is shipped into our city and after due time it becomes a flying insect and then scatters about the city and deposits its eggs upon the live trees and in due time the trees are thoroughly infested and death to the tree is certain. Now, I do not know what to do to kill the worm when once it has infested a tree but I would like to see the new city administration pass some kind of an ordinance compelling all people who ship lumber into this country from the coast states to use some kind of treatment on the lumber and poles that would kill the worm. If something is not done in the near future there will not be a live tree left in the city of Watertown."

Rev. F. R. Leach has chosen a timely topic for his Sunday evening sermon at the Baptist church. He will speak on "The Sinking of the Titanic; or, The World's Greatest Ocean Disaster." In the morning the ninth in the series of sermons will be given on "Some Popular Misconceptions as to the Sources of Christian Contentment." The public is invited.

The modern girl is never satisfied until she gets a hat too large for her head and shoes too small for her feet.

THREE OUT OF FOUR

Of the Wagner Candidates for Commissioner Were Elected Last Tuesday.

BUSH TO RUN NEXT TUESDAY

Countryman, Snyder and Whooley Receive Majority of all Votes Cast—Bush 37 Shy.

The first annual election for mayor and four commissioners took place in Watertown last Tuesday, under the commission form of city government.

There were twelve candidates in the field for commissioners, H. A. Wagner, who was elected under the old city charter, on the 2nd of April, having no opposition at the election this week for the office of mayor.

There were four Wagner candidates in the race and all won out with safe majorities with the exception of P. G. Bush, who lacked 37 votes of having a majority of votes over all candidates. Mr. Bush had nearly two hundred votes more than the candidate next to him, who was Mr. Southwick, but according to the law he must run again next Tuesday against Mr. Southwick as he did not get the proper majority last Tuesday.

The total number of votes cast at the election this week was 1,296, being 228 less than that cast at the election of April 2. Henry A. Wagner received a total of 958, the balance not voting for that office, there being no opposing candidate. C. K. Snyder received the highest number of votes for commissioner, 829, F. A. Countryman coming next with 740, while the other successful candidate, D. H. Whooley, received 735. P. G. Bush lacked just 37 votes of receiving the required majority, 649, and will be required to again make the race at an election to be held next Tuesday with J. C. Southwick, the next receiving the highest number of votes, 451.

Only 953 votes were cast for the two candidates for members of the board of education, H. S. Fletcher and F. L. Bramble, there being no opposing candidates.

Has No Claim on State Funds

Pierre, April 16.—No pay for glandered horses, unless they are destroyed by order of the proper authorities, is the ruling of the state law department. A case came up from Charles Mix county, where a horse was killed as affected with glanders, the killing being under orders of a veterinarian not connected with the state live stock sanitary board, and the owner of the animal asked for compensation under the provisions of chapter 163 of the laws of 1911, which appropriates fifteen thousand dollars annually for such compensation. The matter was brought to the state law department which holds that the owner cannot recover under the provisions of that enactment, as it specifically provides that the foundation of a claim is destruction of the affected animal through the orders of the state live stock sanitary board, or one of its authorized agents. This will mean that the party in the case brought up, has no claim on any of the state fund.

Contagious Diseases Result in Few Deaths

Pierre, April 16.—The report of Dr. Hoyt, secretary of the state board of health for February, for all counties of the state except Hyde, shows a total of 316 cases of contagious diseases reported, with thirteen deaths, of which the majority were from the effects of diphtheria. The tabulated list is:

	Cases	Deaths
Diphtheria	29	7
Scarlet Fever	109	5
Measles	85	0
Smallpox	90	1
Infantile Paralysis	2	0

TEDDY IS STRONG

Col. Roosevelt Grabs the Grapes in Pennsylvania Republican Primaries.

NEARLY ROOSEVELT LANDSLIDE

Former President Will Have Sixty-seven of the Sixty-eight Delegates and Maybe All.

Pittsburg, Pa., April 15.—With the returns still incomplete, it is known that President Taft got but nine delegates in all Pennsylvania, in Saturday's primary election. Seven of the Taft delegates are from Philadelphia and two are from Lancaster. Colonel Roosevelt gets all the rest, sixty-seven in all, including the twelve to be selected by the state convention.

The Penrose-Oliver machine was shattered, and even John Dalsell, who has been in congress twenty-six years from a Pittsburg district, was defeated for renomination by M. Clyde Kelly.

Trial of Murderer of Jack McLaughlin

We take the following from the Carlington (N. D.) Weekly Independent, of April 4th which gives a full and complete report of the trial of Frank Sroufe, who was convicted of manslaughter in the killing of John McLaughlin, a former well known resident of Watertown. "Jack" McLaughlin, as he was familiarly known to hundreds of citizens of Watertown and Codington county, was murdered in a hotel at McHenry, N. D., the latter part of February. The account of the trial will be read with interest by his many friends in this vicinity. "Frank Sroufe, until a month ago landlord of the U. C. T. hotel in McHenry, was found guilty of manslaughter in the first degree, for the killing of John McLaughlin in his hotel office February 24, by a Foster county jury in district court Saturday evening, and his term in the penitentiary was fixed by the twelve men at twelve years, the heaviest sentence that has ever been imposed for any crime in the history of this county. The jury was out about ten hours before arriving at the verdict.

"It was a very pathetic scene in the court room about 10 o'clock Saturday evening when the jury was brought in to deliver its verdict. The court officials and attorneys were all present, together with the jurymen and Sroufe. The defendant had been very nervous throughout the trial and as sentence was about to be passed he entirely collapsed and cried like a child. Judge Coffey read the verdict and passed sentence on the accused at once. It was with difficulty that Sroufe was able to walk back to his cell in the county jail.

"Sroufe was taken to the penitentiary Monday afternoon by Sheriff Atkins. It had been arranged for his wife, who has been with her parents at Intake, Montana, since the shooting, to meet the husband at Bismark before he was delivered over to the penitentiary officials. The term of twelve years can be cut down to nine years by good behavior on the part of the prisoner.

"Mrs. McLaughlin, 'the woman in the case,' was not put on the stand and but little reference was made to her in the testimony introduced by either side. But in the arguments to the jury she was given considerable attention that was far from flattering.

"The verdict of the jury meets with very general approval. Sroufe's own testimony on cross-examination Friday afternoon dissipated the self-defense theory and the question of whether or not the fatal shot was fired accidentally was the only ground left for an acquittal on the murder charge.

"The Sroufe trial has been a remarkable one in that the testimony introduced by the state and by the defense has been almost identical. Only on one or two of the essential details was there any difference.

There was little objecting on the part of the attorneys either in the direct or cross examinations. It is thought that the record is absolutely errorless.

"E. P. Kelly and assistants put up a strong defense for the accused and he was given a fair trial. With the facts before the jury almost identical on each side, the defense was forced to rely almost entirely on the theory that the shot fired was accidental. This was especially emphasized in the magnificent plea that was made to the jury in Sroufe's behalf by Mr. Kelly at the close of the trial.

"The state had worked up an almost hole-proof line of testimony. It was able to show that McLaughlin had never threatened Sroufe; that McLaughlin had told Sroufe that he ought to kick him, but wouldn't; that McLaughlin had entered the hotel in a cordial manner that evening and the feeling between the two men appeared to be friendly; that the assault was started by Sroufe; that on the fatal night he had never even touched Sroufe during the altercation; that the revolver used was a hard acting one and that the theory of its accidental discharge was not plausible.

"As the independent went to press last week, the evidence of Jimmie McLaughlin, the murdered man's son who was with him before and at the time of the tragedy, had just concluded his testimony. The next witness called was Miss Conway, a waitress, who also saw the shooting. Her testimony substantiated that given by the boy.

"Ole Elide testified to hearing McLaughlin tell Sroufe that he ought to whip him but wouldn't. This was at the time of the wrangle in front of the printing office in McHenry, a month previous to the shooting.

"Sroufe was put on the stand Friday forenoon and his testimony continued over to the afternoon session. His story was substantially as follows:

"Parent, reside at Ottawa, Kansas, born in Iowa; 37 years old; weight 130; came to North Dakota 10 years ago; located at McHenry; most of time since spent on farms; run hotel at Warwick and took U. C. T. hotel at McHenry last year; worked for John McLaughlin 10 years ago.

"Mrs. McLaughlin was employed at hotel as cook and part of the time as waitress; McLaughlin spoke to wife about going to work on own suggestion; she did not stay nights at first; went to Jamestown February 24th just before the trouble of that evening.

"Report had come to Sroufe in January that McLaughlin had said he 'would get Beardsley and Sroufe'; McLaughlin had been around hotel evenings peeking in windows; after Cole brought rumor of McLaughlin's statement, went at once up town at noon looking for him; stopped in front of printing office and waited for him; told him of rumor; McLaughlin wanted to know who said it; had words and I showed him the revolver I had taken up town with me.

"On the day of the tragedy February 24, met McLaughlin and his boy up town about 7 in evening while I was out after meat for hotel; saw them next in dining room; McLaughlin came from dining room to office, paid for supper and bought a cigar, which he lighted; then asked if I was running a respectable hotel; told him I was; McLaughlin said 'You're a ———'; I called me other names; I got revolver from bar shelf and showed it to him; told Jack to get out; he backed to front door; boy was pleading with him to go home and tugging at his coat; Jack had on fur coat; Jack was not willing to go out; but got clear out of the hotel and Jack had one foot out; I tried to close door on him; got it closed within a foot; then Jack hit door a blow, knocking it open; I went back to bar and got piece of rubber hose, transferred gun to left hand, came from behind bar and went to fighting him; hit Jack with hose; he warded blow with arm; do not think I hit his head; I stepped back to strike him again; he was coming forward; do not know whether his fists were closed; I drew back to hit him again and heard report from gun; (Sroufe showed how he hit with hose, using a full arm sweep); I didn't point revolver at McLaughlin; I did not intentionally pull the trigger; after the shot, Jack fell; I ran out doors to call somebody; first saw Greb the marshal; told him he had come too late; went back to hotel and went

SERIOUS DAMAGE

Heavy Rain Causes Roof of Gilruth Department Store to Collapse Friday Night.

LOSS ESTIMATED AT \$10,000

The John Moodie Dry Goods Co. Suffers Largest Loss. Center of Store a Wreck.

The John Moodie Dry Goods Company and the Lawrence Gilruth Company suffered a severe loss last Friday night which was caused by the collapsing of the roof of the Gilruth Department Store block.

As a result of the heavy rain Friday night about forty feet of the roof of the large double store fell in with a crash, damaging thousands of dollars worth of dry goods and women's apparel.

The building is owned by A. C. Gilruth, who now resides in California. The building is 60x165 feet, the two story part running back about 50 feet. It was about in the middle of the building that the roof collapsed, carrying with it the large skylight, the weight of the falling roof crashing through the ground floor to the basement.

As nearly as can be estimated the loss will be in the neighborhood of \$10,000, with the largest loss to the John Moodie Dry Goods Company. No insurance was carried by either firm against this kind of loss.

The loss to the building will be about \$2,000. Workmen are now busy getting the building repaired.

Both concerns are still doing business at the old stand, the center of the building being partitioned off while the repairs are being made to the roof and floor.

The cause of the accident, which is given by both Mr. Moodie and Mr. Gilruth, is that the 6-inch sewer pipe which ran up to the roof to carry away the water had become stopped up or the main sewer was not sufficient to carry it off, leaving it upon the roof which was not able to stand the heavy weight caused by a large body of water forming at the center where it flowed into the pipe. The roof was built in the nature of a "saucer" which allowed the water to run to the center and then down the drain pipe into the sewer.

Philathea-Baracas Have Joint Meeting

The Baraca and Philathea classes of the M. E. Sunday school, of this city, held their monthly social and business meetings at the pleasant home of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Sherin, on the north side, Monday evening of this week.

A very pleasant evening was enjoyed by the members of the classes. A short program was rendered, which was as follows:

Piano solo, Dr. Eirley.
Vocal solo, Mrs. J. N. Greene.
Coral solo, Doane E. Wood.
Vocal solo, Miss Essie Bates.

These are two of the leading classes of the school, each having a large and constantly growing membership. On Easter Sunday these classes contributed over \$225.00 to the cause of home and foreign missions, being almost one-fourth of the total contribution of the entire church.

The officers and teachers of these classes are to be commended for the excellent work these organizations are doing.

JUDGE F. A. COUNTRYMAN SAYS THANKS.

I surely appreciate the splendid vote accorded me for the office of city commissioner on April 16th and hope that every one who voted for me will not have cause to regret doing so. I remain,

Yours most respectfully,
F. A. Countryman.

to bedroom with wife. I never told McLaughlin "I will get you sooner or later."