2,415 BALES OF COTTON BURNED

Gulf Cotton Compress at Little Rock Destroyed by Fire at Loss of $200,000—No Cause Assigned for Fire.

Little Rock, July 18.—The plant of the Gulf Compress Company, near the Fort Smith Crossing, in Argenta, was destroyed by fire early yesterday morning.

There were 2,415 bales of cotton in the compress, and they were also destroyed. As middling is quoted this morning at 12⅜, the average price of a bale being $61.87, this means a cotton loss of $149,416.05.

The loss on the plant is about $50,000, making a total loss of $200,000.

The plant of the Gulf Compress Company was almost entirely destroyed, there remaining only 25,000 square feet of platform, a mad seething form which resemble baked cotton, a dismantled press and boiler to show where the plant once stood. The compress was one of the largest and most prosperous in the state.

The immense shed, which was destroyed, was 500 by 100 feet and sheltered 2,215 bales of cotton which was stored awaiting the shipping orders of the owners.

There is no reason assigned as to the origin of the fire.

JEALOUS, MURDERS HIS WIFE.

Cuts Woman's Throat and Brags About It to Officers.

Fort Smith, July 17.—In a fit of jealous rage last night about 10:30 o'clock, A. O. Gholston cut the throat of his wife with a jackknife, the wounds causing almost instant death. He was in an intoxicated condition, it is claimed, and accused his wife of being fickle. He declared that he saw her kissing a man in a hallway.

Gholston was seen to go up the steps to his home and in a few minutes the screaming of a woman was heard. People in the street rushed up to see what the matter was and found, it is alleged, Gholston in the act of driving the knife into the throat of his wife.

Deputy Constable C. F. Jones was called. He drove Gholston into a corner of the hall and kept him at bay until other officers arrived. On the way to the jail the officers declare Gholston bragged about his deed.

While the officers were caring for Gholston, physicians were summoned to try to save the life of his wife. She died, however, in a pool of blood before a physician arrived.

160,000 BUSHELS OF CORN ROTTING.

Has Lain in Great Heaps on Ground for Six Months.

Muskogee, I. T., July 17.—At Bluejacket in the northern portion of the Cherokee nation on the M. K. & T., railway there is piled up 160,000 bushels of corn that has been exposed to the elements for the last six months, because there was not sufficient warehouse room, and the railroad could not handle all of the corn, or at least failed to furnish cars to move the corn.

This corn is exposed to the winds and rain on its surface, and the tops of the great piles are bleached and whitened, as is the corn that is exposed on the open sides of the cribs. The corn is rotting on the ground and the moisture comes up in it as the weather gets hotter. There are 80,000 bushels of corn in one group of these exposed cribs.

LINKED ROOSEVELT AND BRYAN.

A Preacher Said They're the Greatest Enemies of Graft.

Seattle, Wash.—Before a large gathering of Christian Endeavorers, the Rev. Ira Landrith, regent of Belmont college, Nashville, Tenn., in an address on "Graft and Grafters," linked the names of Roosevelt and Bryan as the greatest opponents of graft and corruption the country has ever known. He said that graft, such as is practiced in many parts of the country, is little less than murder, bringing in, as it does, impure milk and impure and adulterated foods that cause alarming mortality.

AN IMPROVEMENT AT STATION.

Broad Concrete Platform May Soon Replace the Old Planks.

Inquiries have recently been made regarding the building of concrete platforms around the passenger station here.

It is expected that bids for the work will soon be asked for by the engineering department of the Kansas City Southern, as inquries have recently made here regarding the matter.

2-CENT RATE ON K. C. S. THURSDAY

Tickets Are Now Being Sold to All Points on the Line at Prices Giving Passengers Benefit of New Rate in Arkansas and Missouri.

The Kansas City Southern has now put into effect its new passenger rate card which gives all purchasers of tickets the advantage of the 2-cent rate on all milage in Arkansas and Missouri.

The new rate is called a composition rate, giving as it does the full advantage of the 2-cent rate in Arkansas and Missouri, but charging 3 cents for the milage covered where the road crosses into 3-cent territory, as in the Indian Territory and Kansas on the north.

The rate to Fort Smith was reduced July 5 from $2.55 to $2.34.

The old and new rates to other points on the line are as follows:

	Old Rate	New Rate
Kansas City	$11.40	$ 8.14
Joplin	6.75	5.54
Fort Smith	2.55	2.34
Texarkana	3.25	2.32
Shreveport	5.45	4.42
Port Arthur	12.30	11.12

GERMAN COLONIZATION TO BE PROMOTED

Plans Are Being Made by the K. C. S. to Promote Rapid Development of Mena and Polk County.

In order to reawaken the movement to promote German colonization in Polk county, the Rev. George Kirschke, pastor of the German Lutheran church of Mena, went to Kansas City this week and called upon F. E. Rossler, immigration agent of the Kansas City Southern. In reply to questions Mr. Rossler informed Mr. Kirschke that a large appropriation had already been asked for to be used in an extensive advertising campaign in the German publications, and that he expected it would be granted and that he would soon to be in position to do much toward building up a German colony in and near Mena.

Mr. Roessler is a firm believer in Polk county and also that the sturdy and industrious Germans are the ones that will the quickest develop its resources.

AN ATTRACTIVE PARK ENTRANCE

Curbings, Gutterings and Crossing of Concrete Now in Place.

Father Gallagher has now completed the work of improvement at the entrance to Janssen park by having built a solid concrete guttering and curbing from the sidewalk line to the turns of the driveway and a concrete crossing at the sidewalk line. The guttering was found necessary to carry off the water without washing the gravel from the roadway. This is the first guttering of the kind in Mena.

This work was done by Lon Goff, who gave free of charge his own time and the use of his machinery and tools, making a large saving to the park improvement fund.

Father Gallagher is doing all he can to promote the growth of the grass and clover with which the park has been seeded by keeping weeds cut and thus preventing the ripening of the seed that would make trouble next year.

J. L. Pipkin to Build Home.

J. L. Pipkin, the genial and affable clerk at Petty's store, is showing his faith in Mena's future prosperity by commencing the erection of a large residence on the South Side, which he will use for his home. Mr. Pipkin owns a number of vacant lots in South Mena, and it is his intention to build cottages on them in the near future for rental purposes.

COTTON GRADERS ARE IN DEMAND

The Business Requires a Man With a Keenly Developed Sense of Touch and Accurate Eyesight—Salary Is Good.

The fact that the state's first cotton school for the farmers is now in progress at Conway, has created considerable comment, among the cotton men in Little Rock, and shows graders are in demand. The school is being run under the auspices of the Farmers' Union, and the primary object is to teach the art of grading cotton, so that those who complete the course may be ready to take charge of the cotton warehouse belonging to the union.

A cotton buyer who has had considerable experiance in grading cotton, said yesterday that a successful grader must possess a keenly developed sense of touch and accurate eyesight. Salaries of graders range from $1,200 to $6,000 yearly. Except in markets where cotton is received every month in the year, the graders enjoy a vacation in the summer, and their pay goes on just the same.

A grader working from 9 o'clock in the morning till 3 o'clock in the afternoon will grade anywhere from 700 to 1,000 bales. By the touch he will determine the fineness of the fiber and the length of the staple and by the eye he will determine the color.

There are six grades on a middling basis. The grades are middling white uplands, middling light spotted, middling tinged uplands, middling stained uplands middling light blue and blue. The lengths of the fibers are classified as an inch and a sixteenth, inch and a sixteenth, inch and an eighth, etc.

"A cotton grader is something of a genius," it was explained "Whether he acquires the art by education, whether he comes by the art as a gift, it makes little difference. He must know at a touch and a glance what kind of cotton he is handling. A man might tak a asample of cotton and keep it a week, and if he knew nothing about grading he would not know any more at the end of the week than he did at the minute the cotton was handed to him."

Concerning the length of time required to learn the art, the cotton men differ. Some were of the opinion that a cotton planter might learn the art in a year. Others placed the minimum time required at five years.

PROTEST FROM PREACHERS.

Half Rates Cut Off by the Katy and a Fuss Is Created.

Dallas, Tex., July 18.—The action of the passenger department of the Missouri, Kansas and Texas Railroad Company in issuing a circular to agents and conductors instructing that all regular clergy permits be not further recognized for half-rate tickets has resulted in bringing down the criticism and censure of the ministry of Texas. The railroad company claims there are fully 3,000 holders of clergy permits in Texas who are not entitled to half-rate rides under the recently enacted anti-pass law of Texas, which provides that only regularly ordained ministers shall receive this courtesy. General Passenger Agent W. G. Crush has stated that all ministers entitled to half-rate tickets will be taken care of, pending the issuance of a list of holders of clergy permits who are entitled to use same under the laws of the state.

Money For High School at Salem.

Salem, July 17.—The citizens of Salem had an enthusiastic school meeting last night at which a stock company was originated and nearly $1,000 was subscribed toward maintaining a high school. This town has long been noted as one of the best school towns in north Arkansas, and it expects to lead this part of the state in educational advantages. A splendid corps of teachers will be employed.

SEIZED SACRAMENTAL WINE

Officers in Indian Territory Confronted With a New Proposition.

Muskogee, I. T., July 18.—"This box contains 50 quarts of wine for sacramental purposes. It is introduced in Indian Territory by special permission of the War Department. Anyone who interferes with it will be prosecuted."

That's a proposition that the officers ran up against at McAlester Wednesday.

The wine was consigned to the Rev. Peter Layman at Alderson. The wine was confiscated by W. E. Johnson and has been stored in the vaults of the marshal's office at McAlester. Johnson wired the Department of the Interior to ask what should be done with the wine and he has not yet been advised. It is the first instance of the kind that has come up before the authorities. The wine was shipped from Ft. Smith.

TEXAS MERCHANTS ALARMED.

Will Ask Extra Session of Legislature to Repeal Anti-Trust Law.

Houston, Tex., July 18.—The merchants of Texas are alarmed by the new anti-trust law of this state, and a meeting is to be held here today, at which it is expected resolutions will be passed requesting every merchant in the state to petition for an extra session of the legislature for its repeal. Under the provisions of the new law every business man is in peril. The sale of trust-made goods is declared a felony, and it applies to employees of a business house as well as to the merchant himself. No merchant can have exclusive agency for special makes of any character. The business men are much aroused over the situation, and they believe that if enforced the statute will paralyze business in Texas.

Fruit Special in the Ditch.

Van Buren, July 18.—An eastbound Iron Mountain fruit special that left Van Buren early Wednesday night, went in the ditch near Spadra, 55 miles east of here, about midnight, the engine and eight cars of peaches going into the ditch.

None of the particulars of the wreck could be learned here this morning, beyond the fact that the conductor and two of the three brakemen were slightly injured.

Following the Ponies.

"Our Hiram's writin' agin from Yarvard," said Farmer Richley, "fur more money fur books."

"Air ye sure he really wants that money fur books, Silas?" asked his wife.

"Yaas, he sez he'll take his oath every cent I send him goes to the bookmakers."

JULY 26, 27 AND 28.

Dates of Meetings of Churches of Christ at Board Camp.

The churches of Christ of Polk county will hold their convention at Board Camp July 26, 27 and 28, instead of dates previously announced. Dinner on the grounds.

A. T. Wright,
Chairman.

JEFF DAVIS DID NOT MEET HAMITER

Former Speaker of the House of Representatives Sorry That the Senator Was Not Present—Says Jeff Is Bluffing.

Walnut Hill, July 18.—United States Senator Jeff Davis failed to make good the promise he made in the Fourth of July speech at Camden and in other recent public addresses that he would, should the people of Lafayette county give a barbecue and invite him to attend, go there and "camp on the trail" of former Speaker of the House of Representatives Allen Hamiter.

Senator Davis denounced Mr. Hamiter in unmeasured terms at Camden and on other stumps, making charges as to his conduct while speaker of the house. Yesterday at Walnut Hill a great barbecue, attended by between 4,000 and 5,000 people, was given, but Senator Davis, who had been invited to be present, was conspicuous by his absence.

Mr. Hamiter called attention to the fact that Senator Davis had been invited to be present and speak. He denied the charges made against him by Davis and said Davis was only running one of his bluffs when he told the people in other sections of the state that he was coming into Lafayette after his (Hamiter's) scalp. He charged that Davis was attempting to control the Democratic party in Arkansas by the machine he used when he was governor of the state. He said he was sorry Davis was not present so he might hear what he had to say of him, and said that because Davis was not present he would consume no more of his time by talking about him.

ARKANSAS IS TO EXHIBIT

Fruits and Other Products to Be Shown in Fair at Kansas City.

From the Gazette.

Arkansas is to have an agricultural and horticultural exhibit at the interstate fair and exposition which is to open at Elm Ridge race track at Kansas City, Mo., September 23, and continue to October 5. The exhibit is to be made by Sevier county, Arkansas, and the farmers and fruit growers in other sections of the state, who say they will show the Missouri, Kansas and Oklahoma farmers what Arkansas can do. The fruit growers in Sevier county say they will ship 700 or 800 cars of peaches this year, in addition to a large yield of farm products.

Taft in Oklahoma August 24.

Guthrie, Ok., July 18.—Gov. Frantz received word Tuesday from Secretary Taft saying that August 24 would be an acceptable date for him to speak in Oklahoma City. Gov. Frantz replied that arrangements would be made accordingly.