

THOMPSON, BELDEN & CO.

Saturday, January 2, 1915 Will Mark the Beginning of Our 28th Annual Clearing Sale

Reliable since 1886. This sale will be no exception. No goods have been bought for sale purposes. This is a Clearing Sale in the true sense of the word.

You will not be disappointed.

FRENCH OCCUPY BELGIAN VILLAGE

Official Report of Paris War Office Tells of a Number of Minor Successes.

SLIGHT GAINS IN ARGONNE

Report Also Tells of Violent Bombardment of Positions from Lys to Somme by Germans—Fighting in Alsace.

PARIS, Dec. 29.—The French official statement on the progress of the war given out this afternoon refers to comparative minor French successes and mentions violent bombardment of certain French positions by German artillery. The French have occupied a village in Belgium; they have gained ground in the Argonne and they are investing Steinbach in upper Alsace. The text of the communication follows:

"In Belgium the village of St. George's has been occupied by our troops, who have established themselves in this location. "From the Lys to the Somme the enemy has bombarded our positions rather violently in the vicinity of Rebouche, at Stubbins, at LeQuemoy and at Pochoir, to the northwest of Hoyes. "There has been calm along the front between the Somme and the Argonne.

Gains Some Ground. "We have gained a little ground in the Argonne, notably in the forest of La Grive, in the forest Bolante and in the forest Courte Chaussee. "On the heights of the Meuse several German counter attacks have been repulsed in the forest of LaBouche, which is northeast of Troyon.

"The forces of the enemy which had occupied our trenches in the vicinity of the redoubt in the burned forest to the west of Apremont, have been driven out after three successive counter attacks. "In Upper Alsace, following a violent engagement, we are today closely investing Steinbach and our forces have taken possession of the ruins of the Chateau, which is located to the northwest of this village.

Answer to German Report. "A second official announcement was made by the French military authorities this afternoon. It is as follows:

"An official German communication dated December 28 and transmitted generally to all stations where wireless telegrams are copied, refers to the fact that it happens that the shells used by the German field artillery do not explode. At the same time the statement is made that these shells were taken by capture from the French or the Belgians. "The Germans, who daily have excellent opportunities to observe the efficacy of the French artillery, have now discovered a new quality in our guns.

"This is that they are dangerous only when operated by Frenchmen. "Let us believe that this is only more of the romantic tales painstakingly spread abroad by the German wireless system."

College Students Talk Prohibition

TOPEKA, Kan., Dec. 29.—Assembled to further the fight against liquor through a systematic campaign by college students, nearly a thousand delegates took part in the opening here today of the national convention of the Interscholastic Prohibition association, two hundred and fifty schools and nearly every state in the union were represented.

After addresses of welcome and brief talks by workers in state and national prohibition movements, speeches were to be begun in the biennial national oratorical contest of the association. The contestants are winners in state and interstate contests and are students of colleges in California, Michigan, Tennessee, Nebraska, Oregon and Kansas. The convention closes Friday.

TRIED FOR KILLING THIRTEEN, SELLING WOOD ALCOHOL

MIDDLEBURY, Vt., Dec. 29.—Dr. Don A. Blabie, a druggist of Bristol, who was arrested after the deaths of thirteen men, supposedly from wood alcohol poisoning, was placed on trial here today on four charges of manslaughter. The prosecution alleges that the deaths resulted from drinking liquor which Blabie is charged with selling.

Read the "For Sale" ad if you want bargains of the minute.

Losses to Scandinavian Vessels Through Mines Nearly \$10,000,000

(Correspondence of The Associated Press.) STOCKHOLM, Sweden, Dec. 29.—Total losses in Scandinavian shipping through mine disasters were as follows up to mid-December:

Sweden, eight ships and sixty lives; Denmark, six vessels and six lives; Norway, five vessels and six lives. To this total must also be added Holland with three vessels and fifteen lives. The total financial loss for the twenty-two ships and their cargo will reach nearly \$10,000,000.

LONDON, Dec. 29.—During the first four months of the war fifty-four British foreign-going ships, valued at \$11,000,000, with a cargo worth \$12,000,000, were captured or destroyed by the enemy. These are official figures of the Liverpool and London War Risks Insurance association.

Walsh Presents Resolution Calling for Record in Contraband Seizure

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.—When the senate convened Senator Walsh introduced a resolution calling on the president, if not incompatible with the public interest, to submit to the senate copies of all correspondence with representatives of foreign nations with relation to the seizure by European belligerents of shipments of American copper consigned to neutral countries. Senator Walsh gave notice that he would speak on it Thursday.

Vigorous criticism of the administration's policy in Mexico and an endorsement of the protests to Great Britain against the seizure of American neutral vessels were coupled in a speech in the house by Republican Leader Mann. "Our rights on the high seas," said Mr. Mann, discussing the protest to England, "must be upheld with dignity and firmness. I commend the administration for the position it has taken.

"We wish to keep out of this European war, but we do not intend to keep out by saying to the warring nations you may do what you please without regard to our rights. There is no danger if our being involved in this war by protecting our rights, England can not afford to go to war with us. Neither can Germany."

Referring to the Mexican situation, the republican leader said. "If there was a proper conception of our duties, we could easily bring order out of chaos in Mexico and that without war. I favor the Monroe Doctrine, but I am not in favor of turning Mexico over either to anarchy or the control of Europe."

BANK THIEF TAKEN, CASHIER PREPARED

Official Carried Screwdriver in Fear of Being Locked Up in Vault and Makes Way Out.

Man Dressed as Miner Enters Utah Institution, Holds Up Three and Gets Eighteen Thousand Dollars.

BINGHAM, Utah, Dec. 29.—A man who gives the name of Bert Heasted held up Cashier Earl Randall, two men and a boy at the Bingham State bank at 5 o'clock today, took \$18,000 in gold and currency and was arrested without resistance soon afterwards.

His quick capture was due to the fact that the cashier carried a screwdriver in his pocket to be used, he said, in case he was held up and locked in the vault, as was done with the cashier in another Utah bank robbery recently, and as was done with himself today.

Heasted was dressed as a miner and entered the bank without arousing suspicion. He made the three men and the boy in the bank lie on the floor, bound them, locked them in the vault and then took the money. Randall used his screwdriver to open the vault from within and was able to escape and give the alarm in a few minutes. Policeman J. H. White overtook Heasted, arrested him without trouble and found all the money in the man's clothing. Heasted says he came to Bingham from Colorado about a month ago. Another man, who had been observed with an automobile in readiness for two days past, has been arrested on suspicion of having been a confederate of Heasted.

Okla. Bank Robbed

CARNEY, Okl., Dec. 29.—Two men today held up the Carney State bank, securing approximately \$100. Two bank officials and three customers who were in the building when the robbers entered were compelled to march with the bandits a quarter of a mile from town, where the two climbed into a waiting conveyance and escaped.

More Terre Haute Men Caught in Net

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Dec. 29.—Four more men, including F. Talbot, city clerk of Terre Haute, and George Ehrenhardt, a member of the Terre Haute board of public works, were arrested at Terre Haute today by federal authorities on the indictment returned December 23, charging conspiracy to corrupt the election of November 3 last.

The arrests today bring the total made since the dragnet was set Christmas night to 193. Hilton Redman, an attorney, and son of Circuit Judge Eli H. Redman, who was arrested and released on \$10,000 bond Saturday, surrendered to the federal authorities, and the fourth man taken in custody was Frank Kiser, a saloon keeper, who was released on \$2,500 bond.

Postmaster at Kennard. WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.—(Special Telegram.)—Miss Charlotte Berry has been appointed postmaster at Kennard, Washington county, Nebraska, vice C. M. Wood.

GERMANS MAKING PROGRESS IN EAST

Berlin War Office Report Says Russian Attempts to Advance Are Repulsed.

GAINS ARE MADE IN THE WEST

French Defeated Near Steneshold and Gains Made Near Ypres and Nieuport—No Changes in East Prussia.

BERLIN, Dec. 29.—(By Wireless to LONDON.)—The German official statement given out in Berlin today says the German attacks in Poland have made progress and that Russian advances have been repulsed.

In the west the Germans claim gains near Nieuport and Ypres, they defeated the French not far from Steneshold; captured a trench west of Apremont, and repelled attacks elsewhere. The text of the communication follows: "In the western arena of the war we gained some ground after relatively unimportant engagements near Nieuport and to the southeast of Ypres. "Several strong French attacks to the northwest of Stenese had been repulsed with heavy losses to the enemy. We captured 300 prisoners.

"An advance in the Bured forest, to the west of Apremont, led to the capture by us of one fortified French trench and three machine guns. French attacks to the west of Steneshold have been repulsed.

"No changes have taken place in the situation in east Prussia. "In Poland, on the right bank of the Vistula, on a branch of the Baura and on the Hawka rivers, our attacks have made progress in the region south of Inowidz; strong Russian attacks have been repulsed."

GENERAL MANAGER OF THE WABASH HAS RESIGNED

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Dec. 29.—Henry Miller, general manager of the Wabash railroad has tendered his resignation to become effective January 1, according to an announcement made here today.

MADE TO ORDER \$25, \$30, \$35 and up INCLUDING Extra Pair Trousers

We will include an extra pair of trousers with your suit order—this week—for the price of the suit alone.

The extra trousers from same material as suit—or other fabric of equal value—as you may select.

VERY SPECIAL OFFER

Full Black, Blue, or Grey Cheviots, Worsted or Thibet Suit with extra trousers—of \$25 same or striped material \$25

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PROMINENT RANCHER CONVICTED OF LARCENY

PIERRE, S. D., Dec. 29.—(Special Telegram.)—The jury in the case against Herman Sonnenschein, the prominent Stanley county stockman on trial at Fort Pierre, charged with the theft of two cars of cattle, brought in a verdict of guilty of grand larceny this evening, after being out about an hour.

Two cars of cattle were shipped from Lanry for Chicago, but were stopped at Moberge as stolen stock, and by the confession of Ed Carr, Sonnenschein was connected with the deal. Sentence will be pronounced tomorrow by Judge McHenry.

THOUSAND RABBITS KILLED IN SOUTH DAKOTA HUNT

PIERRE, S. D., Dec. 29.—A couple of tons of rabbits was the outcome of a recent rabbit hunt in the vicinity of Ottumwa, where two parties devoted a day to hunting, with the losers to pay for a supper and dance following the hunt. They gathered in about 1,000 rabbits for the day's work, and it is alleged that there is no visible evidence of a shortage of the rabbit crop in that section since the hunt. The rabbits were loaded into a wagon and hauled to the railway at Midland by a four-horse team and shipped to a commission firm at Huron.

IOWA BLUE SKY LAW BEFORE SUPREME COURT

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.—The first case in the supreme court, in which the validity of a "blue sky" law, is at issue, was docketed today, on an appeal from the decision of the Iowa federal courts in that state, holding the Iowa law of 1911 regulating the sale of stocks unconstitutional.

Italy King Wires Wilson. WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.—King Victor Emmanuel of Italy today called President Wilson congratulating him on his fifty-eighth birthday anniversary. Messages from many of the nations at war have been delayed because of cable difficulties.

Pure, Rich Blood Made by Hood's

Pure blood enables the stomach, liver and other digestive organs to do their work properly. Without it they are sluggish, there is loss of appetite, sometimes faintness, and, in general, all the symptoms of dyspepsia. Hood's Sarsaparilla makes pure blood, and this is why it is so very successful in the treatment of so many ailments. Get it today.—Advertisement.

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Pianos For Rent \$3.50 A MONTH Free Tuning, Insurance, Stool and Scarf. Rent allowed on purchase price if you decide to buy.

During the Holiday Shopping Season you can increase the time for making your purchases as will feel better by getting quick service and pure food at one of Welch's The Pure Food Sign Quickserv Cafeteria

AMUSEMENTS BRANDEIS TODAY, Mat. 2:30 Evening 8:20 Last Two Times MATELLINOW WORLD FAMOUS FAIRY FANTASY THE BLUE BIRD

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OMAHA'S FUN CENTER Gayety Here's a Brand New Show BLYTHE GYPSY MAIDS Musical Comedy

REPEAT SERIES NO. 7 THE BEN GREY PLAYERS In Shakespearean Comedy

WOULD CHANGE THE NEW BANKING LAWS

Comptroller Williams Makes Some Recommendations in His Annual Report to Congress.

TO HAVE ALL BANKS UNIFORM Says Many Bank Directors Fail to Direct and He Would Insist They Attend a Majority of the Meetings.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.—Comptroller Williams of the currency bureau submitted his annual report to congress today. It covers the beginning of the transition from the old national banking system to the new federal reserve system, as well as the operations of more than 1,700 national banks which have become part of the new system since his last annual report was made.

Aside from reviewing the provisions of the new bank laws and the steps by which it was put into operation, the comptroller makes some recommendations for new legislation. They are:

An amendment to require uniform by-laws for national banks. In that connection the comptroller declares many bank directors fail to direct, and says any director who does not attend a majority of board meetings in a year should be ineligible for re-election.

An amendment to permit signatures on national bank notes to be printed instead of made with pen and ink, which would permit the bills to be washed and re-used.

That national banks be required to limit their deposits to ten times their combined capital and surplus. That the comptroller be empowered to remove, with the approval of the secretary of the treasury, any director or officer of a national bank, guilty of violating any of the more important provisions of the bank law, and direct that suit be brought against them in the name of the bank to recover for the results of any malfeasance in office.

Of the federal reserve act and what it is expected to accomplish for the finance and commerce of the country the comptroller says: "The federal reserve act is designed not only to cure weaknesses and defects of the currency system under which we have struggled, and sometimes staggered, in the past, as we have outgrown the conditions and passed beyond the circumstances which it was especially provided to meet, but to offer to the people of this country many new advantages and opportunities, while emancipating business from many evils, difficulties and troubles with which it has been burdened and from which it has found no escape."

At some length the comptroller recounts the activities of governmental agencies to aid the financial and business world

RUSSIA IS MASTER OF MOUNTAIN GAPS

(Continued from Page One.)

illities have been conspicuously erratic. French Fighting in West. Elsewhere in the eastern arena of the war little change has been recorded, while on the western front the slow and tedious trench warfare goes on uninterrupted, with only slight gains on either side.

The British press concedes the importance of the trenches near Hallebeke, south of Ypres, which have been taken by the Germans, and points out that the strategic value of these positions has been emphasized recently in a dispatch from Sir John French, commander-in-chief of the British forces on the continent. They command an important crossing of the Lys river, to which the Germans have been holding tenaciously. The taking of these trenches gives them a stronger foothold.

London Fears Aeroplane Raid. Fear of a Zeppelin raid over London, which recently has more or less subsided, has been replaced by the possibility of a raid of German aeroplanes. The comparative ease with which English airmen reached Cuxhaven has driven home the idea that a retaliatory visit would present any greater difficulty.

All the machinery to meet air invaders has been tightened up. The official warning as to the best steps to circumvent danger, heretofore issued only in coast towns, is now being circulated in London.

GLASGOW STEAMER SUNK BY MINE IN THE NORTH SEA

LONDON, Dec. 29.—The Glasgow steamer Gem, a small vessel of about 800 tons has been sunk in the North sea as the result of striking a mine. Two of the crew were rescued, but the fate of the others aboard the Gem is unknown.

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