

### AMERICAN BANK SEIZED AND HELD BY BOLSHEVIKI

Manager Stevens of City National Bank's Petrograd Branch Arrested; Vaults Under Guard.

Petrograd, Thursday, Dec. 27.—Solders acting under the orders of finance Commissioner Menshinsky today surrounded and seized all private banks in Petrograd, including the branch of the National City bank of New York. The manager, R. R. Stevens, was arrested and detained for a short time.

Many bank directors were arrested. Several surrendered the keys to the bank vaults, but Stevens refused. J. B. Wright, counselor of the American embassy, called upon Mr. Stevens during the afternoon.

Bar Entrance. At the time for the opening of the banks detachments of the Red Guard gathered in the streets and barred the entrances. Later the banks were entered, under the leadership of M. Menshinsky. Orders were given that work cease and that the banks surrender their papers and the keys to their vaults. In most instances no resistance was offered. Mr. Stevens declared his bank had no vaults, but only small safes. After his arrest he was permitted to return to the bank, which was placed under guard. The bank directors who were arrested were accused of "sabotage." Telephone service throughout the city was stopped for an hour.

In explaining the seizure of the banks, M. Menshinsky said: "We let it be known long ago that private banks should send reports weekly to the State bank. This was done, but the reports were incorrect. It was then decided to occupy the banks, revise their activity and then see that they resumed business properly. The keys are in the hands of Commissioner Cholsensky of the State bank, as are the books and documents which have been seized."

The National City bank of New York was granted a license last January to begin business in Russia with particular reference to the financing of railroad construction. The license given was the first granted to a foreign bank to do business in Russia since 1879.

You can secure a maid, stenographer or bookkeeper by using a Bee Want Ad.

### SHIP BUILDERS WANT TO ROB U. S.

Former Rear Admiral Bowles Says Pacific Coast Contractors Want Jobs, But Ask Exorbitant Prices.

(By Associated Press.) Washington, Dec. 28.—Former Rear Admiral Bowles, assistant to the general manager of the emergency fleet corporation, testifying today before the senate committee investigating the shipping situation declared that Pacific coast ship builders were anxious to get contracts, but only at very high prices.

Pacific coast plants he said have increased their demands \$15 to \$20 a ton on steel ships, making the prices asked from \$180 to \$185 a ton while some even are asking \$200 a ton.

Mr. Bowles made these statements in connection with an outline of legislation wanted by the shipping board, one portion of which was a suggestion that congress protect the ship builders from operations of the war excess profits tax law.

Some contractors are acting in good faith while others are trying to take advantage of the government, said the witness in replying to questions regarding the general attitude of contractors.

Haig Honors Americans In Nursing Corps Units. London, Dec. 28.—Field Marshal Haig, the British commander-in-chief, has submitted a list of names of persons serving on the western front as deserving special mention.

### France Exceeds Quota In Third Big War Loan

Paris, Dec. 28.—The 10,000,000 francs asked for in the third war loan has been exceeded, according to a statement made in the Chamber of Deputies today by M. Klotz, the minister of finance.

M. Klotz said that the returns for the loan were still incomplete, but that the subscription, not including those from abroad, aggregated 10,276,000,000 francs.

### TEUTONS STEAL ART WORKS FROM ITALIAN TOWNS

Destroy Priceless Frescoes and Other Objects That Cannot Be Carried Off and Plunder Villas.

Washington, Dec. 28.—Germany's creation of a so-called commission of experts with functions announced as the protection of works of art in invaded Italy is declared by semi-official dispatches from Rome received here today to be only a cloak to conceal the looting of art works.

It has been established, say the dispatches, that the enemy has transported to Vienna, Budapest and Berlin whatever could be removed from private and public buildings and churches.

Government Takes Over Niagara Electric Power. Washington, Dec. 28.—To assure the adequate supply of electric power for establishments engaged in war work at Niagara Falls and Buffalo, the government today requisitioned the electric power produced, imported and distributed by the Niagara Falls Power company, the Hydraulic Power company of Niagara Falls and the Cliff Electrical Distributing company.

### MERCURY DROPS WAY BELOW ZERO; WARMER IN WEST

(Continued From Page One.) this morning when the Burlington and Northwestern reports were filed.

Further south in Wyoming the weather was still warmer, the Union Pacific reporting 30 to 60, with considerable rain west of Cheyenne and warm weather in Nebraska as far east as North Platte.

Extends Eastward. Washington, Dec. 28.—A marked cold wave has overspread the upper Missouri and upper Mississippi valleys and is extending eastward and southward toward the Atlantic coast, where the weather will be much colder.

Colder Predicted. Chicago, Dec. 28.—The cold wave made its appearance in Chicago today with a 30-degree drop of the mercury to 4 degrees above zero. Ten below is predicted for tomorrow.

### GERMANS BOMB AMERICAN CAMP AND KILL THREE

Aviators Flying Low Over French Town Drop Bombs With Deadly Effect.

(By Associated Press.) German bombs and shells have brought death to three American soldiers in France. Bombs dropped on a camp resulted in the killing of two soldiers. A German shell, which dropped near a party of American engineers working in trenches on the French front Christmas eve, killed a corporal of engineers and wounded a private.

Check Surprise Attack. Repulsed in their attempt to break the French line northeast of Verdun, the Germans have ceased their efforts, while the artillery on both sides keeps up a lively fire.

On the Italian northern front the Austro-Germans have not followed up their success early in the week west of Brenta and which they had a hard fight to maintain.

One of the Mexicans Who Killed Two Americans Shot. Washington, Dec. 28.—At least one of the Mexicans who killed Lee Sharp and Clarence Sellers near Piedras Negras recently has been shot and killed by Mexican government troops, the American consul at Piedras Negras reported today.

Rock Island Railroad Declares 7 Per Cent Dividend. New York, Dec. 28.—Initial dividends of 3 1/2 per cent were declared today by the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railway company, recently reorganized, on its 7 per cent preferred stock, and of 3 per cent a share on its 6 per cent preferred stock.

### Nebraska Boy in France Dies of Pneumonia

Washington, Dec. 28.—The names of the American engineers killed and wounded in action on December 23 were as follows:

Killed: Corporal Russell W. Sprague, Middletown, N. Y. Slightly wounded: Corporal Charles G. Hewitt, Rockland, Me. Among the deaths from natural causes reported by General Pershing today were:

Private Eric O. Sayre, aero squadron, December 23, broncho-pneumonia; father, David O. Sayre, Waterbury, Neb. Private James C. Traill, engineers, December 25, pneumonia; father, J. Traill, Bakerfield, Cal.

### Cool Weather in Duluth

Duluth, Minn., Dec. 28.—The temperature was 32 below zero here today and bitter cold was reported elsewhere in northern Minnesota.

## THOMPSON, BELDEN & CO.

The Fashion Center for Women

### New Low Prices Saturday on the Best Winter Furs

Separate pieces and fine fur coats of the very best and most dependable grades go at reductions you'll appreciate.

Utmost reliance can be safely placed on Thompson, Belden furs. A certainty of quality and fashion that are known factors in all furs sold by this house.

Women interested in new furs will do well to investigate Saturday's savings in prices.



The Fur Shop—Second Floor.

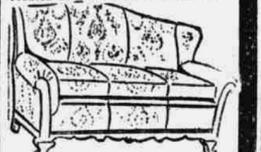
### Closing Out Sale

Special Lines of Furniture Remaining From Our Holiday Stocks. At 1/2 and Less Than 1/2 Price for the NEXT 15 DAYS

Anticipate your future needs now and buy during this sale. We will hold the goods for you until you want them and will also arrange accommodations to suit your convenience.



DINING TABLES. Some exceptional bargains are offered in Dining Tables, in a variety of styles and finishes and reduced as low as \$8.75



FINE DAVENPORTS. A few to be closed out at ridiculously low prices, and as low as \$16.75

Also special reductions on Library Tables, Rockers, Cedar Chests, Buffets, Dressers, Beds, Stoves, Ranges, Rugs, Etc.

Railroad fare free within 100 miles with \$20 purchase or over.

### STATE FURNITURE CO.

CORNER 14TH AND DODGE STS. Telephone Douglas 1317.

### THE FIRE

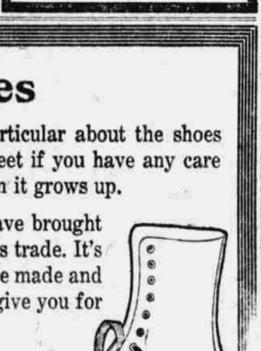
Damaged Us But Slightly, and We're Doing Business as Usual

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Will Offer 250 Exquisite Coats, Suits and Dresses

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Nearly All Colors. Nearly All Sizes. Nearly All Materials. Coats for Afternoon and Street Wear. Suits for Business and Dress Wear. Dresses for Morning, Afternoon and Evening.

This Sale Will Last Two Days Saturday and Monday

### EMPRESS

Last Times Today. A Musical Military Satire "Miss America" With Jeanne Water and Macklin Megley

LAKOMA Sensational Equilibrist in Daring Feats. Arthur Rigby, Owen Stanley, "Runaway Romany"

The Photoplay re-feature with MARION DAVIES. Admittedly America's Most Beautiful Young Star. BILLY WEST in The Candy Kid

Ophium Douglas 494 Superior Vaudeville MATINEE TODAY 2:15 Early Curtain TONIGHT 7:55 Sharp

Note—Gertrude Hoffmann in her big revue first on the program. Patrons are requested to be in their seats when the curtain goes up.

BRANCIS TODAY Mat. 2:30 Evng. 8:25 PLAYERS LAST TWO TIMES The Successor to "Peg O' My Heart" CINDERELLA MAN A Play of Youth, Love and Laughter Matinee, 25c; Tonight, 15c to 50c.

4 DAYS BEG. TOMORROW NIGHT "The 17th Years and Wednesday First Time in Omaha, A. H. Woods Presents POTASH and "IN SOCIETY" PERLMUTTER Mat. 25c to \$1.00; Nights, 25c to \$1.50

The Shepherd's Vision Cantata by Irene Berge will be sung by the FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH CHOIR Under the Leadership of MRS. C. O. PICKETT

DAY NIGHT, AT 7:45 We urge you to accept our invitation and come.

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Gaiety. Daily Mat. 15-25-50c. Evenings, 25-50-75c-81c. AN AUSPICIOUS START FOR 1918. MAX SPIEGEL'S Merry Rounders Musical. Abe Reynolds, Superb Florence Mills and a Typically Spiegelsque Production of Limitless Prigality. The Ultra-smart in Burlesque. Liveliest Show in Town.

LADIES' DIME MATINEE WEEK DAYS Monday Nite, Starting at 8:30 and 11:30. Novel, timely surprises on the stroke of 12. MIDNITE Omaha's One Live Spot NEW YEAR'S EVE A' Over at 1:45 A. M. "OWL" CARS HOME

BOYD TONIGHT LAST TIME. Return Engagement of the Popular Musical Comedy "Very Good Eddie" Popular Matinee Today. Best Seats, \$1.00. Nights, 50c to \$1.50. Sunday—"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN"

Jan. 3-4-5—Matinee Saturday MAX FIGMAN NOTHING BUT THE TRUTH

### Strand

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MARY PICKFORD in "The Little Princess" His Smashing Career (Sunshine Comedy)

MUSE. CONSTANCE TALMAGE in "SCANDAL" A story of a willful debutante, a wealthy caveman. Smart society at its smartest.

Hippo ALWAYS A GOOD SHOW 1500 Harney. LAST TIMES TODAY Earle Williams, in "The MacIstrom"

SUBURBAN Phone Col. 2841 Today—BELLE BENNETT, in "ASHES OF HOPE"

HIPPODROME 25th and Cuming Today—MARIE DORO, in "LOST AND WON"