



## The Money Question

was a terrible burden during the days of the Revolution. Washington had all he could do to keep his little army together without it. The money question is just as important today. Are you saving yours as you should for the inevitable rainy day? Are you preparing for the time when you cannot work? If not

## Yegen Bros. Savings Bank

urges you to begin now, even if you start with only one dollar. Responsible Capital \$125,000.

## Yellowstone National Bank

OF BILLINGS

CAPITAL - \$50,000  
SURPLUS - \$40,000A. L. BABCOCK, President  
PETER LARSON, Helena, Vice-Pres.  
E. H. HOLLISTER, Cashier  
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Boxes for Rent in Safety Deposit Vault.

### General Banking Business

Sell Exchange available in all the principal cities of the United States and Europe. Collections promptly made and remitted for. Accounts of firms and individuals solicited on the most favorable terms consistent with safe and conservative banking.

## Billings State Bank

Capital Stock, \$50,000.00

### OFFICERS:

Paul McCormick, President.  
B. G. Shorey, Vice-Pres.  
Charles Spear, Cashier.  
John A. Hoyt, Teller.

### DIRECTORS:

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Transact a General Banking Business.

GRUWELL BLOCK

BILLINGS, MONTANA.

## THE PEOPLE'S SAVINGS BANK

2715 Montana Ave., Billings, Mont.

### Interest Paid on Deposits

Savings Deposits secured by first Mortgages on Improved Real Estate

Money Loaned on City and Farm Property

The People's Savings Bank is Owned and Guaranteed by the stockholders of the Billings Loan &amp; Trust Company

THOS. J. BOUTON, Pres.  
W. F. Sylvester, Sec. & Treas.

## Livery, Feed and Sale

STABLE

North 27th Street.

### Careful Attention to Stock

P. H. SMITH, Proprietor.

## PEACE TALK IS RENEWED

MOSCOW TRAGEDY MAY HAVE INFLUENCE FOR PEACE.

## CHANGES ARE DEMANDED

Leading Russian Newspapers for a Radical Change of Policy by the Government.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 19.—According to reports in circulation, the empress mother has received a threatening letter warning her that she will be the next victim. This is only one of the many rumors afloat, among which is one that at a meeting of the grand dukes last Saturday night it was unanimously decided to withdraw all opposition to the assembling of a zemsky zabor and to recommend its immediate summoning by the emperor.

Kishinef, Russia, Feb. 19.—The prefect of police of Kishinef was attacked yesterday by an unknown man armed with a club. The official's assailant was arrested.

Tokio, Feb. 19.—The foreign office pronounces as unfounded the St. Petersburg report that Japan has unofficially informed Russia of the terms of peace she would be willing to accept.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 19.—An extraordinary sitting of the council of the empire has been summoned to consider the situation arising from the assassination of Grand Duke Sergius.

### Changes Are Demanded.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 19, 1:20 a. m.—The Russ and the Novosti, commenting on the assassination of Grand Duke Sergius, point out how impossible is a continuation of the conditions. The Russ says:

"From the day of the death of Minister of the Interior von Plehve the fighting organization of the social revolutionists held its peace and the four months of Prince Sviatopolk-Mirsky's regime was a period of active but peaceful propaganda. Now that blood again has been shed, and although foreigners predict all will end in revolution, the case is not yet hopeless. Only let representatives of the people be allowed to participate in the government and the nation is directed to the road of peace and our sufferings must end. We do not want blood and terror, but peace and peaceful conditions. On this hope we see our only safety from the tragic incidents that are happening about us."

The Novosti says: "The victims of the war number tens of thousands. A hundred of high officials are among those victims. People are losing their lives in the streets of Russian cities. We cannot live longer under such conditions. The happiness of the people should not be bought with their blood. Compromises of the bureaucracy cannot save the situation. Enough of this blood and terror. The emperor must honestly and sincerely meet the hopes of the people half way. The throne must join hands with the people against the bureaucracy. This is the only salvation from the horrors that threaten to darken the near future."

### Peace Talk Is Revived.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 19.—In diplomatic circles the opinion is quite generally expressed that Friday's tragedy may be followed by the decision of the government to conclude peace. For some time, despite the official attitude maintained by the government, there has been growing appreciation of the difficulties of prosecuting the war in the midst of increasing complications at home, and, as announced by the Associated Press Saturday, the matter was actually the subject of formal consideration by the emperor and his ministers February 16.

Strong influences which, it is understood, in spite of denials, are headed by M. Witte, president of the committee of ministers, have been working quietly in this direction.

General Grippenberg's revelations followed by the murder of Grand Duke Sergius, in the opinion of some of the ablest diplomats, are not unlikely to

add definitely to negotiations for peace. The war office is considerably alarmed by the new danger threatening the Manchurian army from the systematic attempts making by Japanese and Chinese bandits to cut the line of communication back of the army. According to reports, about 10,000 men, split up into bands of several hundred each, are operating from Mongolia and are striking at the railroad.

A Russian detachment following up the Japanese band which cut the road below Harbin fell into an ambush of two regularly organized Japanese regiments and was almost cut to pieces, losing half its men and one gun.

The fear is that if the bandits move further north or west they might interrupt communication to such an extent as to make it impossible to supply the army. This danger has already compelled the triple reinforcement of the railroad guards below Harbin.

### The Mission of Leopold.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 19.—Prince Friederich Leopold of Prussia, who had been visiting the emperor, started for Berlin at midnight Saturday. It was announced from Berlin today that Prince Friederich Leopold was to go to the far east by steamer from Genoa, owing to the difficulty in sending the princely train quickly over the congested Siberian line, and that he would first pay a visit to Emperor Nicholas.

A dispatch from St. Petersburg early yesterday, however, threw a different light on the prince's visit to St. Petersburg. It was intimated that the prince was the bearer of personal representations from Emperor William on the subject of peace, and it was added that it was positively known that the question of peace was discussed between Emperor Nicholas and Prince Friederich Leopold, though it was impossible to ascertain what, if any, conclusions were reached.

### HEIR DONS ARMY BLUE.

Eldest Son of Irish Land Owner Is Found a Trooper.

New York, Feb. 19.—Arthur Reginald French, eldest son and heir to the title and estates of Baron de Freyne, a large land owner in County Roscommon, Ireland, arrived here on the Cunard steamer Umbria on January 16, went to the St. Denis hotel, and about three days later disappeared.

Last Thursday Mr. Olive-Bayler, the English consul here, received a letter of inquiry about the young man. It came from Denver and was from Captain William French of New Mexico, an uncle of the missing man. There was an exchange of telegrams between the consul and Captain French and the consul and Captain French and Lord de Freyne.

The result was that yesterday the police were notified, a general alarm was sent out, a private detective engaged, the newspapers told and all the machinery of a thorough search for the missing heir to a peerage and a large landed estate put in motion.

All this time Arthur Reginald French was up at Fort Slocum, on David's island, near New Rochelle, in the simple and serviceable blue uniform of a private in Uncle Sam's army, a regularly enlisted man in Company A., Eighth regiment. When found, he expressed surprise at the fuss over his disappearance. He just wanted a little rough experience.

### Wants Report Printed.

Washington, Feb. 19.—The senate committee on privileges and elections yesterday authorized Chairman Burrows to present to the senate the testimony and arguments in the Smoot investigation with a request that they be printed as a house document.

Senator Pettus urged that the chairman should call the full committee together as early as possible and that some sort of a report should be given to the senate in time for action as the present session. The committee was adjourned subject to the call of the chairman, with the understanding that a meeting would be called early next week with a view to making a report.

### Colombia Persistent.

Washington, Feb. 19.—Colombia is again endeavoring to reopen the Panama question and reach an understanding with the United States. Mr. Triana, the Colombian chargé, called on the president yesterday by an appointment arranged by Secretary Hay and presented to him a personal letter from General Reyes, president of Colombia. The president did not commit himself further than to say that he would be glad to confer with Secretary Hay and send General Reyes a reply.

## WAGE WAR ON OCTOPUS

INVESTIGATION OF STANDARD OIL IS BEGUN.

## METHODS OF THE COMPANY

Issues Edict Forbidding Agents Purchasing Crude Oil in Kansas Field.

Washington, Feb. 19.—When young Rockefeller sent his extraordinary telegrams to his friends in the United States senate protesting against the creation of the bureau of corporations he must have had a prophetic vision of what was coming to the Standard Oil company when the people really understood their rights and their powers.

The happenings in Kansas resulted in swift action in the house of representatives as a result of which the Standard Oil company may be brought to book even sooner than people had expected.

There was a little joker in the law creating the bureau of corporations as part of the department of commerce and labor. Mr. Rockefeller did not know it, but in every investigation of corporations engaged in interstate commerce the president and house of representatives are absolutely independent of the senate.

### Make Inquiry Under Law.

The secretary of commerce and labor is obliged by law to make investigation whenever requested to do so by the house or by the president, and it was under this almost forgotten provision of the law that a resolution swiftly was passed in the house without even reference to a committee requiring Secretary Metcalf to investigate the oil situation, particularly in the Kansas field.

When the Standard Oil company undertook to boycott and blacklist the oil producers of Kansas it evidently did not realize the storm it would raise. The situation in Kansas has been subject to constant attention here from the outset and a report seems to indicate that the Standard Oil company has acted in a manner which is even more outrageous than its customary methods.

People have been driven from their homes. Private property has been destroyed, business in oil towns has come to a standstill, and there are said to be, without exaggeration, thousands of people who have lost their all as a result of the attempt of this greedy monopoly to capture the oil fields for its own use and profit.

### Campbell In Earnest.

Representative Campbell is in deadly earnest and he thinks a trail has been struck at last which may bring the Standard Oil company to its knees begging for mercy.

"The Standard Oil company is merely a commercial bully," he said last evening in talking about the purpose of his resolution. "It has resorted to all sorts of unlawful means to destroy competition. It has robbed the people of my section of employment, ruined others, and generally acted in restraint of trade. We want to find out, once for all, whether the United States of America or the Standard Oil company is the bigger concern, and whether Theodore Roosevelt has more power than John Rockefeller."

"This resolution," continued Representative Campbell, "was inspired merely by the condition of affairs brought about in my state by the unlawful and arbitrary acts of the Standard Oil company. When oil was discovered in Kansas its development was undertaken by the farmers who owned the land: They sank their own wells, and whenever one was shot an agent of the Standard Oil company was on hand to pat the farmer on the back and tell him to go ahead. They furnished the money in advance, took the oil at a dollar a barrel, and shipped it to Kansas City, thus encouraging production and stimulating the digging of wells throughout the whole field."

"Then came the Standard Oil company's pipe line. The owners equipped their wells, made the necessary connections at their own expense, and prepared to ship their oil, with visions of fortunes at the promised rate

of \$1 a barrel. Tank cars disappeared, the pipe line became indispensable, and then the price dropped and kept on dropping until it reached 47 cents a barrel.

### New Game for Kansas.

"This may have been an old game through Pennsylvania, but it was a new one for Kansas. The people had been encouraged to spend their money sinking wells and developing the territory. When the development had reached its limit the Standard Oil company put down the price, and as there was no other pipe line and no other refinery there was no market for the product."

"At this stage of the transaction," continued the Kansas statesman, "a bill was introduced into the legislature providing for a state refinery as the only way of making a market for crude oil. While this bill was pending, and in order to prevent its passage, the Standard Oil company resorted to tactics which were disreputable and illegal. Because farmers and people dependent upon them asserted their ordinary rights and asked relief from the legislation they were boycotted and blacklisted by the Standard Oil company."

"Mr. Rockefeller's men have issued an edict forbidding their agents from purchasing any Kansas oil. This has resulted in a rowing out of employment not less than 10,000 men. Lessees of fully 4,500 wells will be ruined financially unless something is done to curb the monopoly. Flowing wells are going to waste, oil is running over the country, and pumping wells, of course, have abandoned operations. Towns which largely increased in population as a result of the discovery of oil have by a mere edict of the Standard Oil company been reduced to a condition of commercial prostration and the people are being thrown upon the streets without employment or capital."

### WILL FIGHT FOR THE LAND.

Hot Contest for the Possession of Bench Lands.

Lewistown, Feb. 18.—The contest over what are known as the Rock creek bench lands, extending from near Moore, on the Montana railroad, to well up to the Big Snow mountains, promises to be a bitter one. The settlers have just perfected their organization for the purpose of giving each settler whose right to the land is attacked the strength of the entire body. So far only a few contests have been started in the Lewistown land office, but it is no secret that many others are to follow.

The ground of the contest is that the lands are non-desert in character, as claimed, and that crops can be raised on them without irrigation. The first case is to come up for hearing February 23, and the court house has been secured for the hearing. It is stated that there are about 50 entries of 160 acres each liable to the attack. As this land is valued at an average of about \$13 an acre, it will be seen that the amount involved is a large one. The attempt to take the land from settlers on this ground has created much feeling, and the result is awaited by the entire county with the deepest interest.

### Hoke Smith Comes Back.

Washington, Feb. 19.—In an authorized statement given out last night former Secretary of the Interior Hoke Smith, replying to a statement issued by Secretary Hitchcock regarding the action of Mr. Smith in approving an oil and gas lease made with the Osage Indians in 1895, severely arraigns Secretary Hitchcock as making a "baseless charge."

### Hoch Has a Double.

Chicago, Feb. 19.—Johann Hoch has a double in Frank Busch. Yesterday at a police station where Hoch once received women whom he married, Busch, who is also a prisoner, looked the part of Hoch in every respect and talked with the German accent, as talked with the German accent, as does Hoch. In fact, Busch looks so much like the man who has confessed to marrying 11 wives that victims whom Busch, it is alleged, had robbed and who had identified Hoch as the swindler admitted that they had made a mistake in identity and picked out Busch as the right man.

Busch, like Hoch, was not moved by the identification. He would smile, like Hoch, and at times utter witty expressions. Busch, it is alleged, preyed on women, but did not bar the men.

### Peacocks for Sale.

Pair peacocks. Apply at ranch of George Vaughan, near city. sw85-2

## LAW CANNOT REACH THEM

NO PUNISHMENT FOR QUARANTINE VIOLATORS.

## BOARD IS WITHOUT POWER

Attorney General Gives His Opinion In Case of Those Who Went to Miles City.

No law exists by which the persons who broke quarantine here and went to Miles City may be reached. This is the opinion of the attorney general and bears out that of County Attorney Wilson, who recently went to Miles City to confer with the authorities of that county.

In a letter Attorney General Galen writes as follows:

"While I am of the opinion that a flagrant breach of such quarantine regulations, such as you present, should not go unpunished, still, under the law, I do not believe a conviction could be had, and I congratulate the state board of health that it did not have more serious difficulty in enforcing its regulations for the protection of the general health of the state during the recent smallpox epidemic in the city of Billings.

### No Penalty Attaches.

"The quarantine regulations in question were promulgated under and pursuant to the provisions of section 4 of house bill No. 104, laws of 1901, and, as you will note from the language of the section, the board exercised its authority under very general authority of law, to say the least, the only authority being that provided in said section 4.

"There is no special penalty attached by the law for failure of compliance with such sanitary measures and precautions, unless section 35 of said act can be construed as applying to the entire act, and providing for punishment for violation of any of the provisions of the act, or unless section 678 or section 1073 of the penal code might be construed as controlling.

### Law Should Be Amended.

"If the county board of health has declared the quarantine, under the provisions of section 11 of said house bill No. 104, I should have no hesitancy in directing, and I do not believe you would have any hesitancy in instituting prosecution, for such breach of quarantine.

"I have worked with the present law sufficiently to give as my opinion that its provisions respecting the state board of health are entirely inadequate, and I believe that it should be amended in the interest of the public health. While extensive legislation is being adopted regulating diseases among animals, laws concerning the most important subject of regulation—that is, the health of the people of the state—is being given little thought or attention.

### INVITES THEM TO A WHIPPING.

A Woman Calls Reporters to See Her Apply Lash to Real Estate Man.

Minneapolis, Feb. 19.—A sensational horsewhipping, planned and advertised with a fan-fare of trumpets that would have done justice to a French duel, took place in a down-town realty office, to the great enjoyment of several reporters who were present as invited guests. A pretty young woman named Mrs. S. W. Goldstone entered the private office of W. C. J. Herman, a prominent insurance and real estate man in this city, and struck him several times with a whip, drawing blood on his face and hands.

The woman says Herman outrageously slandered her and says she will now bring suit for defamation of character. The most unusual and systematic preparations were made to have the whipping occur in the street in front of the building in which Herman has his office, but it failed, and Mrs. Goldstone did the next best thing in betaking herself to the gentleman's office. Herman says it is a case of blackmail.

If you want a smooth, clear complexion, take Hollister's Rocky Mountain Tea this month. Bright eyes and red lips follow its use. 35 cents, Tea or Tablets. Holmes & Rixon.