

# Room 276 in Treasury Building—America's New 'Mystery Chamber' Where History Is Being Written

BY FREDERICK C. OTHMAN  
United Press Staff Correspondent

WASHINGTON, Feb. 1.—Walk into the treasury department, climb the ancient stairs and stroll down the front corridor to room No. 276, the mysterious chamber in which President Roosevelt's \$2,000,000,000 stabilizing fund for the dollar is being administered.

Pound on the door. Shake the knob. Guards come running. Scram. Sneak around the corner, crane your neck and peek through a window. See inside what's destined to become one of the most

historic rooms in American history.

A black velvet curtain almost obscures three machines. One pounds out news of the world. One taps financial information at sixty words a minute. One prints bond quotations in purple symbols. A stenographer, with windblown hair, appropriately golden, tears off the tape at intervals.

SHE takes it to Archibald Lockheed, foreign exchange expert, who sits at an oval table of mahogany. Mr. Lockheed and five associates pore over the tape. They make notations on charts.

They draw red lines and black on green-ruled graph paper.

Treasury Secretary Henry Morgenthau Jr. walks in through a private entrance. He removes his glasses, speaks quietly to Mr. Lockheed, smiles, and walks out again.

Daylong, Mr. Lockheed and his conferees study the financial news. Each night they report to Secretary Morgenthau. On the basis of this knowledge he dispatches orders to New York, where his agents are ready to buy and sell the pound, the franc and other foreign currencies. Only two men know all of what is going on. They are President Roosevelt and Mr. Morgenthau.

THEIR operations are designed to keep the dollar at a designated world level and so promote rising prices for American goods. The \$2,000,000,000 with which they operate is in gold, most of it in the federal reserve banks, where it is earmarked for the account of the treasury.

Only a few millions in gold are in the vaults far underneath the treasury building. Officials insist no more gold will be brought here. Nevertheless, a treasure chest costing \$400,000, and big enough to hold most of the gold in the world, is in the process of erection.

Tread carefully down granite

stairs into a subterranean passageway and take a look. Go still lower on a ladder, dodge iron workers, and enter what soon will be America's strongest strong box. The walls, the floor and the roof

## PROFESSOR WILL SPEAK

Church Open Forum to Hear Talk by Butler Teacher.

Professor Ross Griffith, Butler university, will speak at an open forum session tonight in the First Presbyterian church. His subject will be "The Responsibility of the Church for the Character of Moving Pictures."

are made of chilled, pressed iron, so hard that it took experts six hours to drill one small hole yesterday in a plate of it.

THE vaults are painted orange color, like a new bridge. Workmen struggle installing the door. It weighs thirty-nine tons. On the lower level are five great chambers designed to hold bullion, and five more to hold currency. On the second floor are more vaults for available papers, the records, for instance, from Room 276.

The man who shows you around says he doesn't think any burglars

will try to get in. If they do, they won't be able to get out. A

## FLORIDA LYNCHING IS PROBED BY GOVERNOR

Immediate, Diligent Investigation Asked by Executive.

By United Press

TALLAHASSEE, Fla., Feb. 1.—Governor Dave Sholtz, emphasizing "we do not condone lynching in Florida," asked for an "immediate and diligent investigation" of the lynching of Robert Johnson, Negro, near Tampa Tuesday.

trick arrangement of microphones and port holes and passageways for guards takes care of that.

He doesn't know what is going into the vaults, the man says. Ask Mr. Morgenthau, he suggests. But Mr. Morgenthau is busy—in Room 276.

## The New Aid in

**PREVENTING COLDS**  
VICK'S  
Nose & Throat  
DROPS  
CLEARS HEAD QUICKLY

to Ayres Downstairs Tomorrow for ...

# Important February Thrift Sales

RIGHT OFF THE GRIDDLE!

FEBRUARY  
SIZZLER

No. 1

A Value So HOT That We  
Offer It ONLY for ONE DAY!

## Lace Curtains

Of Exquisite Quality—at a Saving of 1/3

Look for a February Sizzler every day this month... here is No. 1. Lace curtains of fine shadow weave net in 2 beautiful designs. They are 43 inches wide and 2 1/4 yards-long. Recommended by most interior decorators.

We Reserve the Right to Limit Quantities!

**84c** Each

—Downstairs at Ayres.

Heavy Service Weight  
"Buster Brown"

## Women's Hose

of Delustered Rayon

**25c** Pair

"Buster Brown's" are a nationally advertised hose that has met with universal approval. They're made of chardonize rayon that will give more than the ordinary service. They have a seamed back with extra high spliced toe and hemmed top. All first quality. Sizes from 8 1/2 to 10 1/2. Your choice of all the popular hosiery shades.

—Downstairs at Ayres.

Children's Spring

## Wash Frocks

Guaranteed Fast Colors

**59c** Each

The chief news about these new spring wash frocks is their charming colors and combinations and the fine fabrics. Prints, broadcloths and sheers with "hot" fashion details to make them extraordinarily good looking. In most every color and combination suitable warm weather wear. Sizes from 1 to 6 years.

—Downstairs at Ayres.



Sale!

## Hundreds of New Spring Dresses

**\$3.95**

The time has come to inject a new spring tonic into your wardrobe. What better way than to TAKE some of these brand new dresses that say spring 1934? You'll find these dresses have everything. All the new details, the new lines, the new contrasting plaid trims, crisp white on black, navy or brown. Field flower prints, gay prints and combinations. In fact you'll be thrilled pink being able to find such a fine quality dress at such a low sale price.

—Downstairs at Ayres.

Sizes for Women and Misses!

A Special Purchase and  
**Sale! Shoes**

Sizes 3  
to 9  
A to C

**\$1.49** PAIR

We were lucky enough to secure a fine group of high quality shoes at a very, very low price. We pass this TREMENDOUS saving along to you. Select a serviceable shoe of leather, brown and black kid, fabrics and satins. Oxfords, straps, tie and step-in pumps. High or Cuban heels.

—Downstairs at Ayres.

## CLEARANCE!

Women's High-Grade

## Winter Coats

Beautifully Fur Trimmed!

**\$13.95 \$17.95**

Here's a clearance that will sell itself! Coats of superb quality in fabric and fur treatment. Substantial reductions that are really sensational! These coats are beautifully tailored, have warmth and smart fashions. Rich, thick, sleek furs adorn the collars. They're Beaverette, Lapin (Rabbit), Marmink, Manchurian Wolf, Pointed Wolf, (dog) and Coney.

Sizes for Women and Misses!

—Downstairs at Ayres.

Men's Plain or Fancy

## SHIRTS

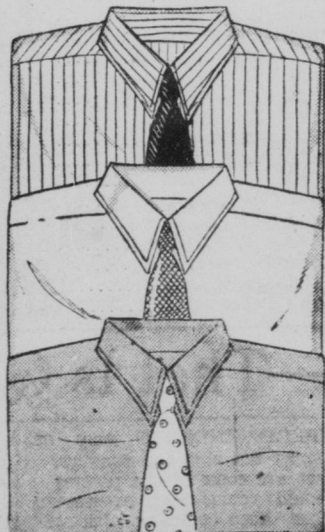
Guaranteed  
Fast Colors

**88c**

Men like the looks and the fit of these well made shirts. Perfectly fitting collars that will hug the neck. In white, blue, green, tan, gray and fancies. Sizes from 14 up to 17.

Belnord Shirts  
**\$1.19 Each**

—Downstairs at Ayres.



Now for Spring!  
Gay, Youthful

## Wash Frocks

**\$1.09**

GUARANTEED  
FAST COLORS!

Yes! we have plenty of new spring wash frocks in beautiful prints and broadcloths. Gay colored prints, checks, dots and plaids in wearable, washable fashions. We know you'll like them because of the excellent tailoring and youthful looking styles. Sizes from 14 to 20 and 38 to 52.

Better Smocks, \$1.19

Fine broadcloth smocks greatly reduced. In all the favorite styles and models that are popular. The colors are rose, blue, tan and green in sizes 14 to 20.

—Downstairs at Ayres.



## New Spring Hats

to Wear From Now Till Easter!

These new spring hats will capture your fancy by their fascinating styles. Off-the-faces models, tucked turbans, draped turbans and twisted turbans, pill boxes, tricornes, sailors, brims and even berets that are youthful and flattering. All the favorite colors too, black, navy, brown, red and heavenly pastels.

—Downstairs at Ayres.

**\$1.00**

# AYRES ★ DOWNSTAIRS ★ STORE