

Anti-German Hysteria In Wisconsin

See a lesson plan related to this material on the [Wisconsin Historical Society website](http://www.wisconsinhistoricalsociety.org).

Newspaper Article

"Banking House Changes", Wausau Record Herald, 1/19/1918



WISCONSIN
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

BANKING HOUSE CHANGES

National German American
Bank Becomes American
National Bank of Wausau

BANKS ARE PROSPEROUS

Financial Condition of Country
Declared to Be On Sound
Basis

At the annual meeting of the stockholders of the National German American bank, held last evening, it was decided to change the name of the institution to The American National Bank of Wausau. The vote for the change was unanimous, all of the 2,614 votes cast being in the affirmative.

The matter was brought before the stockholders by Benj. Holmstrom, president of the bank, who said:

"Our next order of business will be the election of directors, but before proceeding to that business, a resolution will be offered to you, affecting a change in the name of this bank. Before this resolution is offered, your President feels it his duty to say a few words on the subject.

"We are unhappily at war with Germany, a war which may last for years. This is much more unhappy from the fact that a great many of our citizens either came from Germany or are of German descent, but as President Wilson has wisely said: 'We are not warring against the Germans, but against the German Dynasty and its Junkerdom, which is overbearing and insulting and a domineering party, on which account they are much hated by the Germans in Germany, as well as by people in other countries.'

"I was born near Heidelberg and my ancestors back to my great grandparents, always lived there. I emigrated to America in 1869 at the age of nineteen years. After an absence of forty-five years, I visited my old home in 1914. I was caught in the war and was in the city of Frankfurt on the Main, when war was declared with Russia and France, and within a day or two every hotel sign, business sign or firm bearing Russian or French names were either obliterated or covered with some cloth or taken down or demolished.

"War was declared by England against Germany a few days later and I remember of going to the station to get railroad accommodations for Holland to sail from there to America. I saw a large crowd in front of a hotel demanding the sign 'English Hotel' be removed.

"These acts were not only committed in Germany, but in all other countries against the enemy country. It is very creditable to this country that no such demonstrations have taken place here. The American nation coming out of the melting pot of all nations is by nature a very generous nation.

See more classroom materials and lesson plans on the [Wisconsin Historical Society website](http://www.wisconsinhistoricalsociety.org).

Advertisement in Wausau Record Herald, 1/14/1918

To All Subscribers Of Liberty Bonds

The final payment on liberty bonds not yet paid in full will be due and payable Tuesday, Jan. 15, 1918. This payment should be made promptly on that date, together with accrued interest amounting to 20c per \$50.00 liberty bond.

**AMERICAN NATIONAL
BANK**

WAUSAU, WISCONSIN

Advertisement in Wausau Record Herald, 10/26/1917

Liberty Bonds

Some Reasons Why Someone Has Not Bought One

Need the money.

Did the boys at the front feel that way?

Bought one last time.

The boys have already used that money.

Let some one else buy.

The boys have not sidestepped.

Will buy next time?

It may be too late.

Don't let these poor excuses stand between you and your patriotic duty, but back up the boys every foot they advance at the front.

Let this bank help you in some way to buy a Liberty Bond. Just one more day. Don't let it pass without your patriotic duty done.

**NATIONAL GERMAN
AMERICAN BANK**

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