



ED QUINN, S. J. WEEKS and Claude Hancock are shown here in front of the O'Neill National Bank Building.

O'Neill National Bank Passes 60th Year of Service

By Mrs. N. D. Ickes
The O'Neill National Bank, located at O'Neill, county seat of Holt county, was chartered April 16, 1901 with a capital of \$25,000. The present building has housed the banking firm since the date of charter and has served Praeland from the turn of the century and marked the transition of farming through a rapid evolution from horse-drawn to power machinery that has cataloged operators into big-time business operators.

During that space of time the credit system and the science of banking has undergone changes equal to those in other fields. With the coming of spring the O'Neill National Bank organization anticipate the building of a modern building at a new and convenient location.

M. Dowling was the president of the newly chartered Bank in 1901 and James P. O'Donnell was the first cashier. Messrs M. Dowling, I. B. Purcell, T. H. Fowler, C. W. Smith and J. F. O'Donnell constituted the first Board of Directors.

S. J. Weekes was elected cashier May 6, 1908 and served as president from 1920 until his death in 1941. His widow, Mrs. Emma D. Weekes took his place as president from that date until 1948 when F. N. Cronin was elected and has served since.

Ed Quinn joined the organization about 1910 and was cashier until 1947.
Today's officers are F. N. Cronin, president, J. B. Grady, vice president, O. D. French, cashier and W. D. Melena, assistant cashier.

Together they represent almost one hundred years of banking experience and are qualified to help you with your banking problems. Cronin holds seniority with his 43 years, Grady is second with 26 years and French and Melena have fourteen and fifteen years respectively.

The capital stock has been raised from the original \$25,000 to \$100,000 with a \$150,000 surplus and undivided profits to the amount of \$200,546.82 or a grand total of \$450,546.

The present board of directors are: Julius D. Cronin, F. N. Cronin, J. B. Grady, O. D. French, Clinton E. Cronin and Mary I. Cronin.

Chambers Bank Observes 60th Year of Service

By Mrs. N. D. Ickes
Congratulations are due the Chambers State Bank of Chambers which is this year celebrating its sixtieth year of service to the people of Chambers and the surrounding territory.

The Bank opened for business November 1, 1901 in the tin-sided lean-to attached to the Isaac Baldwin mercantile building.

The Chambers State Bank was incorporated with fifty shares of Capital stock to the amount of \$5,000 furnished by J. C. McGowan with 35 shares at \$100 each and Isaac Baldwin with the remaining fifteen shares.

Edward Adams was cashier with a fifty dollar a month salary. The assistant cashier, C. L. McGowan earned half as much.

The first week, Elmer Adams, Kenneth Adams' father deposited \$325 and Edward's mother, Etha Adams made a \$120 deposit.

Business was so slow that a balance was not taken until Nov. 7 when the eight deposits totaled \$1,529.11. In their sixtieth year deposits total more than a million dollars.

By 1904 Edward Adams owned twenty shares of Capital stock which he raised to seventy shares by 1906.

In 1904 the capital stock was raised to \$10,000.00 with the purchase of \$5,000.00 by J. B. Barney. A few years later capital stock was listed at \$16,000.00 where it remained for some time.

keenly, not only by her family and her friends in the Chambers community but also by those who valued her ability and respected her high calling to serve as a missionary nurse among underprivileged people among whom she served for twenty years in the Philippine Islands.

During the sixty years of operation the Chambers State Bank was only closed once and then by orders from President Roosevelt which declared the historical important Bank Holiday.

It was a significant fact that the Chambers State Bank was reopened without restriction. During that period of financial crises all small banks in the territory were closed except Chambers, Bartlett and Emmet and many remained closed permanently.

Only one foreclosure is recorded in their sixty years of business and that was on a team of horses. It was the policy of Edward Adams to make a settlement with the individual rather than resort to court action and that policy has been extended down through the tenure of his sons.

On February 1, 1933 an incident occurred at the Bank that you hear and read about and hope it never will happen to you.

Just as the blinds were being drawn and preparations were being made to close the door for the day a man stepped into the room and spoke the warning sentence "this is a hold-up" and asked them to line up and precede him into the back room. He backed his words with a drawn gun and there seemed nothing to do but obey.

Edward Adams, then an old man, had registered reluctance and was the last to obey orders and as he went by the fellow he grabbed the gun barrel and his wrist and with the help of his sons, Leo and Jack they disarmed him and notified the sheriff to come and get him.

The would-be bank robber served nine of his fifteen year sentence and admitted some filling station robberies previous to this attempt. He is still a stock holder and director of the Chambers State Bank.

Even a bank can be a family affair. Many of the Adams family who have not settled on banking as a career have worked for varying periods of time. Leona took Leo's place while he went to college. Both Lovena's son and daughter, Edward and Lela Grimes did an apprenticeship there.

Deceased members of the family are: Erwin, Jennie, Albert and Harold.

The greatest tragedy to befall the Adams family came with the news of the execution of their daughter and sister, Jennie, who with sixteen others became casualties of World War II.

Jennie was superintendent of Emmanuel hospital, Capiz, on the island of Panay, Philippine Islands from 1923 until the hospital personnel were disbanded by orders of the United States Army in April, 1942. They were hiding out in the hills of Hopevale when they were surprised by Japanese soldiers and beheaded Dec. 19, 1943.

The present Memorial Baptist church in Chambers was erected as a fitting memorial to her life of sacrifice. Her death was felt

A Poem From Mrs. Eby . . .

—This changing World—

There's always been a few men denying God's existence, but now many act and live with persistence.

Yes the communists deny there's a God above, who, though we make mistakes, is a God of love.

They believe and teach a law of their own, will fill the bill once the old laws are thrown.

Thus finding themselves without a God or religion, Relegating the Bible as old wives' tradition.

Without moral law foundations would fall, science is fine but our God planned it all.

We must recognize God's place in creation, if we're to survive as a Christian nation.

We must bear witness without hesitation, that all moral law has a religious foundation.

It's our duty to know through study and prayer, as American founders laid the groundwork there.

When millions came to our shores for freedom, and hope to live their lives free from tyranny's yoke.

To worship God as they felt right, to have peace and joy instead of fight.

We must still be dauntless, Oh, yes, and bold, still preaching Christ like Paul of old.

Only in this way shall we preserve our moral tradition, to show God is real not an old superstition. Thus our country was born and still is alive, and without this truth we can not survive.

(Della Stuart Eby)

Inman News

By Mrs. James McMahan

Mr. and Mrs. Casper Fribil left Tuesday for National City, Calif. where they will visit Mr. and Mrs. Gifford Kivett and other relatives and friends.

Robert Reimers, USMC, arrived Sunday to spend a leave with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Chris Reimers. Bob has been stationed at Twenty Nine Palms, Calif., and will now be stationed at Philadelphia, Pa.

Mrs. Violet Stewart returned Tuesday from Atkinson Memorial hospital where she was a medical patient.

The following attended a Christmas party and dinner for the help at St. Anthony's hospital Monday evening, Mrs. W. E. Kelley, Mrs. W. J. Gallagher, Mrs. James Coventry, Mrs. James Sobotka, Kay Kelley, Barbara Keil, Sharon Michaelis and Ruth Ann Hansen.

Violet, Rufus and Saellen Sholes spent Wednesday evening with Mrs. Sarah Sholes at Elgin.

David Sobotka, Norfolk Junior college student, spent the week-

end visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Sobotka. Mr. and Mrs. James Sholes and Saellen visited his mother, Mrs. Sarah Sholes Sunday.

Kieth Kivett, Wayne Teachers college student, spent the weekend with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Vaden Kivett.

Harold Sobotka, Valentine spent the weekend visiting his father John Sobotka.

Marilyn Siders and Gene Butterfield, Grand Island business college students, spent the weekend with their parents, Mrs. Ray Siders and Mr. and Mrs. Bill Butterfield.

Mrs. Albina Belik returned Thursday from Antelope Memorial hospital, where she was a medical patient for a few days.

Joe Peters, Norfolk, spent a couple of days last week with his family.

Mrs. Violet Stewart entered Atkinson Memorial hospital Saturday for medical treatment.

IOOF Lodge met Tuesday evening at the hall for their regular session. The following officers were elected for the coming year, Tom Englehaupt, Noble Grand, Marvin Rouse, Vice Grand, Karl Keyes, Secretary, Ira Watson, Treasurer and John Brackhorst, Trustee for a 1 year term. Leon Sargent, Paul Shaner and Herley Jones of O'Neill were visitors.

Mr. and Mrs. Don Kelley and daughters, Norfolk, spent the weekend visiting Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Kelley and family.

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Phone 788

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DANCE

TUESDAY, DEC. 26
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ADMISSION: \$1.00

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SANTA... is coming to O'Neill



Saturday, Dec. 16

THE JOLLY OL' FELLOW, busy as he is, wants to greet all the small fry in the O'Neill area at the O'Neill Public School at 2 p.m. HE'LL BE LADEN with treats for the kiddies . . . he'll want to spend a few moments with all the youngsters—learning their wants.

ATTENTION KIDS: Better be able to report to Santa that you've been good boys and girls and can qualify for gifts you're going to ask for.

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Thursday, Dec. 14

Family Night

THEFT OF BAGDAD

Steve Reeves
In Eastman Color & Cinemascope

Fri.-Sat. Dec. 15-16

Double Feature

MAGIC BOY

— also —

THE SECRET OF MONTE CRISTO

Rory Calhoun

Sun.-Mon.-Tues. Dec. 17-18-19

CLAUDELLE INGLISH

Diane McBain Arthur Kennedy
Will Hutchins Claude Akins
Constance Ford