

FINANCE & INSURANCE

Growth of Banks of Omaha Reflects City's Business

Deposits Have Leaped Up Year by Year by Almost Unbelievable Bounds; Challenge the World.

By A. R. GROH.

Development of financial institutions in Omaha has been nothing less than phenomenal. Deposits have leaped up year by year at almost unbelievable ratios of increase. The development of the financial structure of the city has been the wonder of the country. It isn't very long ago since Omaha was merely a name and an almost unknown name in the east.

Today its nineteen banks and trust companies represent a financial structure of colossal strength, a structure built up by the great and growing industries that make the city throb with prosperity and a structure which in turn nurtures these structures and causes them to grow faster.

One need not go back beyond the memory of many men now active here in business to find the banking situation comparatively very weak. Twenty-five years ago there were only a few banks here and they weren't doing a very prosperous business.

Deposits in Omaha's clearing house banks October 2, 1890, were \$18,382,000. September 25, 1891, they had dropped to \$14,700,000. September

30, 1892, they had risen again to \$18,100,000.

By Leaps and Bounds.

Just twenty-four years later, on September 16, 1916, the deposits in Omaha banks were \$94,004,000, an increase of more than 400 per cent in deposits in Omaha banks in twenty-four years.

And one year later than the last named date—namely, on September 16, 1917—deposits in Omaha banks were \$107,866,000, an increase of more than \$13,000,000 in one year.

Omaha is the thirty-first city in this country in population. But it is the sixteenth city in bank clearings. Last year Omaha's bank clearings soared above the \$1,000,000,000 mark, soared over \$250,000,000 above that mark. They were \$1,279,158,591. The year before last they were \$982,671,080, an increase of nearly \$300,000,000 in a single year.

Twenty-five years ago, in 1892, the bank clearings were only \$272,939,692. In the last few years bank clearings of Omaha have risen steadily as follows:

1890.....	\$ 315,135,000	1909.....	736,255,588
1901.....	329,942,000	1910.....	832,271,607
1902.....	361,811,000	1911.....	732,197,233
1903.....	392,880,000	1912.....	860,781,557
1904.....	398,985,000	1913.....	908,947,659
1905.....	442,355,000	1914.....	887,560,732
1906.....	504,588,000	1915.....	982,671,080
1907.....	667,215,738	1916.....	1,279,158,591
1908.....	692,525,867		

Not All the Business.

Many people think this actually represents the business done in Omaha. But large as the clearings are, it is stated the actual bank transactions in Omaha banks are from two to two and a half times as great as the bank clearings. For this reason the bank clearings do not give an adequate idea of the greatness of Omaha's banking structure today.

The reason for this is plain. Out of all the banks in Omaha only nine belong to the Clearing House association. It is only the paper of these nine banks that is figured up in the bank clearings of Omaha.

"Our neighbor to the south, Kansas City, reports considerably larger bank clearings than we," said one banker. "The reason for this is simply that all the Kansas City banks put their transactions through the clearing house. But I actually believe our volume of bank transactions is larger here than that of Kansas City. We have the great business of the grain exchange, the vast stock yards and packing house business, the smelter with its \$46,000,000 output last year, our big manufacturing and jobbing interests, which alone do a business close to half a billion dollars a year.

Only Nine Banks.

"Only nine of Omaha's nineteen banks use the Omaha clearing house. Of course, the actual transactions even of these nine banks far exceeds the business represented by the clearing house report. If a man writes a check for \$10,000 on the First Na-

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Latest Comparative Statistics of Omaha Banking Operations

DEPOSITS.			LOANS.		
	June 20, '17.	Sept. 11, '17.		June 20, '17.	Sept. 11, '17.
Omaha National.....	\$ 24,070,805	\$ 22,314,602	Omaha National.....	\$13,990,459	\$13,889,470
United States National.....	21,490,493	18,062,623	United States National.....	14,299,736	13,017,719
First National.....	20,118,379	17,944,103	First National.....	13,375,151	11,280,447
Merchants National.....	12,581,338	11,862,536	Merchants National.....	8,362,759	7,980,639
Stock Yards National.....	12,548,049	11,267,643	Stock Yards National.....	8,305,574	8,030,078
Live Stock National.....	7,436,074	7,516,122	Live Stock National.....	5,788,399	5,826,017
State Bank of Omaha.....	4,444,758	4,501,296	State Bank of Omaha.....	2,980,203	3,024,409
Packers National.....	4,323,112	4,189,548	Packers National.....	2,804,838	3,066,612
Nebraska National.....	4,015,105	4,035,618	Nebraska National.....	3,001,017	2,773,203
Corn Exchange National.....	3,597,761	3,433,676	Corn Exchange National.....	2,288,728	2,305,061
Security State Bank.....	1,051,566	1,063,493	Security State Bank.....	744,685	878,107
American State Bank.....	887,882	822,846	American State Bank.....	891,964	842,934
South Omaha Savings Bank.....	416,812	427,859	South Omaha Savings Bank.....	439,155	406,950
Union State Bank.....		350,000	Union State Bank.....		325,000
Ralston State Bank.....		76,395	Ralston State Bank.....		78,236
Totals.....	\$116,982,134	\$107,866,360	Totals.....	\$77,282,668	\$73,274,883

DEPOSITS.			LOANS.		
	Sept. 12, '16.	Sept. 11, '17.		Sept. 12, '16.	Sept. 11, '17.
First National.....	\$17,383,867	\$ 17,944,103	Omaha National.....	\$10,415,806	\$13,889,470
Omaha National.....	19,415,806	22,314,602	United States National.....	11,878,006	13,017,719
United States National.....	17,776,695	18,062,623	First National.....	11,163,234	11,280,447
Merchants National.....	10,895,994	11,862,536	Merchants National.....	6,827,922	7,980,639
Stock Yards National.....	9,866,723	11,267,643	Stock Yards National.....	5,731,138	8,030,078
Nebraska National.....	4,017,728	4,035,618	Live Stock National.....	2,927,358	5,826,017
Live Stock National.....	4,848,560	7,516,122	Nebraska National.....	2,280,625	2,773,204
Packers National.....	2,799,261	4,189,548	State Bank of Omaha.....	2,085,602	3,024,409
Corn Exchange National.....	2,559,996	3,433,676	Packers National.....	1,660,359	3,066,612
State Bank of Omaha.....	3,359,857	4,501,296	Corn Exchange National.....	1,951,015	2,305,061
Security State Bank.....	676,996	1,063,493	Security State Bank.....	498,836	878,107
South Omaha Savings Bank.....	334,333	427,859	South Omaha Savings Bank.....	309,927	406,950
Ralston State Bank.....	69,158	76,395	Ralston State Bank.....	58,906	78,236
Union State Bank.....		350,000	Union State Bank.....		325,000
American State Bank.....		822,846	American State Bank.....		842,934
Totals.....	\$94,004,884	\$107,866,360	Totals.....	\$57,808,736	\$73,724,883

Life Insurance Puts Jazz Into the Business World

Tom Kelly Shows How Protection in the Way of Life Insurance Adds to the Joy of Living.

By TOM S. KELLY.

With the whole world speeding up every ounce of energy in the conservation of every form of vegetable life for the preservation of the greatest of all forms of life—the human life—the life insurance men may well feel that their work is directed along lines of the highest order of patriotism, because life insurance is the greatest, positive conservator of values in the world.

It keeps a cheery fire on the hearth and educates the boys and girls. It provides money for husband and wife to spend their later years in ease and luxury.

It gives grandmother a regular monthly income so that she can live where she pleases and enjoy independence.

It pays the mortgage on the old home.

It buys a farm.

It starts the sons in business.

Makes Merry Weddings.

It gives the daughters social advantages, pretty clothes and merry weddings.

It allows father to retire from business when he reaches middle age.

It takes father and mother on their long-talked-of trip to Europe.

Life insurance is life—life and comfort and gold and happiness for old and young.

What Record Shows.

The daily grind and romance of life have furnished much justification to those who have taken life insurance and left many more regrets to those who have not taken it, as is evidenced by the following table gathered by the American Bankers association from "the life experiences of 100 average men."

Age Twenty-five.

100 average men, healthy and vigorous in mind and body and dependent upon their own exertions for their support.

Age Thirty-five.

Five have died.

Ten have become wealthy.

Ten are in good circumstances.

Forty are in moderate circumstances.

Thirty-five have not improved their condition.

Age Forty-five.

Eleven more have died, sixteen in all.

Three only are wealthy, all the others rated at age 35 as having re-

sources having lost their accumulation.

Sixty-five are still working and are self-supporting, but without other resources.

Fifteen are no longer self-supporting owing to illness, accident, etc., a few still earning something, but not enough for self-support.

Age Fifty-five.

Four more have died, twenty in all. One has become very rich.

Three are in good circumstances, but not the same three quoted at age 45, for one who was wealthy at 45 has lost everything and another not quoted at 45 has taken his place.

Forty-six still working for their living, without any accumulation.

Thirty are now more or less dependent upon their children, their relations or upon charity for support; some still able to do light work are being replaced by younger men.

Age Sixty-five.

Sixteen more have died, making thirty-six in all out of 100.

One is still rich.

Four are wealthy, one of those who lost everything before 45 having again become wealthy.

Six still at work, self-supporting.

Fifty-four are dependent upon children, relations or charity.

Age Seventy-five.

Twenty-seven have died, making sixty-three in all, sixty of whom left no estate.

Two only are wealthy, three who were rated as wealthy at 65 having lost their accumulation.

Thirty-five are dependent upon children, relatives or charity.

These old men will die off rapidly, but their financial condition will not improve, and thirty-three of them will not have sufficient means to defray funeral expenses unless insured.

Inspires Faith and Confidence.

Legal reserve life insurance inspires faith and confidence on the part of the insured because it is void of speculation, being constructed on a scientific plan. Since every phase of the business is conducted along safe and conservative lines, and every provision of its contracts is based upon unquestionable facts, it stands for solidity and permanency. Being aggressive, yet conservative, and absolutely safe, it is profitable to the insured. High in its aims, true in its standards, extensive in its benefits, exalted in its very nature, its influence for good citizenship, besides the personal gain to the individual, is far reaching. Its fair, unprejudiced system in dealing with the public is reflected through its policy contracts and business connection with the insured. By this contracted relation the insured comes in close contact with its whole economic force. He is enabled to feel and appreciate the power of life insurance in encouraging thrift, in benefits of sterling worth, in anchorages perceptible and firm.



E. Buckingham



L. C. Nash



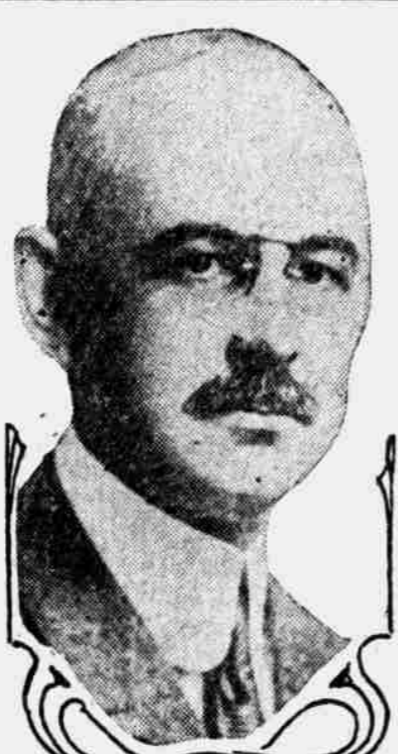
Gould Dietz



GEORGE BRANDEIS.



J. De F. Richards



G. E. Haverstick



Frank W. Sudson



C. E. Black



Charles D. Beaton



Randall K. Brown



W. D. Hosford



Chas. L. Saunders

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