

McLean County Museum of History

First National Bank of Normal Collection

Processed by
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Collection Information

VOLUME OF COLLECTION:	1 Box
COLLECTION DATES:	1896-1985
RESTRICTIONS:	None
REPRODUCTION RIGHTS:	Permission to reproduce or publish material in this collection must be obtained in writing from the McLean County Museum of History
ALTERNATIVE FORMATS:	None
OTHER FINDING AIDS:	None
LOCATION:	Archives
NOTES:	See also Peoples Bank Collection

Brief History

John W. Aldrich founded and became the first president of the First National Bank of Normal in October 1893. The By-Laws were adopted and the Board of Directors elected December 18, 1893. The original directors were George P. Davis, Duncan M. Funk, Dudley C. Smith, Edward Thorp, and John W. Aldrich. The first years were difficult ones for the First National Bank of Normal because banking across the country was less stable due to the gold and silver battles raging in every state. By 1948, the bank's assets had grown to more than \$4 million.

The first bank building was located on East Beaufort Street, Normal. In 1917 the bank moved to the northeast corner of Broadway and North streets. The bank moved to an entirely new building on Broadway in January 1962. Assets at that time were \$8.5 million. By January 1965 assets had increased to \$13.25 million, a growth attributed to the expansion of the bank's services.

The bank celebrated its 75th anniversary on December 20, 1968, and more services were subsequently offered. A total of four drive-in facilities were in operation by March 1970. Free checking accounts were instituted in June 1971. The bank services grew to such an extent that an addition to the building was added in 1973. In 1978 First National Bank's new facility opened at the corner of College and Towanda avenues. In December 1987, the First National Bank of Normal and The Peoples Bank of Bloomington merged and became The Peoples Bank.

Scope

The collection includes documentation of the founding of First National Bank of Normal, legal documents relating to its expansion, lists of directors and officers, annual reports, and financial statements. Though sporadic, they provide an overview of the growth of the bank.

Folder Inventory

Folder 1: History

- 1.1 Dates of founding of First National Bank by Inez Dunn, 2pp
- 1.2 History of First National Bank of Normal from 1893 through 1978, 7pp, handwritten
- 1.3 History of First National Bank of Normal, 2pp
- 1.4 Invitation to the opening of new bank building, December 10 & 11, 1948
- 1.5 Booklet *The 1st National of Normal: 55 Years Banking*, 2 copies
- 1.6 Images of letterhead through the years, from calendar, 2 copies
- 1.7 Quit Claim Deed, December 1, 1987. Attached are letter from Fleming, Messman & O'Connor with Owner's Title Insurance Policy dated August 11, 1978; Settlement Sheet and receipts for cashier's checks dated August 10, 1978; letter to Boyce Huson from Robert Fleming dated August 11, 1978 with attached Subdivision Bond and Escrow Receipt.

Folder 2: Newspaper Clippings

- 2.1 "First National Bank Holds Open House Tonight, Saturday Night," *The Normalite*, December 10, 1948, p.1
- 2.2 "Ready for the Next Half Century (1893-1948)," *The Normalite*, December 10, 1948, p.8

- 2.3 "riding ... walking ... driving," full-page ad, *Pantagraph*, March 16, 1959
- 2.4 "Normal Bank Construction Slated to Start This Week," *Pantagraph*, January 8, 1961, p.3
- 2.5 "Providing First-Class Service," *Business to Business News*, February 1982, cover and p.2

Folder 3: Officers

- 3.1 List of Directorship, 1908-1995 – indicating year elected and year retired, 2pp
- 3.2 List of shareholders' names, addresses, and number of shares, January 14, 1958
- 3.3 Officers of First National of Normal, April 1985
- 3.4 Board of Directors, 1985(?)

Folder 4: Annual Reports

- 4.1 Annual Report 1979, 2 copies
- 4.2 Annual Report 1982
- 4.3 Annual Report 1983, 2 copies
- 4.4 Annual Report 1984, 2 copies

Folder 5: Statements of Assets and Condition

- 5.1 List of assets, October 2, 1894
- 5.2 List of Assets for years 1918 through 1973
- 5.3 Statement of Condition, December 31, 1942
- 5.4 Statement of Condition, October 18, 1943
- 5.5 Statement of Condition, December 31, 1943
- 5.6 Statement of Condition, April 13, 1944
- 5.7 Statement of Condition, December 31, 1944
- 5.8 Statement of Condition, March 20, 1945
- 5.9 Statement of Condition, June 30, 1945
- 5.10 Statement of Condition, December 31, 1945
- 5.11 Statement of Condition, June 29, 1946
- 5.12 Statement of Condition, December 31, 1946
- 5.13 Statement of Condition, December 31, 1985
- 5.14 Statement of Assets and Liabilities and Report of Earnings, December 31, 1954, includes officers and employees

Folder 6: Miscellaneous leaflets, advertising envelopes, letterhead

Miscellaneous collection of 1- and 2-page leaflets and deposit envelopes indicating bank services, one piece of letterhead (undated, W. H. Odell, President)