LA GRANDE NATIONAL BANK.

The La Grande National Bank

(Established March 23, 1887).

United States Depository—Ample Resources and Every Modern Banking Facility—New Building in Course of Construction.

The influence of banks on the progress and development of a locality is well-night paramount. Encouragement or discouragement to enterprise and development lies largely in their hands. Let a policy of absolute content with present conditions animate the officials and the growth of any community will be correspondingly retarded. While, on the other hand, if the policy of a bank is to encourage the upbuilding and development of a city, even while keeping well within the lines of safe banking methods, the progress of a community is certain. In the La Grande National Bank, this section has a financial institution that has ever taken a prominent part in the work of local advancement. Its officials and stockholders are interested as individuals in the material prosperity of the Grande Ronde Valley. They live here, believe in the great future of this section, and have given evidence of that faith by their investments.

The history of the La Grande National Bank has been one of steady, consistent growth, and it easily stands at the head of local fiduciary institutions both in point of resources and volume of business transacted.

Every function of a national bank is exercised. Loans are made under the govermental regulations applied to the conduct of national banks, deposits are received, exchange is issued and collections are attended to. Interest at the rate of 4 per cent. per annum is paid on time deposits. Certificates of deposit are issued.

The capital, surplus and undivided profits aggregate $160,000, and the bank's combined resources at the close of business June 18, 1906, totaled $898,587.18. The deposits were $683,581.63 which is the most striking testimony of full community confidence.

Membership is held in the American Bankers' Association, and the Oregon State Bankers' Association. The bank is a United States depository, a depository for the Equitable Savings Association of Portland, Oregon, and of the Bankers Life Association of Des Moines, Ia.

Improvements, now under way, insure the erection of a suitable home for the most important financial institution of the Grand Ronde Valley. At a cost of about $35,000, exclusive of the valuable lots, a magnificent two story brick and stone building, 33x110 feet in dimensions, is being erected on a prominent business corner. All of the lower floor will be utilized for banking purposes, the upper floor being devoted to offices for rental. There will be a resident janitor, and the building is to be equipped with a steam-heating system, electric lights, etc. When completed, this will be one of the finest bank buildings in Eastern Oregon.

The personnel of the bank includes many names that carry weight in this vicinity. George Palmer, president, is at the head of the George Palmer Lumber company and his individual holdings in this section are extensive. J. M. Berry, vice president, is a well-known business man of La Grande. F. L. Meyers, cashier, is recognized as being unusually well-posted on local credits. He entered the bank in a minor position in 1890, and later for ten years was assistant cashier under Cashier J. M. Church, whose death occurred about a year and a half ago. To Mr. Church is credited the marked success of the bank, and as his successor Mr. Meyers is singularly able to continue the same business policies and methods from a knowledge acquired by years of close association. The first assistant cashier is W. L. Brenholts, the second assistant being Sherwood Williams. The board of directors includes: J. M. Berry, A. B. Conley F. J. Holmes, F. M. Byrkit, C. C. Pennington, F. L. Meyers, George L. Cleaver, W. L. Brenholts, George Palmer.

It's a strong list of names, and in the hands of such men the La Grande National Bank is sure to prove in the future as it has in the past, a bulwark of financial strength for this favored section.

Was Needed Here

The Eastern Oregon Trust & Savings Bank—Paid-Up Capital, $60,000.

It is conceded by everyone well enough informed to express an opinion that few inland cities of Oregon have as excellent prospects for certain growth as La Grande. The various carefully prepared articles in this edition, which present the resources, advantages and investment opportunities of the fertile Grande Ronde Valley, prove conclusively that the material reasons exist which are necessary for the building of a large city.

To such a community, already experiencing the prosperity of industrial development, the possession of adequate banking facilities is an absolute necessity. It was because of the apparent need of additional banking conveniences that the Eastern Oregon Trust & Savings Bank was established May 1, 1906, and the volume of business already transacted fully justifies the expectations of its stockholders. It began business with a paid-up capital of $60,000.

A general banking business in all its branches is done. Loans are made on real estate security as well as approved paper, deposits are received, collections are handled and exchange is issued. The accounts of business men, farmers, stockraisers, etc., are accepted, and as liberal accommodations are extended as is consistent with the rules of safe banking.

The savings department allows 4 per cent. interest. In time to come, no doubt, many well-to-do citizens of this vicinity will trace their start toward a competence to the initial deposit made at this bank. The possession of a bank account adds to self reliance, and regular systematic deposits will lead to certain financial independence.

But it is not alone as a bank that this institution is able to be of material service to the people of this section. Every function of a trust company is also discharged. As administrator or trustee, estates are handled, and the designated wishes of legatees are carried out to the letter. A stability is thus given to such duties that is incomparably superior to the services that could be rendered by individuals. Other features of the trust company's field are the registration of stocks and bonds and escrow and contract business.

In no other line of commercial enterprise, does the personnel of the officials have so much to do with success. The public is vitally interested in knowing who is in control of the business affairs of a concern to whom is intrusted savings, or who is to act as trustee or administrator. The officers and directors of The Eastern Oregon Trust & Savings Bank are men of standing, worth and ability, whose names are a guarantee of correct and conservative methods.

W. C. Brown, the president, is a prominent Eastern railroad man, being first vice president of the great New York Central system.

William Miller, vice president, is considered an authority on local credits and real estate values. He is president of the La Grande Real Estate Association, senior member of the realty and insurance firm of William Miller & Brother, and president of the La Grande Commercial club.

George L. Cleaver, secretary and cashier, was for 13 years engaged in banking in Iowa, Colorado and Oregon prior to the organization of The Eastern Oregon Trust & Savings Bank, and thus brings to his duties a ripe experience. He is also secretary of the George Palmer Lumber company, and a director of the La Grande Commercial club.

J. J. Scroggin, assistant secretary, was formerly assistant cashier of the Farmers & Traders National Bank of this city. He is treasurer of the La Grande Commercial club.

F. J. Holmes, treasurer, is president of the Island City Mercantile & Milling company, the most important mercantile business in the Grande Ronde Valley.

The board of directors is composed of these officers, together with Dr. C. T. Bacon, physician and surgeon; George Palmer, president of the George Palmer Lumber company; J. L. Caviness, a successful rancher, and extensive grower of sugar beets, and Turner Oliver, attorney-at-law, who is secretary of the La Grande Commercial club.

It would have been difficult to secure lect a more desirable body of men for association in a financial enterprise, and, as is natural, The Eastern Oregon Trust & Savings Bank has from its inception possessed the full confidence of the people of this section. Its facilities may be depended upon to fully keep pace with the growth and advancement of this community.

Staunch and Reliable

The Farmers and Traders National Bank of La Grande, Ore.—Paid Up Capital Stock, $60,000; Surplus and Undivided Profits (over) $14,000.

The feeling of security afforded the Grande Ronde Valley by the possession of the Farmers & Traders National Bank, of La Grande, cannot be overestimated. In furnishing a convenient channel for the raising of funds, the payment of debts, the safeguarding of money and the general furtherance of local trade, this bank is engaged in a business of supreme benefit to this section, and from that business is deriving as is just, a reasonable profit.

The general public is usually slow to accord the credit due to banks for community prosperity, largely because of a lack of information on the subject, but the influence of the Farmers & Traders National Bank has been too evident to be unobserved. Its funds have been loaned to the producers and business men of this valley, and have thus assisted continually in the general development of this immediate territory.

The conservatism of the management is untained by hesitancy, and when a loan is refused it is invariably for excellent reasons. No account is so small as to be considered beneath notice. The bank was established to accommodate the people of this section as well as to earn dividends for its fortunate shareholders, and customers are considered friends in all that the word implies.

Since November 1, 1890, the date of its opening, this bank has done business continuously, never having closed its doors save on legal holidays, never having repudiated an obligation, and having safely weathered every financial panic and period of business depression that have brought disaster to banks all over the country. It is a clean record second to that of no other bank in the state. Furthermore, so successful has been its operation from its inception, that there has never been an assessment on the stock and dividends more than equal to the original investment have been returned to stockholders.

The original shareholders included:

Henry Wildey.	W. G. Hunter.
W. J. Snodgrass.	N. Blum.
M. S. Black.	S. F. Richardson.
Wm. Proebstel.	Joseph Palmer.
Jno. Green.	*A. P. Weller.
J. J. Peebler.	D. A. McAllister.
J. B. Thorson.	J. H. Rinehart.
F. M. Standley.	H. C. Rinehart.
B. W. Grandy.	L. F. Proebstel.
*E. Ackles.	Thos. Chandler.
Geo. Ackles.	H. C. Cotner.
C. V. Harding.	F. M. Bartmess.
F. Proebstel.	Jno. Bartmess.
M. Baker.	*J. A. Childers.
J. E. Foley.	*Geo. Gekler.
Jno Rynearson.	Jno. Predmore.
F. Newlin.	Jos. Baker.
F. L. McCully.	J. Z. Shirley.
Frank Siemon.	*R. D. Ruckman.
Herman Siemon.	*A. W. Rynearson.
Julius Roesch.	J. W. Scriber.
Geo. Bartmess.	

NOTE—The names of shareholders since deceased are indicated by a (*).

The first board of directors was composed of J. H. Rinehart, George Ackles, F. Proebstel, J. B. Thorson, W. J. Snodgrass, Jos. Palmer, F. D. McCully, M. Baker and D. A. McAllister. The original officers were: M. Baker, president; W. J. Snodgrass, vice president; J. W. Scriber, cashier.

Today the shareholders are:

D. Sommers.	Turner Oliver.
Geo. Ackles.	Waldron & Co.
S. F. Richardson.	G. E. McCully.
J. H. Rinehart.	C. J. Scriber.
Jos. Palmer.	Jno. Tashack.
A. P. Weller estate.	H. B. Smith.
Adam Patterson.	M. A. Sinclair.
F. A. Dice.	L. E. Sinclair.
A. N. Gilbert.	M. S. Heath.
W. W. Kaiser.	Thos. McConnell.
Mrs. H. M. Hassett	J. W. Scriber.

The bank's correspondents include the Hanover National Bank, New York; Continental National, Chicago; First National, San Francisco; Merchants National, Portland; McCormick & Co., Bankers, Salt Lake City; First National, Ogden; First National, Baker City; Traders National, Spokane. It is an interesting fact that there has been no change in the list of correspondents since the organization of this bank. Close relations are maintained with the First National Bank of Elgin, the First National of Sumpter and the First National of Canyon City, all of which are successful banking enterprises. J. W. Scriber, cashier of the Farmers & Traders bank was a prime mover in the incorporation of each, and in two instances the cashier's were secured from among the members of his staff.

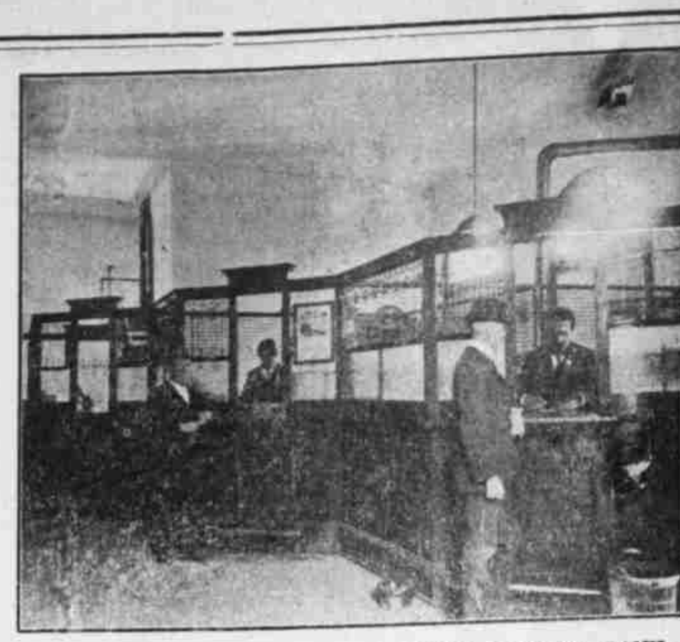
The Farmers & Traders National bank occupies a commodious and substantial building, specially fitted for its uses, and located on one of La Grande's principal business corners. The fittings, fixtures and arrangements are very modern, and the interior presents a metropolitan appearance. Every precaution is taken for the safe-guarding of the funds of the bank and its customers. There is a burglar-proof steel-lined vault fittted with a Macneale & Urban triple-time-lock safe. Safety deposit boxes are provided for the use of customers at a small annual rental.

The savings department is one of the important features of this bank, and 4 per cent. interest is paid on these accounts, computed quarterly.

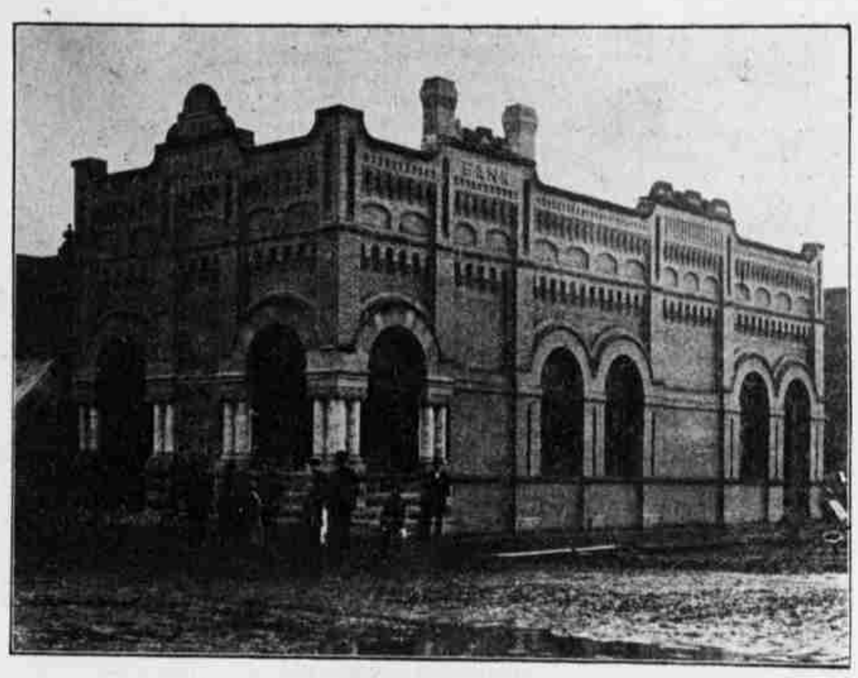
The saving habit is the most valuable trait any one can develop, for a thrifty and industrious life will bring the certain reward of a competence. Aided by the interest paid by this bank, it is astonishing how rapidly small regular weekly or monthly deposits will grow. Many people deposit large amounts in this saving department, preferring the greater security afforded to placing their money in higher interest-bearing loans.

The officers of the bank are: Joseph Palmer, president; J. W. Scriber, cashier, and G. E. McCully, assistant cashier. They with George Ackles and C. J. Scriber form the board of directors. Both Mr. Palmer and Mr. Ackles have been directors continuously since the bank's organization, and from its opening day Mr. J. W. Scriber has been cashier. He has taken an active part in the development of La Grande and vicinity, and his public-spirited services have been of great value to this community. The Observer does not hesitate to say that no man has done more for the organization and success of the La Grande Commercial club, which has been instrumental in so many ways in furthering the interests of this section. Mr. Scriber has not shirked the duties of good citizenship, and for many 8 years continuously was a member of the city council. It was during this period that La Grande's floating debt was reduced 50 per cent., and the city's revenues increased 50 per cent., and Mr. Scriber's financial acumen assuredly contributed no slight part toward this end. With associates, in 1892, he organized a company to develop Morgan Lake, which company was merged last year in the Grande Ronde Electric company and he was one of those prominent in the organization of the Alliance Flouring Mill company, now the La Grande Flouring Mill company. Mr. McCully, the assistant cashier, has been with the bank since 1897. It will easily be seen that the influence of The Farmers & Traders National Bank, as well as that of its officials as individuals, is ever exerted for the material up-building and development of this wonderfully favored territory, and it is in the belief that such information will be of decided interest to prospective investors and newcomers that this article has been prepared and printed.

There is a great deal of land available under the timber and stone act in this section. Many people come from a distance to make entries. If you have not yet used your right, there is still a good opportunity to acquire a valuable quarter section in Union or adjacent counties.



INTERIOR VIEW FARMERS & TRADERS NATIONAL BANK.



FARMERS & TRADERS NATIONAL BANK.

Hulse Photo. VIEW ON ADAMS AVENUE, LA GRANDE.

MASONIC TEMPLE.