

PORTLAND, THE CLEARING HOUSE OF AN EMPIRE



AIRPLANE PHOTO BOY NOOR-JOURNAL STAFF

Portland's News Review For 1921

Year's Financial Review Banks Reflect Trade Volume

By Will F. Hesslein

When taking into consideration the reconstructive period that business has passed through during the year now ending, Portland's banks are closing the year in a very satisfactory condition. Banking facilities at the present time are sufficient to meet all legitimate requirements. While readjustments are not completed, Portland bankers predict a substantial improvement in the financial situation during 1922. The general opinion in financial circles is that the worst has passed and that business is now on the road to recovery.

In comparing the figures of the last call of the comptroller of the currency, September 6, 1921, with the corresponding call of 1920, the resources of Portland's financial institutions show a decrease of \$25,864,498.62. This decrease is largely accounted for by the shrinkage of \$13,869,292.22 in loans and discounts, which amount indicates the progress of liquidation during the 12-month period. During the same period deposits dropped from \$146,849,895 to \$127,065,112, a decrease of \$19,784,783. Cash and exchange declined from \$38,264,652 to \$30,236,712, a loss of \$7,927,940.

The comparative clearings for 1920 and 1921 are as follows:

Month	1921	1920
January	\$ 145,839,115	\$ 122,493,098
February	128,284,789	105,366,849
March	173,172,975	133,304,349
April	171,099,181	139,327,047
May	149,332,701	114,732,334
June	186,442,541	121,188,979
July	187,240,238	107,832,881
August	180,498,175	130,189,773
September	180,840,491	141,181,590
October	180,838,789	152,774,990
November	152,476,496	129,835,493
December	159,905,544	130,090,090
Total	\$1,906,796,901	\$1,528,201,079

Estimated.

The increase in the volume of business transacted in Portland banks since 1905 is shown in the following table:

Year	Clearings
1905	\$ 228,492,712.69
1906	281,170,798.28
1907	350,888,630.97
1908	519,636,512.98
1909	591,928,890.51
1910	671,859,171.85
1911	857,464,848.17
1912	997,087,858.12
1913	1,147,818,019.21
1914	1,378,884,018.99
1915	1,544,849,231.23
1916	1,649,985,241.35
1917	1,868,331,422.07
1918	1,828,092,789.23
1919	1,858,950,830.27
1920	1,598,796,901.00
1921	1,828,201,079.00

26 BANKING HOUSES

At the close of 1920 there were 26 banks and trust companies in Portland. This number has been decreased by two due to the consolidations of the Peoples bank with the State Bank of Portland and the Bank of Commerce of St. Johns with the Peninsula National bank.

There were 189 state banks and 53 national banks in the state at the close of 1920. There are now in the state 186 state banks and 56 national banks. The only consolidation outside of Portland was that of the Klamath State bank and the First National bank of Klamath Falls, now operating as First National bank of Klamath Falls.

There were but three banks in the state to close their doors during this year. The Lafayette bank of Lafayette, Yamhill county, closed August 20; the Nehalem Valley bank of Wheeler, Tillamook county, closed October 25, and the Bank of Jordan Valley, Jordan Valley, Malheur county, closed December 5.

The only new charter granted during the year was to the Bank of Clatsop, which was organized to take the place of the Crook County bank, which was closed in December, 1920.

CLEARINGS INDICATIVE

For the year 1921, December figures estimated, the clearings of Portland's banks total \$1,906,796,901, this against \$1,528,201,079 for 1920, a shrinkage of about 2 per cent. This does not mean, however, that there has been a corresponding decrease in the volume of business transacted in the city during the year just ending. When taking into consideration the fact that the percentage of decline in prices compared with a year ago is estimated to be about 20 per cent, the physical volume of trade in this district shows a healthy increase over 1920.

For the 11-month period of 1921 clearings total \$1,598,796,901, compared with \$1,554,091,379 for the corresponding period of 1920, a decrease of \$347,890,278.

BIG XMAS DANCE

MONDAY EVE. DECEMBER 26. AT COTTILLON HALL 1413 W. WASHINGTON PRIZE HARD TIMES DANCE Thurs. Eve. Dec. 29 Bewley's Mammoth DANCING TAUGHT at De Hoesy's

Beginners' Classes start at Cottillon hall Wed. Eve. Dec. 28 and Friday eve. Dec. 30 at 7 sharp.

Big Advanced Class starts at Murlark hall, Tues. Eve. Dec. 27th 8 to 11:30. All dances guaranteed in eight lessons.

Ladies \$2.00—Gentlemen \$5.00

to all securing tickets this week. You will not become embarrassed and sure to learn. Plenty of desirable partners and practice can never become a dancer in private lessons alone or in public halls. We have taught 30,000 people to dance during the past three years. If you do learn in Portland you will eventually be at De Hoesy's. Start this week, learn from teachers who can dance and teach dancing. My latest book describing all dances, etiquette, free for pupils. No doubt one lesson from us is worth six in the average school. Phone Broadway 2902. Private lessons all hours at Cottillon hall.

PORTLAND LEADS SEATTLE

This year Portland jumps into the lead over Seattle in the volume of bank clearings. For the 11 months of this year the Portland clearings of \$1,598,796,901 exceed those of Seattle by \$22,524,848, their total being \$1,566,272,053. Comparative daily figures of December clearings indicate the lead will be maintained, if not increased, by the end of the year. Seattle 1920 clearings totaled \$2,074,107,469 against \$1,906,796,901 for Portland.

FEDERAL RESERVE BANK

The Portland branch of the Federal Reserve bank has made a rapid growth since its establishment in October, 1917. At that time its working force consisted of 27 employees, while today it requires 105 employees to carry on the work of the bank.

A statement of the operations of the bank for the year reflect the large volume of business that is transacted through the Portland branch bank. During the 11 months ending November 25, 1921, the Portland branch bank dispatched 4259 telegraphic transfers aggregating \$152,268,969 and received in behalf of its member banks 2314 telegraphic transfers aggregating \$197,841,659. The bank has handled in the past year, for its member banks, 2,498,449 out-of-town checks totaling over \$182,000,000 and has cleared through the Portland Clearing House 609,842 items aggregating over \$319,000,000 and also handled 2923 collection items aggregating \$38,900,000. There has been redeemed during a 11-month period \$21,806,746 in currency unfit for further circulation and there has been paid out to member banks in this district \$32,877,760 in new money. For the year ending June 30, 1921, the Portland branch redeemed 99,175 matured Liberty loan coupons totaling \$4,211,822. During the year 1920 the bank redeemed \$29 United States treasury certificates of indebtedness amounting to \$5,301,500, while this year there have been redeemed 2016 certificates aggregating \$283,000,000.

The functions of the Federal Reserve bank can best be described by the analogy that it is a bank for the banker in the same sense that the ordinary commercial bank is a bank for the individual depositor.

The district served by the Portland branch comprises all of Oregon, except Klamath Falls, Lakeview and Meridian, and the counties of Clarke, Cowitz, Skamania, Wahkiakum and Klaskan in Washington.

After paying a 6 per cent dividend on the capital stock owned by the member banks, and setting aside 10 per cent as a surplus fund, the net earnings of the bank together with all other Federal reserve banks and branches in the United States, is paid over to the treasurer of the United States at the end of the year as a federal tax.

The active management of the Portland branch is under the direction of Frederick Greenwood, manager; R. B. Chabala, assistant manager; J. P. Blumhagen, assistant cashier, and its board of directors composed of well known business men: J. C. Alsworth, president; Charles W. Swan, vice president; Edward Cookingham, president of the Ladd & Tilton bank; Nathan Strauss of Fleischner, Mayer & Co., and Joseph N. Teal of the firm of Teal, Minor & Wintree.

NAVAPINE FINANCES GOOD

Chabala, W. H. Richards, for the period from December 1, 1920, to October 31, 1921, reports the financial condition of Navapine in good shape.

January

4. Willamette river overflows banks near Oregon City.

5. First snowfall of year.

6. Tenth annual Oregon Irrigation Congress convenes.

7. Mayor Baker assumes duties as chief of police to check crime wave. State legislature meets.

8. Coldest day of winter, temperature 28.

9. Shadow makes his appearance with blackmail plot against Ben Selling, J. W. Ladd, John M. Jones, Henry Jenning and Louis Gevurtz.

10. Shadow makes first escape from police.

11. Shadow makes second escape after a skirmish with police.

12. Gas rates increased. Japanese liner Anyo Maru, largest passenger liner to make port, arrives.

13. Supposed clue to identity of Shadow unearthed.

14. Police shake-up.

15. Business section of Oak Grove destroyed by fire.

February

1. J. Poeschl found guilty of first degree murder.

2. Willamette Iron & Steel Co. fire; \$100,000 damage.

3. Dorothy Metchan named queen of 1921 Rose Festival.

4. Lieutenant Harold C. Jones, chief of local sea service bureau of shipping board, established national record for keeping ships moving despite marine strikes.

5. Radio station at Hillsboro completed.

6. College of bishops of the Methodist Episcopal church opened. Price of gasoline dropped 2 cents.

7. Gas rate ordered lowered by public service commission.

March

1. John Bruno arrested on charge of having murdered Harry Pawluk.

2. Contracts for \$1,500,000 worth of road work let by state highway commission.

3. Nineteenth birthday of The Journal.

4. Community Chest drive commenced.

5. Dr. Norman Bouchet found guilty of manslaughter.

6. Dr. Bouchet paroled by Judge Stapleton.

7. Gas rates reduced by public service commission.

April

1. Milk cost cut to 11 cents quart.

2. Third annual International Mining Congress convenes.

3. Portland celebrates seventeenth birthday.

4. General Leonard Wood visits Portland en route to the Orient.

5. Democrats celebrate birthday of Thomas Jefferson.

6. John Bruno given life sentence for murder of Harry Pawluk.

7. Tenth annual Oregon Irrigation Congress convenes.

8. Mayor Baker assumes duties as chief of police to check crime wave. State legislature meets.

9. Coldest day of winter, temperature 28.

10. Shadow makes his appearance with blackmail plot against Ben Selling, J. W. Ladd, John M. Jones, Henry Jenning and Louis Gevurtz.

11. Shadow makes first escape from police.

12. Shadow makes second escape after a skirmish with police.

13. Gas rates increased. Japanese liner Anyo Maru, largest passenger liner to make port, arrives.

14. Supposed clue to identity of Shadow unearthed.

15. Police shake-up.

16. Business section of Oak Grove destroyed by fire.

May

1. Japanese ship Tokuyo Maru burns off Oregon coast.

2. Dorothy Metchan named queen of 1921 Rose Festival.

3. Lieutenant Harold C. Jones, chief of local sea service bureau of shipping board, established national record for keeping ships moving despite marine strikes.

4. Radio station at Hillsboro completed.

5. College of bishops of the Methodist Episcopal church opened. Price of gasoline dropped 2 cents.

6. Gas rate ordered lowered by public service commission.

June

1. Western Union messenger boys strike.

2. Cruiser Frederick and destroyer division 28 arrive for Rose Festival.

3. State election. Soldier bonus bill passed.

4. Public schools opened.

5. Roy Gardner escapes near Castle Rock.

6. Contract for Mount Hood loop road let.

7. May apartment fire; \$75,000 damage.

8. Rose Festival captured at Centralia.

9. C. E. Peck shot by wife.

10. Pacific Northwest Golf association tournament at Waverley and Portland golf clubs.

11. George von Elm of Salt Lake City

July

1. Chicago aldermen visit city.

2. Oregon Electric cuts rates between Portland and Salem 55 per cent.

3. Fire in Benson hotel; \$75,000 damage.

4. Dr. Brumfield convicted of murder.

5. Dr. Brumfield sentenced to hang January 13.

August

1. Blyers' week commences.

2. Hop Sing and Suey Sing tong war begins.

3. Steamer Alaska wrecked on Blunt's reef.

4. Mud eruption on Mount Hood.

5. Dr. Richard Brumfield arrested at Calgary for murder of Dennis Russell at Roseburg.

6. George Decker, believed to be Shadow, shot in an attempted hold-up.

7. Clyde G. Huntley appointed collector of customs.

8. Judge John McCourt appointed to state supreme court.

September

1. Governor Olcott calls statewide conference on 1925 exposition.

2. Roy Gardner escapes from McNeill Island. Cape Horn section of Columbia River highway opened.

3. Public schools opened.

4. Revised parking ordinance effective.

5. Sells-Floto circus robbed at Vancouver.

6. Let'er Buck Round-Up opens.

October

1. C. R. Hotchkiss sworn in as United States marshal.

2. Oregon State Federation of Labor convenes.

3. E. E. Brodie appointed minister to Siam.

Major Events of the Twelve Month in and Near Portland Presented in Chronological Order for the Reader's Convenience

1. Journal airplane service to Seaside started.

2. Monarch mills burn; \$150,000 loss.

3. Lieutenant Harold C. Jones, chief of local sea service bureau of shipping board, established national record for keeping ships moving despite marine strikes.

4. Radio station at Hillsboro completed.

5. College of bishops of the Methodist Episcopal church opened. Price of gasoline dropped 2 cents.

6. Gas rate ordered lowered by public service commission.

7. Western Union messenger boys strike.

8. Cruiser Frederick and destroyer division 28 arrive for Rose Festival.

9. State election. Soldier bonus bill passed.

10. Public schools opened.

11. Roy Gardner escapes near Castle Rock.

12. Contract for Mount Hood loop road let.

13. May apartment fire; \$75,000 damage.

14. Rose Festival captured at Centralia.

15. C. E. Peck shot by wife.

16. Pacific Northwest Golf association tournament at Waverley and Portland golf clubs.

17. George von Elm of Salt Lake City

November

1. Nine killed in wreck on O-W. R. & N. at Celilo. Marshal Foch visits city. Wind storm does much damage.

2. City budget reduced \$30,000 by tax conservation commission.

3. H. H. Newhall shot when bandits attempt to hold up Bank of East Portland. One robber killed, two captured.

4. Naval militia disbanded.

5. Tax levy declared to be 21.7 mills.

6. Validity of state bonus for soldiers upheld by supreme court.

7. Work authorized on \$1,000,000 Elks temple.

8. State legislature convenes for special session. First snowfall of winter.

9. Judge John McCourt appointed to state supreme court.

December

1. Nine killed in wreck on O-W. R. & N. at Celilo. Marshal Foch visits city. Wind storm does much damage.

2. City budget reduced \$30,000 by tax conservation commission.

3. H. H. Newhall shot when bandits attempt to hold up Bank of East Portland. One robber killed, two captured.

4. Naval militia disbanded.

5. Tax levy declared to be 21.7 mills.

6. Validity of state bonus for soldiers upheld by supreme court.

7. Work authorized on \$1,000,000 Elks temple.

8. State legislature convenes for special session. First snowfall of winter.

9. Judge John McCourt appointed to state supreme court.

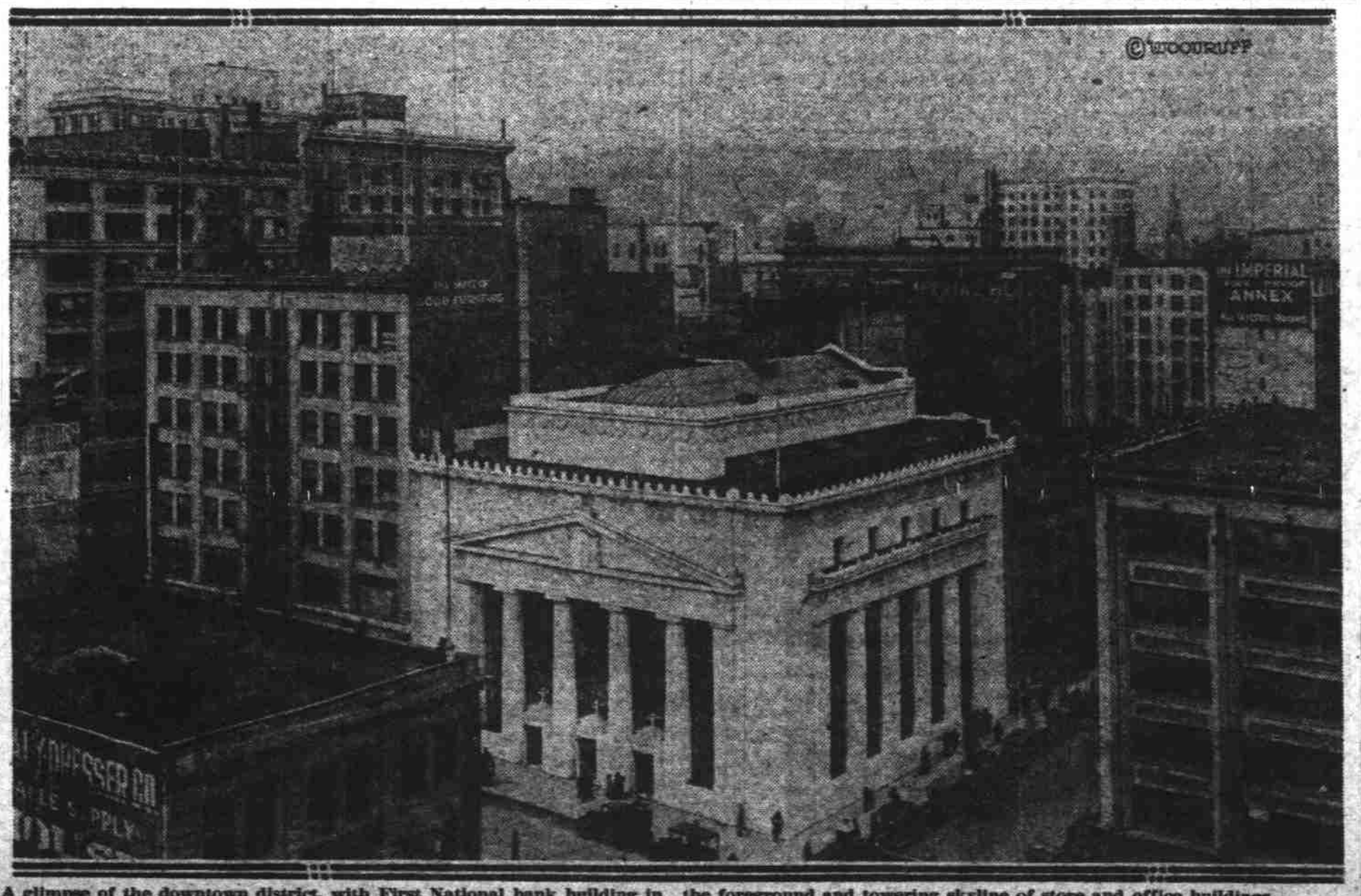
Postal Savings Bank Feels Reaction of Good Bond Offerings

Total postal savings deposits in the Portland postoffice for 1921 show a decrease both in amount and the number of depositors compared with 1920. This is largely attributed to the fact that a large number of foreign depositors have withdrawn their deposits and departed to their native countries, and others who have invested their savings in some of the attractive bond offerings during the

Work Resumed on Loop Road Section

Hood River, Dec. 24.—After a halt of several days, work was resumed Thursday on the Booth hill section of the Loop road and the contractors, Joplin & Eldon, plan to continue operations until the snow is too deep to use teams. Little rock has been struck up to the present and, as soon as the right of way is cleared, a new steam shovel will be put in operation. Engineer Seelye is in charge of the work.

CITY BUILDS WELL FOR THE GREATER PORTLAND IN THE MAKING



A glimpse of the downtown district, with First National bank building in the foreground and towering skyline of store and office buildings.

Railroad Activity for Year Major Projects Summarized

An eight-year period of inactivity in railroad development work in Oregon ended during 1921.

While the actual construction work which has been completed during the past year in the state has not involved the expenditure of more than \$500,000, the basis was nevertheless laid for a future working program which should make 1922 a banner year in railroad improvement history.

It was during the year just past that the Southern Pacific Railroad company conceived the idea and constructed a tunnel through Elk rock, so electric trains operating on the west side line could operate with greater safety than was afforded through use of a trestle swinging around the face of the rock.

This project cost the Southern Pacific company \$250,000. The tunnel took three months to complete and was 1300 feet in length. Electric trains began to use the new bore three weeks ago.

TWO OTHER PROJECTS

Two other construction projects took tangible form during 1921. One of these new plans—the construction of a union freight and passenger terminal—means much to Portland, while the other extension of the United Railways line to the Eccles timber tract portends much for the state.

The building of a union freight and passenger terminal has been the desire of Portland business men for many years. Always the relations existing between the Hill and Harriman interests had prevented cooperation on such a program. During 1921 the executives of the competing interests ironed out their differences with the result that active development work was started upon a union freight terminal in the Guild's lake tract. The decision was also reached to enlarge the facilities at the union station to permit joint usage of the passenger station by all railroad lines.

NEW EQUIPMENT ORDERED

Railroad executives of the Northern Pacific and Great Northern railways also became keenly interested in the Washburn rail survey down the Wilson river to the coast and made several tours of inspection over this route. It is believed that some development will take place in this territory during 1922.

Provision was also made by the Southern Pacific company during recent months to replace light rail construction with heavy rail construction in the state to make the lines of a more permanent nature.

Contracts were entered into by all the railroads serving the Oregon country for new equipment which will be placed on the lines during the coming year.

past year which pay a much higher rate of interest as well as many who have withdrawn their funds to build homes.

If the present bill now under consideration at Washington, which provides for the raising of interest rates from 2 per cent to 3 per cent and the maximum deposit of any one depositor from \$2500 to \$5000 becomes a law, the postal savings business will undoubtedly show a handsome increase.

The comparative figures show that on December 31, 1920, deposits total \$1,753,785 with 4790 depositors while at the present time deposits are approximately \$1,520,000 with 4200 depositors, a decrease of \$233,785 in the volume of deposits and 590 in the number of depositors.

Christmas Greetings

To you whose good-will and friendship have helped to make this a happy holiday season for us, we send cordial appreciation and our heartiest wishes for a very Merry Christmas and a New Year of happiness and prosperity.

Wiley B. Allen Co.

—HASON AND HAFEN BLDG.—
MORRISON ST. AT BROADWAY

OTHER STORES: SAN FRANCISCO, OAKLAND, FREEMONT, SAN DIEGO, SAN JOSE, SACRAMENTO, LOS ANGELES