

# The United States National Bank Of Portland

The new Town and Country Branch of The United States National Bank of Portland, located at the northwest corner of the Town and Country Shopping Center on South Sixth Street, becomes U.S. National's 64th banking office in Oregon.

The doors will open on Saturday, November 9, with the official cutting of the ribbon at about 9:45 a.m. For the special occasion, E. C. Sammons, president of the institution, will come from Portland. The city fathers will assist at the occasion of the opening of the new branch.

Earlier in the week, various persons were consulting bank officials in order that they may be among the first depositors at the new branch.

One of the pleasant first duties of the new manager, Elton W. Smith, will be presenting to a little Chilquin girl a savings account book with a \$25 credit as a reward for her drawing of the Thunderbird which highlights the entrance foyer of the building.

Also on hand will be Murdo Morrison and John Howard, partners in the local architectural firm which drew the plans and specifications for the bank building, and W. J. (Bill) Duncan, head of Duncan Construction Company of Klamath Falls, building contractor.

The United States National Bank of Portland has served Oregon for 66 years. In his annual report to

stockholders early this year, President E. C. Sammons said:

"The year 1956 was the best year in the bank's history . . . we provided more banking service to more people than in any previous year of the bank's history and we were privileged to lend more money, handle more trust accounts and process more debits and credits to our commercial and savings accounts than ever before.

"One significant development during 1956 was that our trust business increased more in one year than in the first 20 years of the department's existence."

He pointed out that The United States National Bank of Portland is owned by 5,461 shareholders, of whom 90.5 per cent are residents of the state of Oregon.

U.S. National's slogan is "An Oregon Bank Serving Oregon."

President Sammons also said:

"A bank is a public service institution. Its services are vital to the region and to the nation. Although we have lots of marble and plate glass, various machines and, of course, another necessary ingredient, money, the most important thing of all is people.

"A bank is truly people—customers who have confidence in the

institution and a devoted staff of people to serve those customers.

"Our staff totals more than 2,000 persons, of whom 1,253 are women and 752 are men. They comprise a fine, loyal, efficient team; so efficient that the American Institute of Management, Inc., has for the second time placed the name of our bank on its 1957 list of 'Excellent Managements' which numbers 406 American and Canadian companies."

The annual report shows total deposits in 1896 of \$371,133.37. By 1906, this total had increased to \$6,850,812.69. This figure approximately doubled by 1916 and had reached in 1926 a total of \$54,542,082.22 which doubled again by 1926. Deposits stood at \$113,912,986.26 in 1936; \$559,571,354.42 in 1946 and \$784,152,311.54 in 1956.

The Town and Country Branch of the U.S. National offers complete banking service.

The main banking area of the new building occupies approxi-

mately 5,400 square feet. The walls, with the exception of the main vault, are of colored pumice stone block, manufactured and supplied by a Klamath Falls plant.

The floor covering is vinyl asbestos tile. The beams supporting the roof are Glu-lams, manufactured by Weyerhaeuser Timber Company. The ceiling features acoustical tile and modern fluorescent lighting is used throughout.

Careful engineering goes into the plans for a new bank. Tellers counters must be the right height for the average person to use comfortably. Forty-inch height is considered uniform (and when shorter than average tellers are employed, platforms are built for them to stand on). The tellers counters are 36 inches wide to provide ample space for customer use. Materials featured include frosted walnut formica tops and a simulated woven mat vinyl plastic on the front panels.

A modern check desk, featuring

the new aluminum perpetual calendar, is located on the east wall of the bank lobby. Material used is frosted walnut formica, carrying out the interior decor.

The employees of the Town and Country branch have been considered in the planning and have been provided with modern, up-to-date lounge facilities for rest and lunch periods. A range, refrigerator, sink unit, natural birch cabinets, dining table and chairs and lounge furniture are included.

### SAFE DEPOSIT

Customers at the new Town and Country Branch of U.S. National will find approximately 200 safety deposit boxes for rent in the bank's vault. There are three booths for customers' convenience in examining the contents of their boxes and the vault is of maximum security construction. The walls are poured reinforced concrete and buff brick veneer.

### PARKING

Customer parking to the east of the new bank building was provided for in the plans and specifications drawn for the Town and Country branch.

### DRIVE-IN BANKING

Provisions have been incorporated in the west wall of the Town and Country branch bank building to permit a future drive-in window.

### NIGHT BANKING

Night depository service is available from the east covered porchway and embodies the latest security, theft-proof type of construction.



ELTON SMITH

Manager of the Town and Country Branch of The United States National Bank of Portland, Elton W. Smith, has been a resident of Klamath Falls for 31 of his 37 years and at the start of 1957 could say he had been employed by the U.S. National for half of his life.

He started with U.S. National's downtown Klamath Falls branch in 1939 as a bank messenger. The ladder on the way to branch manager has included the steps of bookkeeper, proof department, teller, notes department, chief clerk and for the last four years, head of the consumer credit department.

Smith was named as assistant manager on July 1, 1955, from which position he steps up to manager.

His civic service during the years includes six years on the Community Chest and United Fund boards.

In 1952 he was county chairman for the cancer drive and in the fall of that year served as general campaign chairman for the Community Chest drive. For outstanding community service, he received the Klamath County Junior Chamber of Commerce's First Citizen award in January, 1953.

In 1954, Smith was named as president of the Klamath County United-Fund Red-Cross and has been active in all succeeding campaigns.

On Saturday, Smith and the bank branch he will manage become the 14th member in the Town and Country Shopping Center which was opened officially in July, 1954.

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