

Henry C. Pfeiffer, President of Quincy Show Case Works

Henry Blomer, President of Blomer & Michael Packing Company

Harvey G. Riggs, former banker from Callao, New Cambria and Macon, Missouri

John L. Soebbing, President of Quincy Grocer Company

Samuel W. Eldred, Secretary-Treasurer of Wabash Coal Company

The members of the bank's first board of directors were all Quincy residents; it remains that all directors of the bank, past and present, were and are residents of the City of Quincy.

The bank continued a steady growth and by 1920 was serving 112 correspondent banks located throughout its trade area in Illinois and Missouri. On June 7, 1923, Trust Powers were granted the bank by the State of Illinois, thereby enabling it to more adequately serve the Quincy community.

By 1924, the bank had outgrown its original quarters which were located at the northeast corner of 5th and Maine Streets in downtown Quincy. The site of the original building was formerly occupied by a drug store and was purchased in 1906 by the bank and remodeled so as to be ready for the opening date of April 9, 1906. In 1924, additional land immediately north of the bank building was purchased and the entire building was then enlarged to more than double the office space of the original building.

Total assets at the close of the bank's 22nd year of business in 1928 were \$2,814,152.12. John H. Sieckmann was the Executive Officer of the bank at that time, and as a result of his guidance, the bank weathered the storm of the great economic depression of the late twenties and early thirties without capital construction or depositor waivers.

Depositor confidence in the bank's management reflected by a steady and uninterrupted growth of assets throughout the remainder of the thirties, the recession years of the forties, the recession years of the early fifties so that at the year end 1954, total deposits were \$17,976,897.38; the need for further expansion becoming evident. Foreseeing the need, the bank purchased the former Wells Building at the southwest corner of 5th and Maine Streets from the Illinois Public Service Company. It was razed

On September 10, 1955, a Certificate of Reciprocity was granted to Mercantile Trust and Savings Bank by the Commissioner of Finance for the State of Missouri authorizing the Bank to act in all Fiduciary capacities within the State of Missouri. This greatly stimulated the growth of the bank's Trust Department and the Missouri correspondent banks and with services that heretofore were not available to them prior to the initiation of the act. The evidence of Mercantile's growth was realized when the bank organized an installment lending

department in 1957 whereby the bank's consumer loan customers could be more readily and conveniently served.

In August 1960, Mercantile Bank moved into quarters at the southwest corner of 5th and Maine Streets, which was to be the most modern banking house in the whole of its trade area. Deposits at year end 1960 then totaled \$20,212,357.11. During the next six-year period, deposits were to increase over 52% and would show at year end 1966 some \$30,764,830.77.

In the November 1966 election, the banking law referendum which would allow banks to erect extended motor banking facilities, was approved by the citizens of Illinois. Mercantile Bank was prepared for this new legislation and on June 16, 1967, Lee M. Howerter, President of the Bank, announced the proposed construction of a Motor Banking Facility to be erected at the southwest corner of 8th and Jersey Streets. This property was formerly the City of Quincy "Parking Lot "C", which was purchased by the bank in April 1967. An adjoining tract which housed a used car lot was also purchased at that time.

The new Motor Banking Facility provides the utmost in convenience for bank customers wishing to do business by automobile. A miniature bank lobby also enables pedestrian traffic as well as those individuals who wish to park their automobiles in the facility parking area to transact much of their banking business at the facility. Notable exceptions to this would be the initiation of loans, trust matters or services which would require the consultation of a bank officer. Mercantile Bank people are proud of their new facility and feel that this expansion not only reflects their confidence in a growing downtown area, but they also feel that it will be a significant contribution toward the revitalization of the downtown community.

Mercantile Bank actively serves an area of some 60 miles radius from the City of Quincy. This area is roughly bounded on the north by Hamilton, Illinois; on the east by Rushville, Illinois; on the south by Pittsfield, Illinois; and on the west by Edina, Missouri. It presently serves 23 correspondent banks within this area of Illinois and Missouri.

Throughout the years, Mercantile Trust and Savings Bank has presented a record of careful and dependable banking. They have adhered to a policy of sound business fundamentals. They have demonstrated this policy by not only promoting and administering to the legitimate business undertaking of their customers, but also by striving to render to their customers the utmost in personal service. President Lee M. Howerter, who has served as the Executive Officer of the Bank for the past 17 years and who has presided over the considerable growth and expansion of the bank during those years, feels confident in the future of Quincy and wishes to inform the community that Mercantile Bank will continue to provide the force, imagination and progressive