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Des Moines, Iowa

May 24, 1976

Bank Farm Lending Higher Last Year

Total U. S. farm debt held by banks increased by nearly 12% to an estimated \$25 billion during 1975, almost exactly equal to the growth in U. S. farm debt from all sources in the same period.

The American Bankers Association's (ABA) 1976 Agricultural Credit Survey is based on year-end 1975 figures reported by a representative sample of 1,298 nationwide. The survey indicates seven out of 10 banks experienced increases in farm operating loans, while six out of 10 reported increases in equipment and other types of farm loans.

"Bankers participating in the survey said they expect further growth in farm lending in 1976, and they anticipate little change in farm interest rates this year, said Oliver A. Hansen, chairman of ABA's Agricultural Bankers Division, which conducts the survey. Farm interest rates averaged about 8.9% in 1975.

Mr. Hansen is also president of Liberty Trust and Savings Bank, Durant, Ia.

Banks' farm lending kept pace with the overall growth of agricultural credit last year primarily because of an increase in deposits, Mr. Hansen said. "Over 90% of the banks participating in the survey reported a deposits increase in 1975." By contrast, in 1974 total farm debt increased by 12% while bank-held farm debts grew by only 7%.

Over two-fifths of the banks



OLIVER HANSEN

reported that by the end of 1975 the quality of their farm loan portfolios had improved, and only 7% said it had declined.

However, over half the banks expect their farm customers to encounter increasing repayment difficulties this year, Mr. Hansen noted. Fluctuating commodity prices, increasing farm operation costs and bad weather earlier this year are expected to cause the repayment difficulties.

Over 90% of the bankers surveyed thought farmers in their area were receiving adequate credit from all sources. "If deposit growth continues, allowing bankers to achieve the loan-deposit ratios that they hope for this year, they should be in a strong position to maintain or increase their farm loan volume," Mr. Hansen predicted.

Seventy per cent of the bankers said young beginning farmers in their areas were receiving sufficient credit from all sources, including banks, to become established in farming.

Oppose Political FDIC Appropriations

Robert F. Barnett, chairman of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation has attacked proposals to place the FDIC under the political appropriations procedure on the grounds such action would destroy public confidence in the banking industry and reduce efficient operation of the agency.

"Our opposition to including the FDIC under the appropriations process is based on a strong desire to continue the present ability of the FDIC to make its decisions, many of which are extremely sensitive, on an objective, non-political basis, and a need to maintain flexibility in our finances to cover expenditures which may be unpredictable," Mr. Barnett told regu-

[Turn to back page, please]



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Terry Martin Vice President

Sites Selected for ABA Conventions

A revised list of annual convention sites for the American Bankers Association has been approved by the Governing Council.

They are:

1977-Houston, October 15-19.

1978—Honolulu, October 21-25. 1979—New Orleans, October 6-10.

1980-Chicago, October 11-15. 1981-San Francisco, October 3-7.

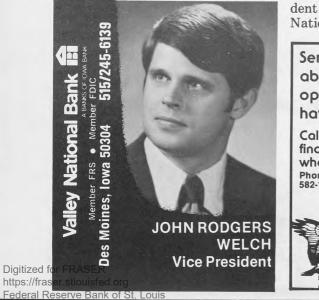
1982-Atlanta, October 16-20.

This year's convention, scheduled for October 2-6, will be held in Washington, D.C.

AIB To Meet in St. Louis

The American Institute of Banking (AIB) will meet at the St. Louis Chase Park Plaza Hotel in St. Louis May 30 through June 2 for its annual convention. Earl B. Bloodworth, national AIB president will preside.

Topics of discussion will include: curriculum development, faculty selection, communication, training, recordkeeping, taxes and incorporation and how-to basics of marketing.



Nominate Christy Armstrong

Christy F. Armstrong, president of American Trust and Savings Bank, Dubuque, has been nominated to the office of vice president of the Iowa Bankers Association. The election will take place by ballot and will be announced at the convention in October. C. Robert Brenton, president of Brenton Banks, Inc., Des Moines, holds this office now and will succeed to the presidency in October.

Iowa News

HOLY CROSS: The Dyersville National Bank has filed an application requesting permission to establish a branch here.

FAIRFIELD: Group 11 Sports Day will be held at the Fairfield Country Club on Wednesday, June 9. For reservations, contact Terry Lowenberg, vice president, Iowa State Bank & Trust Co.

LeCLAIRE: LeClaire State Bank has announced the appointment of Rozella West and Loretta Buchheit to assistant cashiers.

NEVADA: Lyle E. Abramson has been named executive vice president and director of the Nevada National Bank.



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PRINCETON: Farmers Savings Bank has announced the appointment of Dorothy Ann Cole to assistant cashier.

RED OAK: Montgomery County National Bank has announced the addition of John Tischer to its staff as instalment loan officer. Formerly he was manager of Thorp Credit, Inc.

WEBSTER CITY: Richard C. Hare has joined the First State Bank as senior vice president. He formerly was first vice president and cashier of the Boone State Bank & Trust Co.

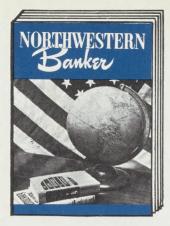
Nebraska News

BEATRICE: Beatrice State Bank has received consent to establish a branch at 722 Court Street.

OMAHA: Robert A. Anderson has been elected president of the First Westroads Bank. He formerly was executive vice president of the bank and prior to that was with the mortgage loan division of the National Bank of Commerce in Lincoln.

OMAHA: The Cornhusker Bank has received permission to establish a facility at 77th and Cass Streets here.

OSCEOLA: Roy Dinsdale, chairman of The First National Bank, has announced the promotion of Ron Christensen from cashier to



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306 Fifteenth Street DES MOINES, IOWA 50309

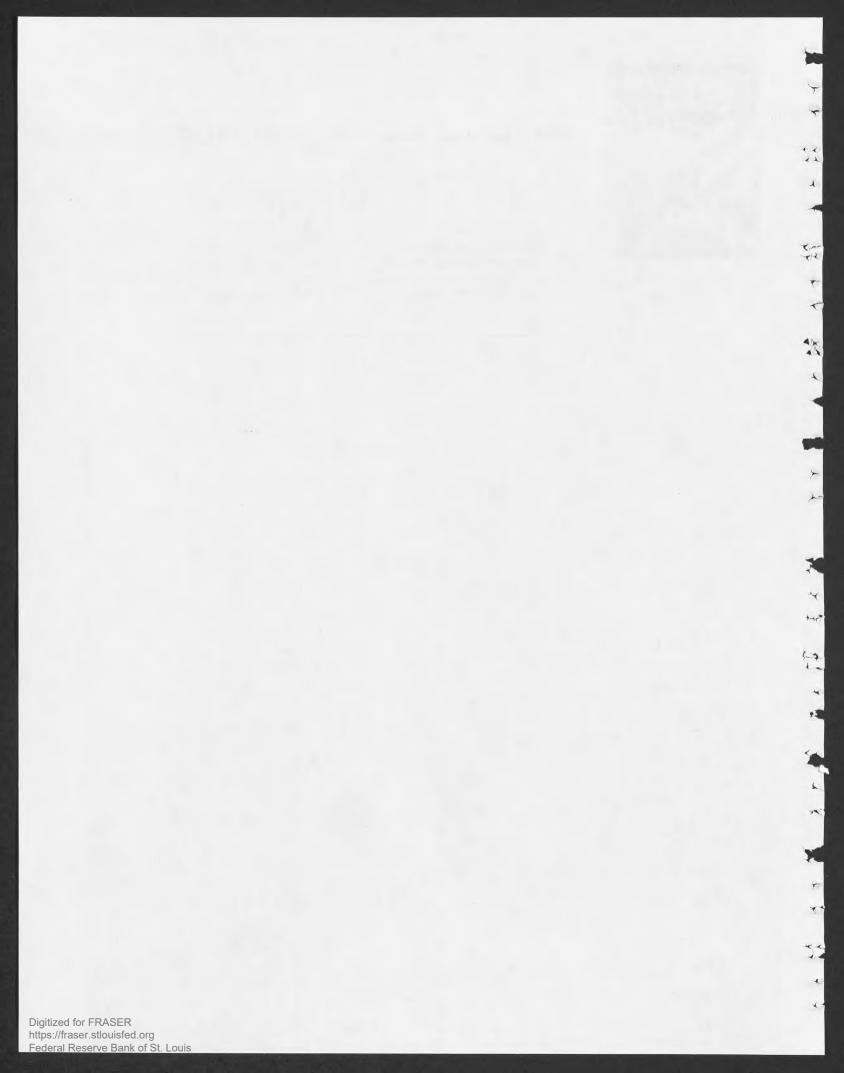
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vice president and Steve Darling from assistant cashier to cashier.

Minnesota News

The following banks have increased their capital stock: Empire State Bank of Cottonwood from \$75,000 to \$300,000 by stock dividend of \$150,000 and sale of new stock of \$75,000; State Bank of New Prague from \$175,000 to \$400,000 by sale of new stock; Security State Bank of Deer Creek from \$50,000 to \$75,000 by sale of new stock; and State Bank of Hanska from \$80,000 to \$100,000 by stock dividend.

FERGUS FALLS: Richard F. Glasoe, president of Security State Bank, has announced his resignation. The bank's operations will continue under the supervision of Tom Troupe, vice president, while the board considers a successor.

LUVERNE: Russell Impecoven has joined the Northwestern State Bank. He formerly was an auditor of Banco, Inc., an audit services subsidiary of Northwest Bancorporation, Minneapolis.

NEW LONDON: Errol Bluhm has joined the Farmers State Bank as loan officer. He previously was with the Bank of Willmar.

OWATONNA: Donald E. Hanson has been promoted to vice president and cashier of The First National Bank.

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ROCHESTER: John Brenengen has been appointed executive vice president of the Marquette Bank.

WASECA: Dean Bloemke has joined the First National Bank of Waseca as assistant cashier in instalment loans. He formerly was with Thorp Financial Services in St. James, New Ulm and Eveleth.

Illinois News

Gerald Sinclair, executive vice president of the Salem National Bank, recently was elected president of the Association for Modern Banking in Illinois (AMBI). He succeeds Lester A. Kassing, president, Jefferson Trust Savings Bank, Peoria, who moves up to chairman. Robert C. Humphrey, president, State National Bank, Evanston, was named first vice president; Loren M. Smith, president, United Bank of Illinois, Rockford, as second vice president; William B. Norton, president, First National Bank, Morris, as secretary, and Willard Bunn, Jr., chairman, Springfield Marine Bank, as treasurer. The newly elected officials will take office on July 1.

AUBURN: Auburn Peoples Bank's application for Federal deposit insurance has been approved. The bank's capital accounts total \$800,000.

BELVIDERE: Alpine Bancorporation has filed an application for approval to acquire 80% of the voting shares of Alpine State Bank, Rockford.

DeKALB: University National Bank has changed its name to The American National Bank of De-Kalb.

Colorado News

DENVER: David E. Peterson, vice president and trust officer at The

Don Jordahl

Ster Ver Brank (of Stratoluk

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First National Bank of Denver, was elected president of the National Trust Real Estate Association at its annual meeting in Houston, Tex.

LaSALLE: South Platte National Bank has changed its name to United Bank of LaSalle, National Association.



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[Continued from page 1]

lators and bankers attending the 75th annual Conference of State Bank Supervisors Convention at the Broadmoor Hotel in Denver.

He said it is even more important for the FDIC to maintain its fiscal independence because of "the fear that public confidence in deposit insurance might erode if the finances of the corporation become publicly controlled."

He maintained audits of the FDIC by the General Accounting Office provide Congress with thorough oversight authority but "without the ancillary dangers associated with subjecting the FDIC to an appropriations process."

Wyoming News

CASPER: Security Bank and Trust has changed its name to First Wyoming Bank-Casper.

South Dakota News

RAPID CITY: Charles L. Seaman, president, First State Bank of Warner, was elected president of

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on

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Toll free

800-362-1615.

the South Dakota Bankers Association at its 84th annual convention attended by 575. A complete report will appear in the June issue of the Northwestern Banker.

North Dakota News

CAVALIER: The Citizens State Bank of Neche and Pembina office has received approval to relocate here and to maintain offices at Pembina and Neche.

WANT ADS

Rates 35 cents per word per insertion. Minimum: 12 words NORTHWESTERN BANKER 306 15th St., Des Moines, Iowa

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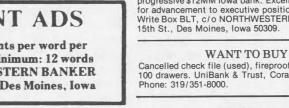
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