# NORTHWESTERN Banker Vewsletter

Vol. 7 No. 24

Des Moines, Iowa

October 9, 1978

### Many Major Cities Show Stable Credit

ANY large U.S. cities show stable credit prospects, according to Continental Bank's city credit study released September 27.

"Our study shows that not all large cities are in financial trouble, as is commonly believed," said David G. Taylor, executive vice president and head of Continental's bond and money market services department. "In fact some major cities are even improving their credit ratings."

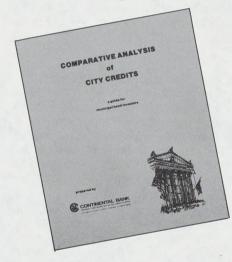
Prepared by the Chicago bank's municipal research division, the study analyzes credits of 62 major cities. The cities, which include the more actively traded city credits, were selected on the basis of three criteria:

- A 1970 population greater than 150,000.
- A Moody's Investors Service rating of either "Aaa", "Aa", or "A1".
- Sufficient general obligation debt outstanding to be considered a general market credit.

The study helps investors in general obligation municipal bonds by comparing cities with other municipalities in their own rating category. "This gives valuable insights into the relative strengths and weaknesses of the cities and gives the investor a sound basis for making credit decisions," said Gordon E. McDanold, vice president and head of the bank's public

finance group.

Because of the financial difficulty experienced by a few large cities, investors have become increasingly concerned about the fiscal health of all large cities, Mr. McDanold said. In addition, he pointed out that



because general obligation bonds are secured by the taxing power of the issuer and not by a specific source of revenue, the riskiness of general obligation bonds is sometimes difficult to assess.

According to the analysis, Chicago placed near the low end of the "Aa" rated cities because of the city's loss of population and below-average growth in its tax base.

However, Mr. McDanold stated that he felt there is no reason to

believe that Chicago will be downgraded in its credit rating in the near future. "Chicago's importance as a financial, transportation, and manufacturing center and its moderate debt load make it one of the stronger large cities," he said.

Included in Continental's study of 62 cities were the following midwest cities, showing their Moody and Standard & Poor ratings as noted in the study:

	Moody	S&P
Chicago	Aa	AA
Denver	Aa	AAA
Des Moines	Aaa	AAA
Kansas City	Aa	AA
Madison	Aaa	NR
Milwaukee	Aaa	AAA
Minneapolis	Aaa	AAA
Omaha	Aaa	AAA
St. Paul	Aa	AA
Kansas City Madison Milwaukee Minneapolis Omaha	Aa Aaa Aaa Aaa	AA NR AAA AAA

Total volume in the municipal bond market is expected to be up only slightly in 1978, the two Continental Bank bond specialists said.

"This year, the volume of municipal bonds should reach a record \$47 billion, up \$2 billion over 1977," said Mr. Taylor.

"Yields on municipal bonds, currently averaging about 6%, should continue to increase as interest rates rise during the last half of the year," he added.

Mr. Taylor, a member of the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board, explained that the recent

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increase in municipal bond activity resulted from issuer response to changes in U.S. Treasury Department regulations making the refunding of existing municipal bonds less profitable in the future. "This encouraged a number of cities to refund existing bond issues in May and August before the new regulations went into effect in two stages," he said.

Truck Lines has terminals in Chicago and Minneapolis in addition to Rockwell City.

**Iowa News** 

The National Bank of Rockwell City and other area banks are supporting the candidacy of Dennis W. Hunt, 46-year old president of Hunt Truck Lines, Inc., for election as a Class B director of the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago. The member banks will be voting between October 26 and November 10 to elect a successor to Oscar Mayer of Madison, Wis., as a Fed board member in Chicago. Hunt

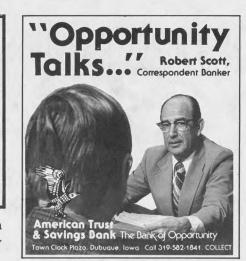
Iowa State Treasurer Maurice Baringer announced last week that Iowa's floating usury ceiling for the fourth quarter, effective through December 31, will be 10.5%.

CEDAR FALLS: Northwest Bancorporation has agreed to purchase First National Bank for a purchase price reported to be about \$6.8 million. The seller is Dico Corp. of Des Moines, which holds about 95% of the stock. Banco has eight other banks in Iowa. Dico shareholders must approve the sale October 31, then it must be approved by federal authorities.

CLINTON: George Meyer has been named executive vice president of the First National Bank. Formerly a vice president in the instalment loan department of the Council Bluffs Savings Bank, Mr. Meyers assumed the position after Dale C. Strickland was named president of the Centerville National Bank.

COUNCIL BLUFFS: Ken Keniston has joined the State Bank and Trust as vice president and instalment loan officer.

DURANT: Henry Hansen, chairman of the Liberty Trust and Savings Bank, died September 30 at the age of 87. Services for "Uncle



Henry," as he was known to hundreds of Iowa bankers and area residents, were held in Durant, with burial in his home town of Dixon. He began his banking career with the Liberty Trust and Savings in 1909 on October 1. His death occurred just one day before he would have completed his 69th year with the bank. A bachelor, Mr. Hansen is survived by two nephews a niece-Oliver Hansen, president of the bank; Mal Hansen, president of Travel and Transport Agency, Omaha, and Mrs. Robert Meyer, Indianapolis, Ind.

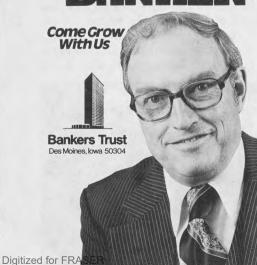
WASHINGTON: Dale Torpey has been named cashier and Dick Anderson manager of the instalment loan department of the National Bank of Washington. They succeed Ken Keniston, vice president, cashier and instalment-real estate loan manager, who resigned to become vice president and instalment loan officer at State Bank and Trust in Council Bluffs.

#### **Nebraska News**

AURORA: Tom Wigley has been named trust officer of the First National Bank & Trust Co.

WALTHILL: Mic Daehnke, an employe of the First National Bank for the past year, has been named assistant cashier in charge of the operations department.

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- 4) Elgin State Bank Elgin, Iowa
- 5) First National Bank St. Louis, Missouri
- 6) Cresco Union Savings Bank Cresco, Iowa
- 7) First National Mercantile Bank Montgomery City, Missouri
- 8) First National Bank New Hampton, Iowa
- 9) Security Bank & Trust Decorah, Iowa
- 10) Lee County Savings Bank Fort Madison, Iowa
- 11) Maquoketa State Bank Maquoketa, Iowa
- 12) Corwith State Bank Corwith, Iowa
- 13) Dakota State Bank Milbank, South Dakota
- 14) Farmers Savings Bank Boyden, Iowa

- 15) Farmers Trust & Savings Bank Buffalo Center, Iowa
- 16) First Community Bank & Trust Traer, Iowa
- 17) Valley National Bank Des Moines, Iowa
- 18) First National Bank West Union, Iowa
- 19) First State Bank of La Moure La Moure, North Dakota
- 20) Midway Bank & Trust Cedar Falls, Iowa
- 21) Morningside State Bank Sioux City, Iowa
- 22) Security National Bank Sioux City, Iowa
- 23) Warren County Bank & Trust Indianola, Iowa
- 24) Manilla State Bank Manilla, Iowa
- 25) First National Bank Mason City, Iowa
- 26) Albert City Savings Bank Albert City, Iowa
- 27) Citizens Savings Bank Sac City, Iowa
- 28) Urbana Savings Bank Urbana, Iowa

- 29) Readlyn Savings Bank Readlyn, Iowa
- 30) Farmers State Bank Jewell, Iowa
- 31) Farmers State Savings Bank Independence, Iowa
- 32) State Bank of Waverly Waverly, Iowa
- 33) Community State Bank Clear Lake, Iowa
- 34) Merchants National Bank Cedar Rapids, Iowa
- 35) First National Bank Ottumwa, Iowa
- 36) Parkersburg State Bank Parkersburg, Iowa
- 37) Osceola State Bank & Trust Osceola, Iowa
- 38) Farmers Savings Bank Princeton, Iowa
- 39) First State Bank Fredericksburg, Iowa
- 40) South Ottumwa Savings Bank Ottumwa, Iowa
- 41) Schuyler County State Bank Lancaster, Missouri
- 42) First National Bank Burlington, Iowa

- 43) Clear Lake Bank & Trust Clear Lake, Iowa
- 44) Poweshiek County National Bank Grinnell, Iowa
- 45) Seymour State Bank Seymour, Jowa
- 46) Farmers State Bank Jesup, Iowa
- 47) Puget Sound National Bank Tacoma, Washington

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R. L. "Dick" Sellon, President

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In order to generate a range of in-depth customer perceptions about automatic transfer, three focus groups were conducted. All participants were between the ages of 25 and 49. The family income of the participants was at least \$20,000. None of the participants were employed by a financial institution and all of them had at least partial responsibility for banking and financial matters in their households.

We are offering you both the taped conversations and the 35-page written summary and recommendations that were developed by GMI, a nationally recognized marketing research firm. Any reproduction or resale of these materials, including tapes and written material, is strictly prohibited without the written permission of BRENTON BANKS, INC.

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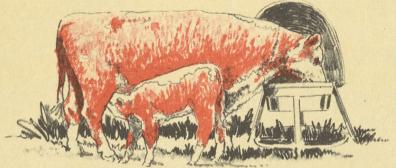
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Supplement To Northwestern Banker Newsletter 9-18-78

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  - \*Every six months that could mean 60 extra pounds per calf at 60c/lb. equaling \$36.00.
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  - \*Investment in the Vita Ferm System is 6c per head per day times 180 days, equaling \$10.80. Add one-half consumption for calves 400 lbs. and up, \$5.40; equaling a total of \$16.20.
  - \*\$36.00 plus \$50.00 equals \$86.00 minus \$16.20 equals \$69.80 extra profit per cow calf unit.
- 2. The Vita Ferm System is a great investment in backgrounding and finishing cattle to market producing high quality, flavorfull meat, and utilizing more forages and less grain. Our products can be free-choice fed, top dressed or blended in the ration. Reduce meat production costs and produce high quality, flavorful meat without excessive fat.
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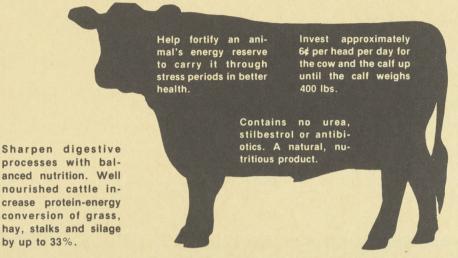
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#### **Minnesota News**

MOORHEAD: The American Bank and Trust Company has announced plans to build a detached banking facility at 20th Street and 30th Avenue South, subject to approval of the Minnesota Commissioner of Banks.

#### **Illinois News**

Agricultural experts and bankers will gather October 11-12 for the 32nd Annual Illinois Bankers Association Agricultural Credit Conference at the Champaign Ramada Inn. The two-day conference will include two general sessions, various workshops and a banquet on Wednesday night. It is designed to encompass every area of agriculture including politics, lending, marketing and futures trading.

PEKIN: The Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System has announced its approval of the application of Herget Financial Corp. here to become a bank holding company through acquisition of the successor by merger to The Herget National Bank of Pekin.

#### Colorado News

DENVER: Jerry Sheely recently was named president and chief executive officer of Boulevard Colorado National Bank. Ms. Sheely, who also was elected to the board, succeeds Garth Thomas, who was elected vice chairman. Mr. Thomas had served as president of

the bank since January of 1973. Ms. Sheely has been with the bank for the last 14 years, mainly in lending and bank operations.

#### **South Dakota News**

The South Dakota Chapter of the National Association of Bank Women, Inc. (NABW), will hold its state meeting October 26 at the Holiday Inn, Pierre. Registration is at 9 a.m. with the meeting to convene at 9:30 a.m. The meeting will adjourn at 4:30 p.m.

The program outline includes: installation of new officers; convention report by Carol Crawford, Canton, and a module presentation -Decision Making I. This module acts as credit toward the management series. Bernice Johnson. assistant vice president of the First National Bank of St. Paul, Minn., will visit the meeting. She is the new regional vice president of the association.

#### **Wyoming News**

CHEYENNE: Roy G. Dinsdale, chairman, Citizens National Bank & Trust Co., Torrington, and principal owner of 10 banks in Nebraska, one in Colorado and one in Kansas, has made a tender offer to purchase 470,000 shares of Wyoming Bancorporation for cash at \$15 per share, either in common stock or \$1,250 net per \$1,000 principal amount of 1996 71/4 % convertible subordinated debentures, or any combination of the two. The offer, if accepted, would mean an acquisition of approxi-



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mately 20%, Mr. Dinsdale said. He presently owns about 11/2 % of the holding company's stock. The offer expires October 20. Mr. Dinsdale, who lives in Palmer, Neb., where he is president of State Bank of Palmer, told the Northwestern Banker that if the tender offer is accepted "I would like to take an active part in board management." On August 1 the stock traded for  $12\frac{2}{3}$ ; on September 1 it was  $13\frac{1}{2}$ , and October 3 it was 143/4.

CHUGWATER: Tracy Swanson has joined the First National Bank as executive vice president. Mr. Swanson formerly was instalment loan officer at First Wyoming Bank-Wheatland.

THERMOPOLIS: Don Jackson, a Florida banker, has been appointed executive director and president of

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First State Bank here. The announcement came shortly after the bank organizers started excavation and site work for the new bank at the corner of Arapahoe and Fifth Streets. Mr. Jackson has been with First Bancshares of Florida for 18 years and has been president of five of the company's banks.



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#### TOM HAGAN & ASSOCIATES

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