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# The Montana National Bank Opens for Business in Beautiful New Home Monday Morning, June 10th

WITH THE OPENING for business of The Montana National Bank in its new home Monday morning, June 10, Billings will be able to boast, in addition to its many other honors, that of possessing the most beautiful bank in the Midland Empire and one which is not surpassed in attractiveness or modernness by any bank in the Northwest.

The new home of the Montana National, on which construction work has been in progress for about a year, is the first building in the city designed exclusively for bank purposes and in design and construction it represents the very latest ideas in bank architecture. Situated on Broadway at Second avenue, facing the new Hart-Albin building, the new home of The Montana National is a distinct addition to the business district and many favorable comments have already been heard from visitors upon its imposing appearance.

THE structure is 50 by 70 feet and has two floors and a basement, besides a mezzanine floor. It is of absolutely fireproof construction of reinforced concrete and hollow tile, with window frames, etc., of steel, and is finished with a beautiful gray granite, Bedford stone and terra cotta. The style of consctruction, with tall, massive columns flanking the front entrance, combines simplicity with impressiveness.

**Perfectly Lighted.**

Entering the building through two sets of double doors which enclose a large vestibule, one steps directly into the lobby of the bank and the two things which instantly attract attention are the lofty ceiling, 21 feet high, and the perfect lighting. Tall windows on all sides let in a veritable flood of light and the light marble and cream and ivory finishing enhance the effect of unsullied daylight. The window arrangement also provides perfect ventilation and to guard against any possible curtailment of the lighting a space of several feet has been left between outer walls and property lines.

In the center of the lobby is the check desk, a work of art in soft gray Italian marble and solid bronze and to the right, on the Second avenue side, are the officers' quarters, on a slightly raised floor, the front room, which is private, being for use of the directors. The officers' quarters are beautifully finished in Honduras mahogany, in a dull brown style, with furniture to match. Beautiful oriental rugs complete the effect of unostentatious yet luxurious harmony.

**Private Room For Ladies.**

On the left side of the entrance is a ladies room, elaborately decorated, furnished likewise in Honduras mahogany and carpeted with an oriental rug. Connected with it is a toilet room, with steel, and contains a battery of safes, two round burglar proof cash safes being surrounded by steel sheet work.

The vault is so constructed that not only would it be a week's job for the most expert cracksman in the country ever to reach the inside of the cash vaults, but he could hardly lay a finger on any part of it without activating one of the many burglar alarms that would rouse the entire city. Gongs are located both inside and outside the building and the electric alarm system extends to every part of the bank.

**Modern Storage Vaults.**

Marble stairs lead from the lobby to the basement, which is finished in artistic fashion, with roseate tiled floors, tinted walls and mahogany woodwork. Like the main floor the basement is perfectly lighted and ventilated. The stairway opens upon a public lobby, furnished in mahogany and equipped with telephones and other conveniences.

Opening from the lobby is a spacious record vault, 15 by 30, fire and burglar proof, destined particularly for the storage of old records and books of firms, corporations and public offices. Adjoining this is a large safe deposit vault, lined with steel and completely burglar proof. This vault contains safe deposit boxes of the latest improved construction and an attendant will be constantly on duty. In the rear of this is a vault for and are beautifully finished, are occupied by offices. The Northern Drilling Co. has a suite on the mezzanine floor, each occupy a four-room suite.



The new home of The Montana National Bank "The bank for you"—the most attractive and modern bank home in the Midland Empire.

**Bank Is Burglar Proof.**

If there is such a thing as a bank being absolutely burglar proof, the Montana National can claim the distinction, a fact which is impressed upon one with one look at the big steak vault located in the northeast corner on the ground floor. The vault, which was made by the American Bank Protection Co. of St. Paul, is equipped with massive armor plate doors and the most intricate mechanism designed to thwart any and every possible attempt at robbery. It is heavily lined, floor, ceiling and four walls, with steel, and contains a battery of safes, two round burglar proof cash safes being surrounded by steel sheet work.

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No expense has been spared in the effort to make the home of The Montana National representative of the very latest ideas in architecture, management, attractiveness and convenience, and it requires only the most casual inspection to realize that this aim has been accomplished. The building was designed by George B. Prass of Omaha, one of the leading architects of the country who is now building a 25-story telephone building in the Nebraska city, and construction has been superintended locally by C. C. Gehrs, the work being done by Gorton & Co.

The mezzanine and second floors, which are reached by marble stairways, are practically occupied by offices of the Montana National into one of the leading financial institutions of Montana, and at the same time it is impressive evidence of the faith of its officers, directors and stockholders in the future of Billings and the great region embracing eastern Montana and northern Wyoming of which this city is the commercial and financial hub.

Organized less than six years ago, the growth of this institution has not only kept pace with the development of Billings and the surrounding territory but has set a pace which has been one of the marvels of banking history in a state notable for the rapid and at the same time conservative and substantial growth of new financial institutions.

Opening for business Nov. 7, 1912, as the Bank of Montana under state charter, with a capital of $50,000, its progress was from the outset such as to attract attention. In 1914, less than two years later, the bank had outgrown its original quarters in the old First National Bank building, and removed to the Montana block at the corner of Broadway and First avenue where its development in resources and prestige has since continued with increased impetus.

On Jan. 1, 1917, a national charter was secured and the name of the institution was changed to The Montana National bank. Today, less than six years since it first opened its doors, the institution has deposits of approximately $1,500,000, ranking third in Yellowstone county in this respect; has a capital stock of $150,000, a surplus of $50,000, and the well earned reputation of being one of the most substantial and conservative, yet at the same time wide-awake and progressive banks in the Treasure state. Real banking service has been its motto from the beginning and with the facilities afforded in its new home this phrase takes on new meaning, for no bank in the northwest is better equipped to give real banking service, in the largest meaning of the term, to its patrons.

**Officers Stand High.**

The officers of the Montana National stand high in the business and banking circles of the northwest and are men of unsullied reputations for professional and personal integrity. The president, A. H. Marble, of Cheyenne, Wyo., is generally recognized as one of the really big bankers of the west. His banking connections cover four states, Montana, Wyoming, Nebraska and South Dakota. The vice president, T. S. Langworthy, has been identified with the bank since its opening, having been one of its organizers and its first cashier. The cashier, W. A. Tolpres, and assistant cashier, C. S. Miller, are men whose demonstrated ability is of a high order.

**A Long Step Forward.**

Occupancy of this beautiful building marks another long step forward in the rapid development of The Montana

The board of directors consists, in addition to Messrs. Marble, Langworthy and Tolpres, of Messrs. Rudolph Molt and George B. Kirby, both of whom are eminently successful business men.

The firms of John Clay & Co. and Clay, Robinson & Co. of Chicago are heavily interested in the Montana National, and John Clay and Frank H. Connor, another member of these firms, take an active interest in the bank's affairs and are frequent visitors in Billings. The bank properly and the 100 foot adjoining it on the north is owned by the Montana National Development Co., a corporation owned by the stockholders of the bank. John Clay & Co. own the corner at Broadway and Third avenue, now occupied by the General Repair shop.

**"The Bank For You."**

Although a few finishing touches remain to be put on the new building, it is now in shape for occupancy and everything will be ready for business when the doors are thrown open Monday morning. No formal opening is planned, but the public is cordially invited to come in and make an inspection. In fact, all the week the bank will keep "open house" and it is expected that the people of Billings and vicinity will avail themselves of this opportunity to learn by personal observation why the Montana National, in connection with the opening of its new home, has adopted the slogan: "The bank for you."

**Believe in Billings.**

"We are naturally proud of our new home," declares Vice President Langworthy, "but it is a pride in which we desire the people of Billings and the Midland Empire to share, for it is their confidence and support which has made it possible for us to build such a beautiful bank home and the citizens of this community have just as much right and reason to be proud of it as we have. It has been our aim in the past to give real banking service and it is in order better to do this that we have erected this building and equipped it in the most modern way throughout. At the same time we find unselfish gratification in the feeling that our new home is a credit and an asset to the city.

"Needless to say, the faith of the officers and stockholders of the Montana National in the future of Billings and the Midland Empire is unlimited. We have built with a view to take care of the future expansion which past experience leads us to anticipate and it is our confident belief that the next few years will witness tremendous growth in the population and wealth of Billings and this entire region."

# Grimstad & Brown Occupy New Bank Bldg.

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