

# *First National Bank*

*United States Depositary*

*Culbert L. Olson President*

*Geo. H. Schodde, Vice Pres. C. C. Baker, Vice Pres.*

*P. J. Lorang, Cashier*

*Burley Idaho*

May 22 ,1918

Dear brother Henry:-

Your letter was received a few days ago, and you may rest assured I was very happy and relieved to hear from you. It was over two months since I had received your other letter, consequently I was quite worried about you. As it is, I am rejoicing to find that you are safe, enjoying your work, and in the best of health.

I am very thankful to you for the many interesting details given me with reference to the nature of your duties as a protector of the "Stars and Stripes", and also concerning the description of the country in general in England. It must be a wonderful place, but it will have to go some to beat the "Good Old U.S.A."

Since coming down here I have been a very busy man. I have been working day and night and nearly every Sunday. The position of Cashier is no easy job I assure you. My work has been especially difficult for many reasons. First of all, I was a stranger in a strange land, and was obliged to acquaint myself not only with the inner workings of the institution and persons, but also with the country and local conditions in general. Another thing, the bank was entirely re-organized so to say, and the new men to take charge with me were unexperienced. We have only one man with us now who connected with the bank before I came, with the exception of the President, who is not active and resides in Salt Lake City. He is an attorney there recognized for his ability, and incidentally is also in the Utah State Senate. In addition to the many other duties, I am on the Committee with our President, Mr. Olsen, to put in a new banking-room. This work has almost been completed, and the cost of the new fixtures and remodeling the banking-room will reach about \$15,000.00. The details of the work were all left to me, and I never before imagined that there could be so much responsibility connected with so small an affair.

Our furniture and fixtures are all of mahogany and marble. The ceiling is of beams and panels, tined sufficiently to match well with the fixtures. The room is wonderfully lighted, and I do not hesitate to say the electrical fixtures would be a credit to most any city bank. We also have four elaborate electric lights at the exterior of the entrance of the bank, and when all the lights are turned on, it is a wonderful sight to behold.

The Tellers cages are four in number, a large lobby with marble check-desk for customers, a general consultation-room for customers, a ladies writing-room and lavatory, a men's lavatory, a directors' room, a private office and dictation-room, and last but not least, the officers quarters. The Vice President and I have our desks in these quarters. One of our Assistant Cashiers has his desk in the private office. With this description you may imagine to some extent what a wonderful bank we have. As to the condition of the bank's statement, I am enclosing you one of our folders, and incidentally wish to remark that the bank was organized only five years ago.

Of course you have heard of our Third Liberty Loan. The call was for three billions of dollars, and the Country went "over the top" without any strain on anyone apparently, by that I mean financially. Of course, it means a lot of work for the banks, but we are all happy to think that we can at least do that much for our "Dear Country". Our part of the work of winning the war is as nothing compared to yours. The Red Cross Funds (\$100,000,000) called for by the Nation, were raised in a single day, and not only that, we went "over the top"

Henry, I have been debating with myself quite a bit in the last six months, whether or not it is my duty to come over and help you lick the Kaiser even tho I am a few years past the draft age. I am prepared, and shall come as soon as our dear President of the U.S.A calls for me. In the meantime, while I remain here, I assure you I am not getting to miss an opportunity to do my part to help win the war.

I have not heard from mother or father or any of the folks since I was up in February. They were all well at that time, and I am sure nothing has happened or I would have been notified. While on this visit, Albert and Hazel took me out for a time, and you can bet we had "some time". They are good scouts.

If I were not so terribly worn out tonight, I would write more, but as it is I shall have the rest for next time.

It is needless to say anything about fighting, for I know you will do that if you ever get in the war some, but remember always WE WHO REMAIN HERE ARE BACK OF YOU. Please write soon.

Love and best wishes to you.

Your brother

*Peter*

