

## **MsSC 130**

### **OAKVILLE STATE BANK**

#### **HISTORY**

The Oakville State Bank was incorporated on August 14, 1909 by C.R. Harper and C.C. Scates. Scates became the bank's first cashier, while Harper's shares were acquired by Colonel William T. Perkins in 1910, who managed the business as president until the 1920's. Following a spate of financial mismanagement that included carrying overdrafts and unauthorized loans in 1929 and 1930, the bank was sold in 1931 to the Guaranty Bank of Centralia group. Between 1950 and 1972, the firm changed its name several times, becoming Tenino-Oakville Bank in 1950, Thurston County Bank in 1961, and finally, the Bank of Olympia in 1972. It merged with the Puget Sound National Bank in 1981.

#### **SCOPE AND CONTENT**

The records of the Oakville State Bank cover the years 1910 to 1922 and include blank forms, circulars, correspondence, financial reports, receipts, and publications.

The correspondence constitutes the bulk of this collection and dates from 1910 to 1922. In addition to documenting the daily operation of a bank in a small town (bank drafts, deposits, and insurance and equipment purchases), the correspondence also records the expansion of the regional economy, including the growth of the timber and fruit industries, and the impact of World War I on local banking. The future and business climate of Oakville, 20 miles west of Centralia in the Chehalis River Valley, is also a subject in the correspondence.

There are 450 letters, half of which is between Bank Cashier Scates and President Perkins and pertains to the daily business of the bank.

**INCLUSIVE DATES:** 1910-1922

**RESTRICTIONS:** None

**VOLUME:** .5 linear ft.

**ACCESSION No.** S1992.27.268

## FILE LISTING

### **Box 1: Blank Forms, Circulars, Correspondence, Financial Reports, Misc., Publications, and Receipts.**

1. Blank Forms. (Deposit slip, checks)
2. Circulars: Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco. 1921-22
3. Circulars: Postal Savings System, U.S. Office of the Interior. 1911-12
4. Circulars: Washington Bankers Association. 1914-16
5. Correspondence: 1910. April-August. (Lumbermen's Reference Book, Perkins' presidency of the bank, iron deposits in the region)
  - July 1. Harris Trust and Savings Bank. (Postal Savings Bank law-with pamphlet)
  - July 11. Mortgage Dept. to Scates. (Advice on loan application)
  - August 7. Scates to Perkins. (Oakville's landscape and economy, Oakville water plant proposition)
  - August 8. Perkins to Scates. (Water plant proposition)
  - August 17. Scates to Perkins. (Water plant proposition)
  - August 21. Scates to Perkins. (Future of Oakville without a timber industry)
  - August 23. Perkins to Scates. (Water plant proposition)
  - August 25. Scates to Perkins. (Regional forest fires, sale of Indian reservation lands next to Oakville)
  - August 26. Perkins to Scates. (Tenino Mill loan, water plant)
  - August 27. Scates to Perkins. (City election, Tenino Mill, water plant)
6. Correspondence: 1910. September-December. (Water plant, lumber mills as a financial risk, land rights for Tenino Mill)
  - September 9. Scates to Perkins. (Bloomingdale's mill in Tenino, Chehalis County politics)
  - September 11. Scates to Perkins. (Elma politics and economy)
  - October-December. (Montsano State Bank, instability of Oakville State Bank to finance a large mill)
  - October 4. Scates to E.H. Bloomingdale. (Sterling Mill Company)
  - October 6. E.H. Bloomingdale. (Construction and loan for a mill)
  - December 2. A.S. Platt to Perkins. (Surety bonds)
7. Correspondence: 1911. July 3. S.G. Bottum to Perkins. (Sterling Lumber Company-lists of debits and accounts)
8. Correspondence: 1912. (Closure of U.S. Mint Assay Offices)
  - March 5. Perkins to Scates. (Dittmar Mill)
  - March 8. Perkins to Scates. (Dittmar Mill)
  - March 12. Scates to Dittmar Lumber Co.

- April 1. Perkins to Scates. (Dittmar Mill)  
 April 25. Scates to Perkins. (Dittmar Mill)
9. Correspondence: 1913. (Federal Reserve Act, Wash. State bankers meeting)  
 April 24. Vance Lumber Company. (Financial statement)  
 July 9. A.M. Kneeland.  
 December 23. Washington Bankers Association. (Saturday half-holiday law, prize essay contest)
10. Correspondence: 1914. January-February. (Impact of European immigration upon farming communities, Federal Reserve Act)  
 January 15. Sears, Roebuck Co. to Perkins.  
 January 29. National Bank of Mexico. (Inability to cover remittances, increase in foreign exchange in Mexico)
11. Correspondence: 1914. March-September. (Cushman Agency Indian lands sale, Oakville Bank's designation as a state depository, National Bank of Mexico)  
 March 27. Perkins to Scates. (Depressed local lumber industry)  
 September 22. Letter from Mexico. (Mexican fiscal crisis due to World War I, foreign currency operations with Oakville Bank stopped)  
 September 26. Scates to Perkins. (Failure of Centralia banks, transfer of currency into bank reserves)  
 September 28. Perkins to Scates. (Inability of Oakville Bank to make loans due to low cash reserve)  
 September 28. Perkins to Scates. (Low cash reserves, loans stopped)  
 October-December.
12. Correspondence: 1915. January-June. (Dittmar Mill timber harvests)  
 January 13. J.R. Foster to Scates.  
 February 1. Scates to Perkins. (Possible impact of a story in the *Oakville Cruiser*)  
 March 10. National Bank of the Republic to Scates. (Federal Reserve System)
13. Correspondence: 1915. July-December. (Examination of a property by a University journalism dept.)  
 July 25. W.H. Dittmar to Scates. (Dittmar Mill)  
 August 12. Scates to W.T. Perkins. (Taxes on Dittmar Mill)  
 November 17. Perkins to Scates. (Dittmar Mill)  
 December 4. Perkins to Scates. (Dittmar Mill)  
 December 11. Scates to Perkins. (Dittmar Mill)  
 December 19. Scates to Perkins. (*Oakville Cruiser*)  
 December 20. Perkins to Scates.
14. Correspondence: 1916. January-May. (Dittmar Mill in Tenino, low cash reserves, big

- demand for loans from farmers)
- April 13. Scates to Perkins. (Dittmar Mill)
  - April 19. Scates to Perkins. (Dittmar Mill, L.H. Miller)
  - April 20. Perkins to Scates. (Dittmar Mill)
  - April 25. Scates to Perkins. (Dittmar Mill-“cruise” counts)
  - April 27. Scates to Perkins. (Dittmar Mill)
  - April 29. Perkins to Scates. (Dittmar Mill)
  - May 6. H.P. Craft to Scates. (Oakville boys “pig club”)
  - June to December. (Dittmar Mill, Oakville boys pig club)
15. Correspondence: 1919 July-October. Examiner’s certificate)
16. Correspondence: 1920 January-April. (Liberty Bonds)
- May-July. (Growth in local fruit canning industry)
  - August-December. (Timelock inspection, check fraud, recommendation of someone for employment in bank work)
  - September 1. Oakville Co-op Cheese and Butter Factory.
17. Correspondence:1921. January-May.
- February 3. North Pacific Bank Note Co. (Die cuts for printing)
  - February 12. From Perkins in Texas. (Newspaper clippings on stolen Liberty bonds)
  - April. Copy of letter to U.S. Senator Wesley Jones. (Petition to support appointment of W. T. Perkins as Governor of Alaska)
  - June-December. (Perkins’ candidacy for Governor)
  - December 1. Central Building Company (Seattle).
18. Correspondence: 1922. January-May. (Theft of mortgage papers)
- June-December.
19. Correspondence: Undated (Federal Bills H.R. 405 and 429)
20. Financial Reports: Statements of Condition, Oakville State Bank. 1919-20
21. Misc.
22. Publications: *Thrift*. Chehalis County Bank. Volume 4, No. 8. July 1910  
*November Newsletter*. Spokane and Eastern Trust Company. 1914  
*Dow’s Banking News*. February 1915
23. Receipts. Misc.