

# LEE COUNTY PIONEER BANK

Safe, Sound and Popular Keokuk Savings Bank, the Oldest Financial Institution of the Kind in Keokuk.

## NO BLUR ON RECORD

Wise, Commendable, Active and Successful Work of Its Several Officials in Behalf of the Great Dam.

The Keokuk Savings Bank was organized over forty-four years ago, in January, 1868, and a detailed history of its career would be the story of the financial and commercial progress of Keokuk. Many of the wonderful changes in the conditions of the city have taken place since the inauguration of this bank, and many of the important enterprises introduced have been brought to gratifying success by eminent officials of the Keokuk Savings Bank. Judge Edward Johnstone was a pioneer of Iowa, a learned and cultured gentleman in law and literature. He came here in territorial days and his eminent judgment and wise counsel did much in placing Keokuk and Lee county in the forefront of the early progress of this locality. He was one of the leading men in wisdom and his influence extended to other states and to the national capital. Stately in appearance as well as gifted in all the attributes that go to make an honorable and valued citizen, his name and influence lives after him.

A. L. Connable, another of the list of officials of this bank, had much to do in shaping the destiny of Keokuk. He was largely engaged in pushing forward the commercial interests of the city. Prominent in the old Des Moines slack water enterprise, a wholesale grocer and an extensive pork and beef packer, he was also one of the incorporators and directors of the Iowa State Insurance company, director and president of the Keokuk Savings Bank, director also of the Water Works company and the Keokuk canning company. He was a large land owner in this vicinity, besides owning about 12,000 acres of land in northwestern Iowa.

C. F. Davis succeeded Mr. Connable as president, the latter retaining his position on the board of directors. Mr. Davis was a man of marked financial ability, and wielded a vast influence in the financial, municipal and civic interests of the city. His civic pride was admirable and he loved Keokuk. Through his earnest and persistent efforts the remains of Chief Keokuk were brought here, and he was instrumental in placing a monument to mark the spot where the remains of the great chief lie buried in Rand park, overlooking the broad sweep of the Father of Waters. It was his plan to have a statue of the notable chief placed upon this monument. It should be placed there yet, not only as a tribute to the eminent Indian chief from whom Keokuk took his name but as a lasting memorial stone to the memory of C. F. Davis whose energy, judgment and local patriotism conceived the idea of bearing the bones of Keokuk here for burial and whose active mind and persistent efforts caused the notable monument to be erected. Mr. Davis was a Virginian by birth. He was a member of the city council and mayor of the city, which positions he filled fearlessly, ably and conscientiously.

At the death of Mr. Davis, he was succeeded in the presidency, by Alex E. Johnstone, who inherited many of the sterling qualities of his father. Hon. Edward Johnstone, the first president of the bank, and he continues to be the able, safe and efficient president of the institution. No man in Keokuk was more active in untiring work for the water power, that colossal enterprise now nearing completion. He was an officer of the local water power company when the strenuous work was done at the national capital, for congressional consent to the damming of the river here. He was president of the company when the triumph came and the local company turned over the work to the present company who are vigorously pursuing the enterprise to an early completion.

Charles P. Birge, vice president of the bank for a number of years was recognized as the father of the water power enterprise. He spent time, money and energy in its promotion and died when the realization of his dreams were about to be accomplished. So it seems that a vice president of the Keokuk Savings Bank was the originator of the enterprise and a president of the bank had the distinguished honor and pleasure of turning it over to an active, working company which is now building it. Men at the head in promoting an enterprise of world-wide fame are surely men of unusual strength and ability. And these men are only cited as the kind of men who built the foundation of the Keokuk Savings Bank and have continued in its management to this day. There is not the slightest blur

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A. E. Johnstone, President  
F. W. Davis, Cashier

Howard L. Connable, Vice President  
H. W. Wood, Asst. Cashier

CAPITAL---\$100,000

SURPLUS---\$100,000

UNDIVIDED PROFITS---\$50,000

# KEOKUK

# SAVINGS BANK

KEOKUK, IOWA

Does a General Banking Business---Interest Paid on Time Deposits and Savings Accounts---Boxes for Rent in Our Safety Deposit Vault---Open Saturday Evenings from 7 to 8 O'clock : : : : : : : :

## DIRECTORS:

A. E. Johnstone

F. W. Davis

Howard L. Connable

B. L. Auwerda

Ben B. Jewell