

NEW A.B.A. LEADER ROSE FROM RANKS

Russell G. Smith, Chief of National Bank Groups, Was Messenger.

BY EDWARD C. STONE.

Russell G. Smith, new president, national bank division of the American Bankers' Association, has risen from the ranks, having started his financial career in 1912 as messenger in a savings bank in San Francisco, where he was born in 1894. Since the recent Boston convention, he has been a Washington visitor, meeting many bankers and Government officials.

After advancing rapidly for 10 years with the savings bank he entered the Bank of Italy, now he is vice president and cashier, an official in several other important business concerns and a member of the advisory council of the Trans-American Corp.

The A. B. A. official was vice president of the national bank division last year, is a former member of the executive council and the bank management commission and has been active in the American Institute of Banking. In the California Bankers' Association he has been one of the leading spirits.

Residing in the most famous State in the Union from the standpoint of branch banking, he is prominent in the Masonic fraternity and belongs to several clubs. He is married and has two sons and a daughter.

Factors in Break in Stocks.

In his monthly letter to the Washington Association of Credit Men, Henry H. Heimann, executive manager of the national association, says he thinks there were two chief reasons for the break in the stock market.

First that the market was running ahead of recovery, and second, the drop in consumer buying. He explains:

"Stocks in many instances were far too high. In some instances they were selling at a price that discounted earnings in the present year, let alone on an appraisal of average earnings if a man runs 100 yards in 10 seconds it does not follow that he will run 1,000 yards in 100 seconds. Some companies had peak or near-peak years in 1937 as respects earnings. It is improbable that they could go on setting the new records year by year which the price of their stock seemed to indicate. The true investor realized as much and a correction ensued."

"Next it isn't the stock buyer, the broker, or the industrialist who really sets the sound value of a stock. It is the consumer who does that. When he refuses to buy in usual or increasing quantities the company that produces the article the consumer needs finds its sales falling off and its production curtailed. Recently there were signs that the consumer rebelled against rising prices and refused to them."

LARGE DELEGATION FORECAST.

It was stated in the financial district today that Washington will send a sizable delegation to the twenty-sixth annual convention of the Investment Bankers' Association, at White Sulphur Springs, W. Va., November 3 to 7.

President Edward B. Hall, Chicago, says that conditions prevailing in the securities markets will make the convention one of the most important in years. Regulation, taxation, general investment problems, capital financing and a host of other puzzling questions will be fully discussed from every angle, he says.

SAFE DEPOSIT SECTION MEETS.

The second meeting of the year of the safe deposit section of the District Bankers Association took place last evening in the board room of the American Security & Trust Co., with the chairman, Mrs. Helen R. Sharpe, presiding.

Albert E. Fisher of the Riggs National Bank addressed the section on the modern protection of safe deposit departments and some of the lax methods in management that should be corrected. He gave a practical talk and cited many cases where unsatisfactory methods have proved harmful to banks.

The new tax laws came in for an interesting discussion. The attendance was unusually large.

SOUTHERN'S ACTION PRAISED.

The Wall Street Journal today says that one of the most bullish news developments relating to an individual steam carrier which has come to light in months was the announcement at the Southern Railway's annual meeting that the management had obtained from the Reconstruction Finance Corp. a commitment which will enable the road to meet its near-term maturities, providing satisfactory terms cannot be obtained through private banking channels.

The report shows that the Southern will be able to take care of these debt maturities without difficulty. Incidentally, the Journal adds, the bullish news on Southern was considered too good to hold as the trans-lux revealed another very active session.

The Chesapeake & Ohio Railroad for the nine months ended September 30 earned \$3.19 a share on the common stock, against \$3.76 a share a year ago.

President Hugh Leach of the Richmond Reserve Bank attended the dedication of the new Federal Reserve Building here yesterday afternoon.

TODAY'S TRADING ON EXCHANGE.

The new Washington Gas Light preferred stock sold at 99 1/4 on the Washington Stock Exchange today, a single share for 99 1/4%. It has proved to be one of the steadiest stocks on the board ever since it was listed.

Riggs National Bank common stock moved today at 275 and Potomac Electric Power 5 1/2 per cent preferred changed hands at 111 1/4. Capital Tract 5s were in demand at 72.

There have been just two 10-share sales of Washington Railway & Electric Co. common stock on the exchange this year. The first sale was made at \$725 a share and the second a few days ago at \$625 a share. The stock pays \$36 a year dividend and practically none is offered for sale at any price.

TRANSACTIONS ON THE NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE

By Private Wire Direct to The Star.

	12:00 noon Sales—							12:00 noon Sales—							12:00 noon Sales—								
	Stock and Sales—	High. Low.	Dividend Rate.	Add. 00.	High. Low.	1:15. chse.	Net	Stock and Sales—	High. Low.	Dividend Rate.	Add. 00.	High. Low.	1:15. chse.	Net	Stock and Sales—	High. Low.	Dividend Rate.	Add. 00.	High. Low.	1:15. chse.	Net		
Prev. 1937								Prev. 1937							Prev. 1937								
Stock and Sales—	Stock and Sales—	Stock and Sales—	Stock and Sales—	Stock and Sales—	Stock and Sales—	Stock and Sales—	Stock and Sales—	Stock and Sales—	Stock and Sales—	Stock and Sales—	Stock and Sales—	Stock and Sales—	Stock and Sales—	Stock and Sales—	Stock and Sales—	Stock and Sales—	Stock and Sales—	Stock and Sales—	Stock and Sales—	Stock and Sales—	Stock and Sales—		
High.	Low.	Dividend Rate.	Add. 00.	High.	Low.	1:15.	chse.	High.	Low.	Dividend Rate.	Add. 00.	High.	Low.	1:15.	chse.	High.	Low.	Dividend Rate.	Add. 00.	High.	Low.	1:15.	chse.
High.	Low.	Dividend Rate.	Add. 00.	High.	Low.	1:15.	chse.	High.	Low.	Dividend Rate.	Add. 00.	High.	Low.	1:15.	chse.	High.	Low.	Dividend Rate.	Add. 00.	High.	Low.	1:15.	chse.
143 38 Abbott Lab. (1.60%)	4 40 38 84 384 84 15	4 40 38 84 384 84 15	4 40 38 84 384 84 15	4 40 38 84 384 84 15	4 40 38 84 384 84 15	4 40 38 84 384 84 15	4 40 38 84 384 84 15	42 23 Houck Corp. (1.5%)	2 27 12 12 12 12 12	2 27 12 12 12 12 12	2 27 12 12 12 12 12	2 27 12 12 12 12 12	2 27 12 12 12 12 12	2 27 12 12 12 12 12	2 27 12 12 12 12 12	42 23 Houck Corp. (1.5%)	2 27 12 12 12 12 12	2 27 12 12 12 12 12	2 27 12 12 12 12 12	2 27 12 12 12 12 12	2 27 12 12 12 12 12	2 27 12 12 12 12 12	2 27 12 12 12 12 12
45 Acme Steel (4%)	2 54 54 60 60 60 60	2 54 54 60 60 60 60	2 54 54 60 60 60 60	2 54 54 60 60 60 60	2 54 54 60 60 60 60	2 54 54 60 60 60 60	2 54 54 60 60 60 60	59 13 Climax Molybd. (30%)	1 27 12 12 12 12 12	1 27 12 12 12 12 12	1 27 12 12 12 12 12	1 27 12 12 12 12 12	1 27 12 12 12 12 12	1 27 12 12 12 12 12	1 27 12 12 12 12 12	59 13 Climax Molybd. (30%)	1 27 12 12 12 12 12	1 27 12 12 12 12 12	1 27 12 12 12 12 12	1 27 12 12 12 12 12	1 27 12 12 12 12 12	1 27 12 12 12 12 12	1 27 12 12 12 12 12
22 9 Adams Exp. (3.80%)	1 11 22 22 22 22 22	1 11 22 22 22 22 22	1 11 22 22 22 22 22	1 11 22 22 22 22 22	1 11 22 22 22 22 22	1 11 22 22 22 22 22	1 11 22 22 22 22 22	59 12 Climax-Cola (4%)	1 11 22 22 22 22 22	1 11 22 22 22 22 22	1 11 22 22 22 22 22	1 11 22 22 22 22 22	1 11 22 22 22 22 22	1 11 22 22 22 22 22	1 11 22 22 22 22 22	59 12 Climax-Cola (4%)	1 11 22 22 22 22 22	1 11 22 22 22 22 22	1 11 22 22 22 22 22	1 11 22 22 22 22 22	1 11 22 22 22 22 22	1 11 22 22 22 22 22	1 11 22 22 22 22 22
28 17 Allis-Chalmers (1.40%)	3 22 22 21 22 22 21	3 22 22 21 22 22 21	3 22 22 21 22 22 21	3 22 22 21 22 22 21	3 22 22 21 22 22 21	3 22 22 21 22 22 21	3 22 22 21 22 22 21	59 13 Colgate-Pe-P. (50%)	2 22 12 12 12 12 12	2 22 12 12 12 12 12	2 22 12 12 12 12 12	2 22 12 12 12 12 12	2 22 12 12 12 12 12	2 22 12 12 12 12 12	2 22 12 12 12 12 12	59 13 Colgate-Pe-P. (50%)	2 22 12 12 12 12 12	2 22 12 12 12 12 12	2 22 12 12 12 12 12	2 22 12 12 12 12 12	2 22 12 12 12 12 12	2 22 12 12 12 12 12	2 22 12 12 12 12 12
14 1/2 Allis-Brum. (1.40%)	1 11 18 19 18 18 18	1 11 18 19 18 18 18	1 11 18 19 18 18 18	1 11 18 19 18 18 18	1 11 18 19 18 18 18	1 11 18 19 18 18 18	1 11 18 19 18 18 18	59 14 Colleate & Atk. (1%)	1 10 32 30 30 30 30	1 10 32 30 30 30 30	1 10 32 30 30 30 30	1 10 32 30 30 30 30	1 10 32 30 30 30 30	1 10 32 30 30 30 30	1 10 32 30 30 30 30	59 14 Colleate & Atk. (1%)	1 10 32 30 30 30 30	1 10 32 30 30 30 30	1 10 32 30 30 30 30	1 10 32 30 30 30 30	1 10 32 30 30 30 30	1 10 32 30 30 30 30	1 10 32 30 30 30 30
14 1/2 Advance Rumley	7 62 60 60 60 60 60	7 62 60 60 60 60 60	7 62 60 60 60 60 60	7 62 60 60 60 60 60	7 62 60 60 60 60 60	7 62 60 60 60 60 60	7 62 60 60 60 60 60	59 15 Apple Cigar (2%)	1 51 11 10 10 10 10	1 51 11 10 10 10 10	1 51 11 10 10 10 10	1 51 11 10 10 10 10	1 51 11 10 10 10 10	1 51 11 10 10 10 10	1 51 11 10 10 10 10	59 15 Apple Cigar (2%)	1 51 11 10 10 10 10	1 51 11 10 10 10 10	1 51 11 10 10 10 10	1 51 11 10 10 10 10	1 51 11 10 10 10 10	1 51 11 10 10 10 10	1 51 11 10 10 10 10
50 53 Air Reduction (1%)	7 65 60 60 60 60 60	7 65 60 60 60 60 60	7 65 60 60 60 60 60	7 65 60 60 60 60 60	7 65 60 60 60 60 60	7 65 60 60 60 60 60	7 65 60 60 60 60 60	59 16 Air Seal (1%)	1 52 14 13 13 13 13	1 52 14 13 13 13 13	1 52 14 13 13 13 13	1 52 14 13 13 13 13	1 52 14 13 13 13 13	1 52 14 13 13 13 13	1 52 14 13 13 13 13	59 16 Air Seal (1%)	1 52 14 13 13 13 13	1 52 14 13 1					