

There is Always a Market for Old or Used Machinery—but It Often Happens That You Can Find Them Here Only Through a "For Sale" ad.

DESERT EVENING NEWS.

TRUTH AND LIBERTY.

After You Have Used Some Article, and Ceased to Need It Longer, You Are in a Position to Sell It at a Bargain. Use a "For Sale" adv. Be Your Salesman.

10 PAGES—LAST EDITION.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11, 1905. SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH.

FIFTY-SIXTH YEAR.

AMERICAN BANKERS' ASSOCIATION.

Thirty-first Annual Convention Opens in New National Theater in Washington.

TWO THOUSAND MEMBERS THERE

When President's Name Was Mentioned As Signifying Civic Virtue, all Applauded.

CHANGE IN BANKING LAWS NEEDED

Secretary's Report Shows That the Association Is Prosperous and Growing.

Washington, Oct. 11.—The thirty-first annual convention of the American Bankers' association was opened in the new National Theater here today, with more than 2,000 members present. Welcoming addresses were made by John Jay Edson, president of the local bankers' association, and Commissioner MacFarland, of the district government.

The bankers applauded the mention of President Roosevelt's name as signifying civic honesty.

Regarding the welcome, President E. F. Sullivan, of the association, declared the "keys of the city" on behalf of his brother bankers, to keep their reputations inviolate should things be missing after they had gone.

PREST SWEENEY'S ADDRESS.

We have cause to congratulate ourselves upon the abundant evidence that the past year has been in the main marked by prosperity in all lines of business and comparatively few bank failures have occurred. All such periods have produced a feeling of complacency and led to the formation of unsound industrial enterprises. The few bank failures of the past year were mostly traceable to excess loans made to such enterprises of their promoters. The present statutory provisions of the national banking act, which require a bank to have a surplus of at least 10 per cent of the capital stock of the lending bank are not adequate.

There is a need for a change in these banking laws permitting banks to loan surplus to one individual, firm or corporation and provide suitable penalties for any bank violating the law. At the same time it would recommend that any funds passed to surplus be reported to the controller of the currency and be not thereafter allowed to be in any way impaired under the same provisions as conditions as now prescribed for impairment of capital stock. These amendments would tend to remove the incentive to excess loans and also provide a larger loaning power to the banks. Similar provisions in the laws of other countries would be increased. A much more serious abuse lies in the not infrequent act of managing officers of banks making discounts to themselves out of the banks' funds. The association would like to see a great number of bank failures there have been found among their assets the worthless notes of high officers of the bank for the large loans frequently made with security at all, or with "straw" security which proved to be almost worthless. This is a most lamentable and reprehensible violation of law, to say nothing of business ethics. It is the essence of personal dishonesty. It is a violation of the public trust. It is the chosen guardians of a trust fund. It opens wide the door to fraud and it is a travesty upon legitimate banking. We should like Congress to deal vigorously with these abuses by denouncing them as felonies, with extreme pains and penalties, and we should urge this association to take this matter before their respective state legislatures so as to compel legislation where there is wanting public integrity and a proper sense of propriety. The ever-present question of the country's currency system, the association spoke at San Francisco two years ago. We all agree that "quality and not quantity" comes first. Larger than the influence of our association "quality" has been forever assured. No current in the world rests on a more firm and solid foundation today than does ours. On the question of "money" and currency will be no less potent and eventually decisive.

"Financiers offer us to the proper methods of assuring at all times a currency ample but not redundant elastic, but not capable of ulterior manipulation. "Asset currency" and "emergency currency" are terms not yet capable of exact definition. It has been said that "foolish often rush in where angels fear to tread." In considering former nor arrogant to ourselves the wisdom of the latter, but as conservative the patriotic business men may we take the question aright, and having made up our minds, have the courage to enforce our convictions.

SECTY BRANCH'S REPORT.

Interest was manifested in the annual report of Secty. James R. Branch, which showed that the membership and resources of the association have increased as follows:

During the fiscal year, 900, _____ paid _____
_____ the total income; annual
_____ \$125,000.

During the past year 1,053 members
_____ loss through failure, liquidation,
_____ consolidation and withdrawal. One
_____ member, one hundred and fifty-two
_____ the list, more than ever before
_____ members' assigned the organization. The
_____ deposits, now amounts to \$11,460.

_____ Sec. _____ Branch praised the work of the
_____ protecting committee. During the past
_____ state detective agency employed by the
_____ association captured 62 professional
_____ bank criminals, 32 of whom have been
_____ convicted and sentenced to prison.

The committee on uniform law, the