

“Abilene in the First Two Decades of the Twentieth Century”

by Deane W. Malott

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“The Citizens Bank, founded in 1885 by my Father and Grandfather (Thomas Hiram Malott), both coming from Bedford, Indiana. The bank started originally as the Bank of Malott and Company. Initial directors were A. W. Rice, W. B. Giles, John J. Johntz, and Thomas Hiram Malott.

My Grandfather was President, my Father, Cashier, and J. E. Johntz, son of one of the Founding Directors was Assistant Cashier. In the early years there were two teller book-keepers, Mabel Cuthbert and Grace Kraybill.

When my Father became President (and later Chairman) in 1911 or 1912, he always had his desk in an unenclosed office at the front of the bank to greet all customers, some of whom would wait until he was unoccupied, simply to get a check cashed (with at least 3 on duty at the teller's windows!).”

Courtesy of Robert H. Malott