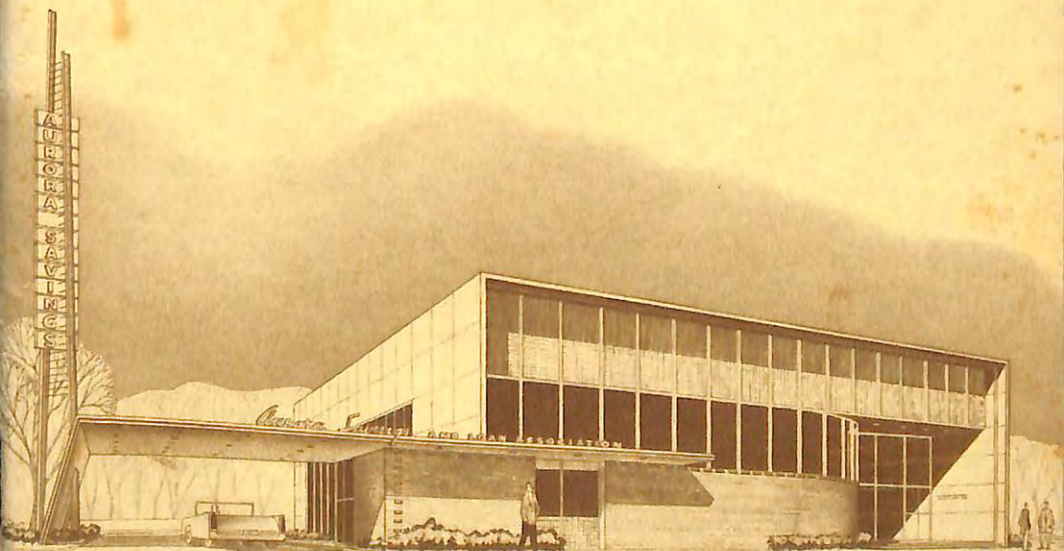


# THRIFT CORNER

Magazine



*Aurora Savings* and Loan Association

101 N. LAKE STREET • AURORA, ILLINOIS

Commemorating the visit  
of President  
Theodore "Teddy" Roosevelt  
at the home of  
United States Senator  
Albert J. Hopkins  
Lake and Walnut Streets,  
—now the site of  
our new building.

OCTOBER, 1958

VOLUME 1

NUMBER 1

Written and compiled by Vernon Derry

Printed by Kelmscott Press



**United States  
Senator**

**Albert J. Hopkins**

**1846-1922**

*A. J. Hopkins*

## **Forword**

It is a rare moment in the life of any business to enjoy a completely new building. The continued growth of Aurora and the Fox River Valley has made this not only possible, but necessary to keep pace and render the service required by an ever-expanding community.

Our new building site holds much history of early Aurora. In the Hopkins home many plans were laid for the development and building of our city. We intend to continue the philosophy of community building and development of community service from this same historic corner.

E. E. Elder

**United States  
President**

**Teddy Roosevelt**

**1858-1919**



*Theodore Roosevelt*

## **Teddy Was Here**

The President of the United States, Theodore "Teddy" Roosevelt, was on tour of the central states. Soon he would be dining in Aurora at the home of U. S. Senator, Albert J. Hopkins. All Auroraland would turn out to see and cheer our first citizen as he rode in a long parade from Senator Hopkins' home at Lake and Walnut Streets, through the downtown area to Lincoln (McCarty) Park. This was in 1903.

We, of the Aurora Savings and Loan Association, cherish stories of the many events occurring at this historical corner at Lake and Walnut Streets, the site of our new home, and would like to tell you something about them.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Albert J. Hopkins was born on a farm near Cortland, DeKalb County, Illinois, in 1846. He was the son of Cyrus B. and Fannie Hopkins, who were among the earliest settlers in northern Illinois. Young Albert spent his boyhood working on their farm through the summer months, and walked to a little country school during the winter for his three "R's."

At seventeen he attended school in Sycamore, and, after one year, enrolled at Hillsdale College in Michigan, graduating in 1870.

Young Albert then moved to Aurora to study law under Charles J. Metzner. Their offices were on the second floor—front, of the building presently occupied by Erlenborn's at 30 So. River Street. Hopkins lived in a couple of rooms at the rear of the second floor. Within one year the brilliant young Hopkins received his license to practice law in all the State Courts. Before another year passed, he was licensed to practice in the United States Courts. Upon his admission to the bar, Mr. Hopkins became a law partner of Mr. Metzner's, an association lasting until the latter's death.

In 1872, Hopkins was elected States Attorney for Kane County, at which time he laid the foundation for his brilliant and successful career, becoming one of the most distinguished and honest prosecutors the County has ever had.

In 1873, Albert J. Hopkins was married to Emma Stolp, daughter of James B. Stolp of Aurora. They reared four children, Fannie (Peppers), James, Albert Jr., and Mark, in the home purchased from his former law partner, at Lake and Walnut Streets, in 1879. Their lovely old home was torn down in 1950, giving way to a used car lot. This historic corner was purchased in 1955 by the Aurora Savings and Loan Association, who proceeded with plans for their new building.

Mr. Hopkins served for nearly eighteen years as State Congressman, after which he served as United States Senator from 1903 to 1908. While in the Senate, he was credited with many accomplishments which brought him widespread fame. He was active in planning the Panama Canal, and was instrumental in securing for Illinois, the Great Lakes Naval Training Center.

Senator Hopkins was considered a great presiding officer when the occasion arose and was one of the finest and most able extemporaneous speakers of the day.



Home of U. S. Senator Albert J. Hopkins, 101 North Lake Street. Torn down in 1950. Lot purchased by Aurora Savings in 1955 for new building.



River Street in 1886. Our River Street building was #2. Hopkins law office was in #3. Old Dunning block #4, and Cotton Mill building #5. Some say Hopkins had an office in #1 at one time.

Prof. C. R. Smith, Aurora College, tells a story of the Senator speaking at the College, revealing the following: It seems that the Fox River, due to some ancient records, is classed by the War Department as a navigable stream so that no bridge can be built over the river without a permit granted by an Act of Congress. The Senator related that, on one occasion, when the City of Aurora wanted a new bridge, it became his duty to present the matter to Congress, but at that particular time there was a clamor by so many of the men trying to obtain recognition by the Speaker of the House that Hopkins, after repeated efforts, failed. It so happened that there was a social occasion when Mr. Hopkins found himself in an informal personal conversation with the Speaker of the House, and had the boldness to mention the difficulty he had encountered trying to get the floor to present a brief bill in behalf of the people of his own home town.

The Speaker said, "Hopkins, bless that red hair of yours, the first girl I ever went with had red hair, and tomorrow when you stand up and I see that head of yours, for her sake, I will give you the floor." So it was that one of Aurora's bridges came to span the Fox River.

President Theodore Roosevelt was so highly impressed with the outstanding work performed by Senator Hopkins that on June 3, 1903, "Teddy" paid the Senator a visit in his home town of Aurora. A special train on the C. B. & Q. Railroad, decorated with American flags, brought the President into town. Fifty teams of the Valley's most beautiful horses pulled as many carriages in a parade from the Hopkins home at Lake and Walnut Streets through the downtown area to Lincoln (now McCarty) Park where President Roosevelt addressed



of the President, and a little later one of the light "Q" engines in charge of the chief engineer of the road, and the roadmaster, pulled into the depot. Ten minutes later the big iron monster engine No. 1519, gayly decorated in the National colors and handsomely painted, loomed up in the yards and then pulled into the depot.

The President and his party were waited upon by Senator Hopkins, Mayor Raymond and General Welch. The first to leave the train were four secret service men, after which followed Senator Beveridge, Secretary Loeb and then President Roosevelt.

The President was greeted by Senator Hopkins who presented Mayor Raymond and General Welch. Mayor Raymond welcomed the President and his party to the city and turned the keys of the City over to Mr. Roosevelt during his stay here. After shaking hands with a few other persons standing nearby, the President was escorted to a carriage and after the rest of the party were seated in their carriages, they drove to the home of Senator Hopkins. Here the party was met by the invited guests and luncheon was served.

It was 1:15 before the luncheon was over and after a casual word here or there with several of the notable guests, the President and his party were seated in the various carriages and the parade begun.

The parade started from the Hopkins residence (site of the new Aurora Savings & Loan building) shortly after 1:15 o'clock and at 2:10 the column had reached the east side (Center) school. At the west side (Oak Street) school, a stop of two minutes was made and the President spoke to the school children who were arranged in line in front of the school building. All along the line of march the crowds cheered the President, and when Lincoln (McCarty) Park was reached the crowd had assembled waiting for the President to speak. Owing to the short time remaining, Roosevelt made a brief address in which he thanked the citizens of the City for the hospitality extended him and his party.

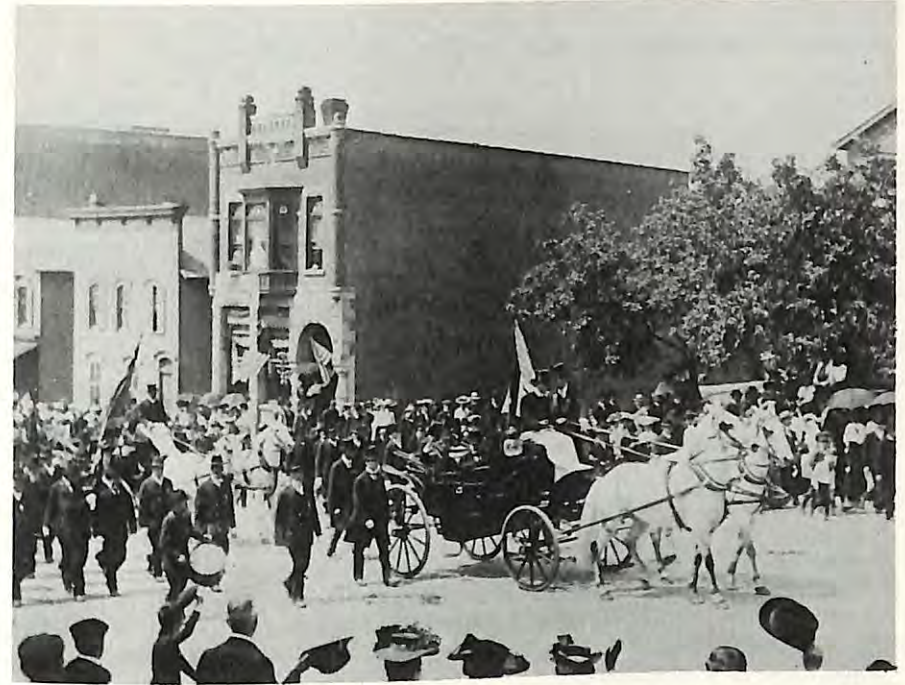
At 2:30 the President and his party were accompanied to the East side depot of the E. J. & E. where his train had been switched and ready to start for Joliet. Better weather could not have been ordered for the occasion.

## The Parade

The formation of the parade was as follows: Chief Michels and squad of police; Marshall and aids mounted; band; Detachment of the Third Regiment, I.N.G.; Post No. 20, G. A. R.; Band; Spanish American War Veterans.

### Carriages and Occupants

No. 1—President Roosevelt, Secretary Loeb, Senator Hopkins, Mayor Raymond. No. 2—Three secret service men and Mr. M. C. Latta. No. 3—Senator Beveridge, Sen. Cullom, Gen. Welch, Hon. Samuel Alschuler. No. 4—Sec. Shaw, Sec. Wilson, Sen. Evans, Rep. Chas. Cherry. No. 5—Cong. Cannon, Cong. Snapp, Hon. T. N. Holden, Wm. George. No. 6—Asst. Sec. Barnes, Surg.-Gen. Rixey, Col. I. C. Copley, Capt. C. H. Smith. No. 7—N. R. Webster, J. L. McGrew, L. A. Constantine, M. E. Plain. No. 8—H. A. Coleman, H. R. Hazard, Lindsay Dennison, D. W. Simpson. No. 9—R. L. Dunn, N. Lazawinck, N. C. Simmons, W. I. Fowler. No. 10—P. W. Williams, J. P. Gooch, A. M. Hirsh, Harry Cooper. No. 11—Col. I. L. Ellwood, Co. John



The Presidential carriage in Main Street. Secret Service men and Spanish-American War Veterans walk along side the carriage.

Lambert, Vine Watkins, Dr. J. S. Watson. No. 12—H. D. Judson, M. F. Felton, Dr. W. A. College, W. S. Beaupre. No. 13A—Col. J. H. Plain, Herman Felsenheld, A. C. Solfisburg, Peter Klein. No. 13—Rep. C. H. Backus, R. B. Campbell, H. A. Uehren, W. B. Throop. No. 14—George B. Luckey, H. A. Strebmeyer, E. S. Todd, F. M. Annis. No. 15—Judge H. B. Willis, Judge G. W. Brown, N. J. Aldrich, John Alexander. No. 16—Judge Chas. Bishop, J. R. Marshall, C. S. Kilbourne, Edmond Raftery. No. 17—Mayor W. C. Crolius, Fred Wilcox, F. G. Adamson, E. W. Benedict. No. 18—C. S. Witwer, Hon. L. F. Beach, Dr. F. L. Bartlett, John Knell. No. 19—Capt. F. S. Rogers, Rep. Guy Bush, Rev. Wm. Buss, Rev. J. A. Brown. No. 20—A. S. Wright, E. C. Hawley, D. M. Corbin, Rev. James Cosby. No. 21—H. D. Hemmens, Mayor Hubbard, F. A. Dolph, C. P. Dutton. No. 22—William Lynch, Dr. W. S. Witman, J. J. Davis, T. H. Day. No. 23—John Michelson, Mayor Hooker, C. E. Erickson, Peter Freeman. No. 24—H. P. Barnes, John D. Russell, Fred Fauth, Alex Forsythe. No. 25—Samuel Sheddin, Major Ben. Gould, Rev. G. K. Flack, Rev. S. Florsheim. No. 26—Hon. A. H. Lowrie, H. L. Rickwell, Judge R. P. Goodwin, Frank Gibson. No. 27—A. L. Hall, E. C. Cook, F. G. Hanchett, A. N. Healy. No. 28—C. B. Meade, J. R. Smith, E. S. Hobbs, Rev. Chas. Holbrook. No. 29—Frank Keefe, Hon. John Stewart, C. H. Haring, J. S. Holmes. No. 30—F. E. George, C. W. Brown, Rev. W. Mathews, A. C. Miller. No. 31—Frank Joslyn, A. S. Schroeder, Rev. D. O'Brien, Chas. O'Hagen. No. 33—John Smith, Sup. Chamberlain, George Kittoe, Rev. Lounsbury. No. 34—Mayor F. B. Hunt, Ed Wellinghoff, Hon. J. W. Linden, Dr. H. G. Logan. No. 35—E. H. Howell, A. K. Dow, Rev. E. L. Lord, John

Loser. No. 36—J. H. Creager, Dr. B. G. Richmond, J. D. Long, J. O. Mason. No. 37—Dr. R. A. McClellan, Hon. Daniel Hogan, Eugene Mix, C. W. Marshall. No. 38—Mayor Blakely, J. W. Prescott, Peter Michels, Dr. M. C. Laughlin. No. 39—Geo. Faxon, M. H. Thompson, J. C. Murphy, Rev. E. W. Oneal. No. 40—F. W. Belden, Mayor Deering Stewart, O. D. Powell, John Plain. No. 41—Hon. George Alschuler, E. C. Whilden, S. E. Miller, Col. Milo Pierce. No. 42—F. L. Young, John D. Evans, Dr. F. K. Robinson, C. G. Page. No. 43—E. F. Ledoyt, W. H. Bridges, Wm. Rich, H. Rackmeyer. No. 44—Hon. E. D. Shertliff, Rev. F. L. Reynolds, Judge M. O. Southworth, Col. Walter Frazier. No. 45—Douglas Kennedy, B. Wodson, Dr. W. P. Sherman, Louis Staudt. No. 46—C. H. Wayne, W. F. Hunter, Jos. Sherer, T. B. Stewart. No. 47—J. S. Sears, R. B. Scott. No. 48—Chris Solfisburg, Rev. Carl Schneuckle. No. 49—F. D. VanOven, F. A. Wade.

## First President to Visit Aurora

President Roosevelt is the first President of the United States ever to visit the City of Aurora, and this visit will long be remembered by all those who saw or took part in the program of the day. A number of Presidents have passed through the city enroute to other points, but the visit today of the President marks the first honor this city has ever had. The citizens at large are to be congratulated upon the way the crowds were handled and taken care of. Everyone was extended the hospitality of the city and the visitors were loud in their praise of the manner in which they were treated during their stay here.

At 9:00 o'clock in the morning thirty stalwart police officers from Chicago in charge of Central Detail of Lt. Collins and four detectives, Messrs. Peter O'Connell, J. C. Bailey, John Tobin, and Mike Farley, all of detective headquarters, arrived in the city and were detailed to duty by Aurora's Chief of Police, Michels. Every precaution was taken by the men who rendered able service to the city. Chief Michels had full charge of the City's affairs and is to be congratulated upon the efficient way he handled the thousands of people during the day. There was not a single accident to mar the program, so well were all channels guarded. Never before in the history of the city was there such a demonstration as the one today. The citizens who have comprised the committees have worked unceasingly for weeks preparing for the affair.

## President Given Oil Painting

When President Roosevelt came out of the Hopkins home after luncheon Bertha LaBoy of Elgin presented him with an oil painting of himself which was done by her. The President accepted the gift and smiled and stated that he would treasure the same and place it in the White House.

## Notes

The firemen during the big parade were stationed in various sections about town and officiated as blockades at street intersections on the line of march. When the President passed the corner of Benton Street and Lincoln Avenue he paid the No. 2 and 3 Companies a pretty compliment by bowing to them, and saying; "Good luck to you, boys."

End of quote from Aurora Daily Beacon—June 3, 1903.

## Miscellaneous Department

Many other prominent people have been entertained in the Hopkins' home. To name a few: James Bryce, British Ambassador to this country and famous author; General Fred Grant, son of President U. S. Grant; Robert Todd Lincoln, son of President Lincoln; Senator Mark Hanna of Ohio; Uncle Joe Cannon, speaker of the House of Representatives; Bob La Follette; Gov. Richard Yates of Illinois.

The Hopkins home stood majestically on the top of the hill, just a few steps from downtown. This fact pleased Mrs. Hopkins. Aurora Savings selected this location for the same reason—"Just a few steps from downtown."

After serving his government over twenty years in Washington, Senator Hopkins returned to his Aurora home, and again entered private law practice here and in Chicago. He died August 23, 1922, but his widow remained at the family home until her death in 1938. The youngest son, Mark, retained the home until it was torn down in 1950. (A mirrored door from the Hopkins home may be seen in our employees room.)

Theodore Roosevelt, born in 1858, was the 26th President of the United States. He lived with his family, including six children, at Sagamore Hill on Oyster Bay, Long Island, New York until his death in 1919. His old homestead is now open at a National Shrine, dedicated by President Eisenhower in 1953. The Roosevelt furnishings and the many trophies and books remain in his home.

A glance through the June, 1903 newspapers revealed the following interesting information:

**FOR SALE**—Two new seven room houses; price \$2,000.00— $\frac{1}{4}$  cash, balance in easy payments; 6% interest. J. P. Callan, Mercantile Block.

**TO RENT**—a six room house, with bath, well and cistern, in good condition. Rent \$10 per month. Call or address C. W. Sprague, 616 Lebanon St.

**LOTS FOR SALE**—in beautiful Oak Park Addition. \$200 to \$235. \$1.00 down, 50¢ a week. No interest, no taxes, no extras. If you are sick, payments stop. If you die, no more payments whatever required and lot is deeded free and clear to next of kin. You cannot lose. Grover & Field, 222 Coulter Block.



E.J.&E. train waiting to carry President Roosevelt and his party to Joliet from Aurora.

10 yards of 8¢ quality Dress Ginghams in every color and stripe. 30¢ at THE FAIR.

FOR SALE—115 carriages of every style. Driving wagons, Concord wagons, road wagons, single carriages and surreys. My prices are from \$30 up. Repairing and jobbing done. Rubber tires put on. O. P. Knapp's Wagon Shop, LaSalle St.

#### DO CIGARETTES HARM YOU?

"Do you feel, after inhaling the smoke, a languor, a sinking, and a great depression? Do you feel melancholy, hopeless, weak? If you do, you should abandon smoking at once."

JOHN OLINGER, GROCER, 28 N. BROADWAY

Offers No. 1 Sugar Cured California Hams—per lb. 10¢  
"Belle" Java coffee 5 lbs. for \$1.00

FRANK ANDERSON, progressive bicycle merchant offered "Thor" coaster brakes, made in Aurora. Inter-state phone 862. Chicago phone 3551.

EGERMANN & SON—JEWELERS advertised; \$12 buys a gold filled, 20 year case with Elgin Watch movement.

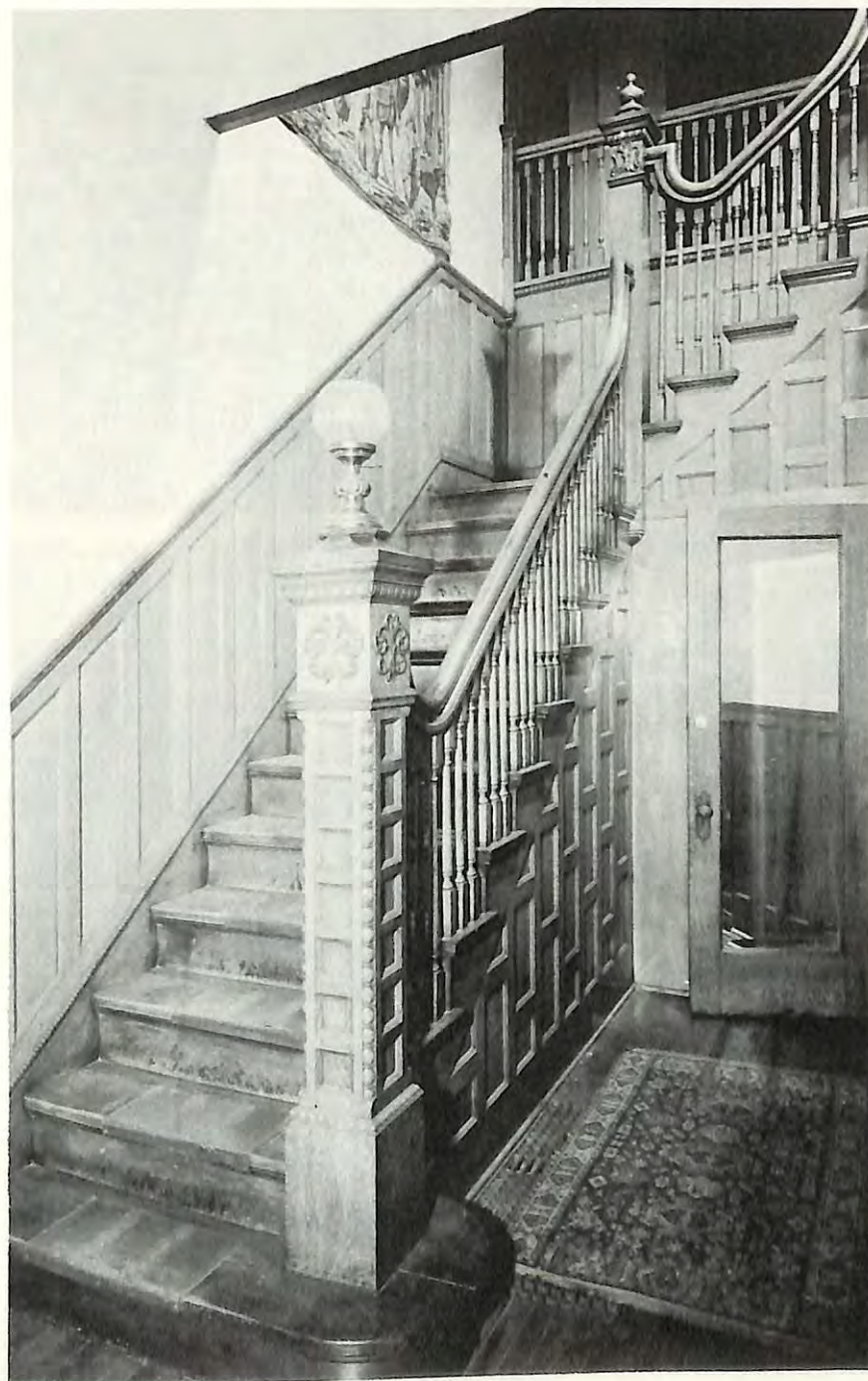
ADVERTISING in the Beacon—25 words for 25¢ per week.

It is suggested by the Roosevelt Day Executive Committee that the many ladies circles of our churches put on dinners to accommodate the thousands of visitors to Aurora. The hotels and restaurants cannot possibly feed them all.

The second automobile accident in Aurora occurred when George Loveland, a streetcar motorman, was struck by the heavy automobile driven by Dr. Herman Milbacher on May 25th on Broadway. The doctor placed the victim in his



Badges seen on Aurorans and honored guests on Roosevelt Day in 1903.



Stairway in the home of Senator A. J. Hopkins, Lake & Walnut Strs.



Scenes in the Senator Hopkins home just before its destruction.

machine and hustled him to St. Charles Hospital. Mr. Loveland suffered a broken ankle.

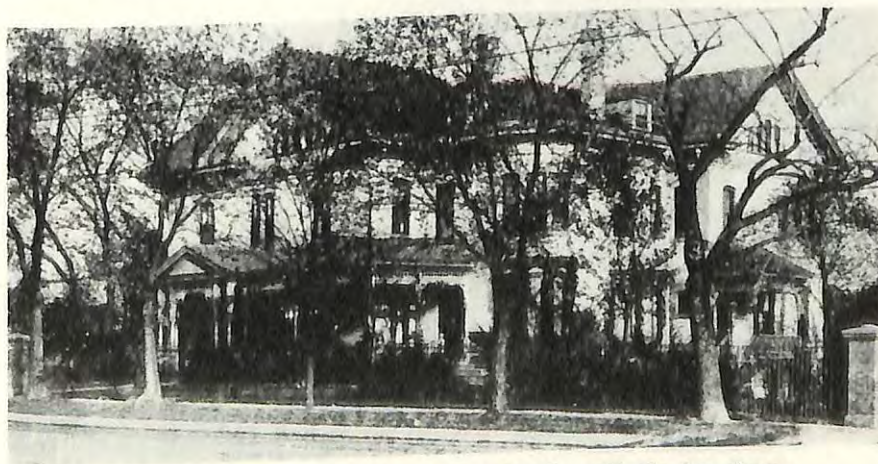
The Aurora law firm consisting of Senator Hopkins, Fred Dolph, Dave Pfeffers and James Hopkins have elegantly furnished offices in the Women's Temple, Chicago.

Godard & Miller's Orchestra are playing at Riverview (Montgomery) Park with dancing until 11:00 P.M. Adm. 10¢.

(Ed. note) Our three local banks ran advertisements stating their capital, varying from \$100,000 to \$200,000. Albert J. Hopkins was a director at Merchant's.

The June 4th Beacon mentions that the Roosevelt train to Joliet was held up for several minutes, because the President's secretary would not permit the car, which had brought a Joliet delegation here, to be attached to the Presidential train. It was finally settled when these folks were permitted to ride back to Joliet in the President's car. The engine later returned to Aurora for the empty car.

1958 is Teddy Roosevelt Centennial year, being born in 1858. This souvenir plate was produced so that Aurorans might refresh their memory of the President Roosevelt visit to our city in 1903. The center of the plate depicts scenes centering around the visit. The rim depicts scenes of early Aurora.



The Hopkins home as most of us remember it—with the iron fence.

Following are a few of the many interesting remarks made by friends who wrote in requesting a Roosevelt memorial souvenir plate:

*Harry A. Mateas*—"I heard it mentioned that the horses drawing the President's carriage were shod with silver shoes at Mr. Rose's blacksmith shop.

*Mrs. Phillip Stallman*—Teddy Roosevelt was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize of \$40,000 in 1906, with which he endowed the Foundation for the Promotion of Industrial Peace.

*Mrs. Wyoata Hayden*—T. R. was made Lieutenant Colonel in 1898 for leading the Rough Riders.

*Miss Lillian Stallman*—President Roosevelt, on Jan. 18, 1903, sent a message of congratulation to King Edward of England by Marconi's wireless telegraph from the station at Wellfleet on Cape Cod. This was the first telegram sent through the air from the U. S. across the Atlantic.

*Henry C. Maier*—Roosevelt spoke at the exact spot where the Truemper Monument stands in McCarty Park. I remember the secret service men guarding the President, wearing light colored tan stetson hats, similar to those worn by our state troopers now.

*Mrs. Wilson Ares Grosbans*—Among my collection of autographs of famous people is one by Theodore Roosevelt.

*Carl J. Maier*—"I heard him speak at McCarty Park. He had a rather high pitched voice."

*Edyth M. Anderson*—Father and Mother drove Kitty, our horse, to Aurora from Kaneville. I had drawn his picture and he shook hands with me as he accepted my portrait.

*Mrs. Elva Murray*—My mother and I walked to the Hopkins residence where we mingled with others, trying to get a glimpse of Roosevelt.

*Mrs. Frank Frey*—Well I remember running in the hot sun to Spring Lake Cemetery and the old E.J.&E. bridge. Got a look at Teddy and came home.

*Mrs. Flossie Otto*—I went to Center School and they let all the school out to see the big parade. The carriage had the top down.

*Mrs. Hazel Williams*—I attended Mary Todd school and was privileged to see the President of the United States, Teddy Roosevelt.

*Frank Rach, Jr.*—Pres. Roosevelt was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for his actions in bringing about the Treaty of Portsmouth which ended the Russo-Japanese War in 1905.

*Mark Hopkins*—My father (Albert J.) practiced law in Chicago with Judge Gary, the steel magnate, for whom the city of Gary, Indiana, was named.

*Jody Ann Poss*—In 1907 a German Toy manufacturer named a stuffed bear a "Teddy Bear" after Teddy Roosevelt. The name has stuck to this day.

(Ed. note—October 1958 Reader's Digest contains good condensed story of Theodore Roosevelt.)

Handwritten calculations and a drawing of a house:


$$\begin{array}{r} 5500 \\ 96 \\ \hline 5596 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 5500 \\ 33 \\ \hline 5533 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 5500 \\ 27500 \\ \hline 32500 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 16500 \\ 19250 \\ \hline 35750 \end{array}$$

16



Sagamore Hill



Handwritten notes: 260000, 200

Aurora Savings & Loan Ass'n. occupied this building at 34 S. River St. from 1938 to 1958. It was formerly the Merchants National Bank Building.

# The story of AURORA SAVINGS AND LOAN ASSOCIATION

Aurora Savings and Loan Association was founded March 23, 1926. The Charter was issued to operate a "Building and Loan" Association. Its first office was above the old Broadway Trust and Savings Bank at Broadway and New York Street, now the home of Bur-Han Drug Store. A window space in the old bank was rented, with a part-time employee waiting on customers.

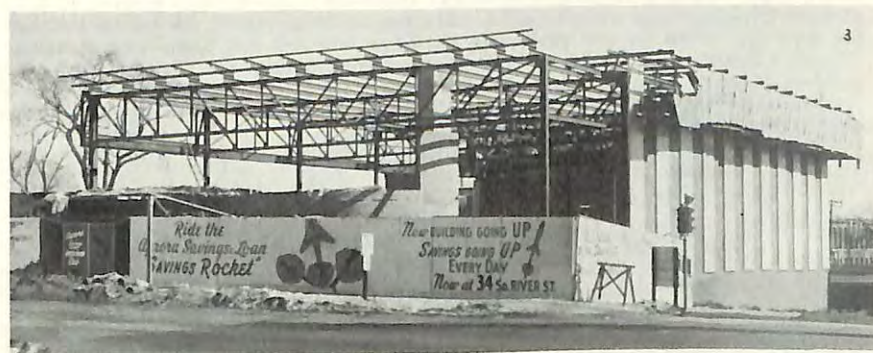
The financial panic of 1929 hit Aurora as it did the entire nation, but this "youngster" survived the great depression that enveloped many old and staid financial institutions.

For many years this institution was called the Aurora Building and Loan Association, but the word "building" was dropped in favor of "Savings" in 1947, since the former indicated we were in the building, or construction business.

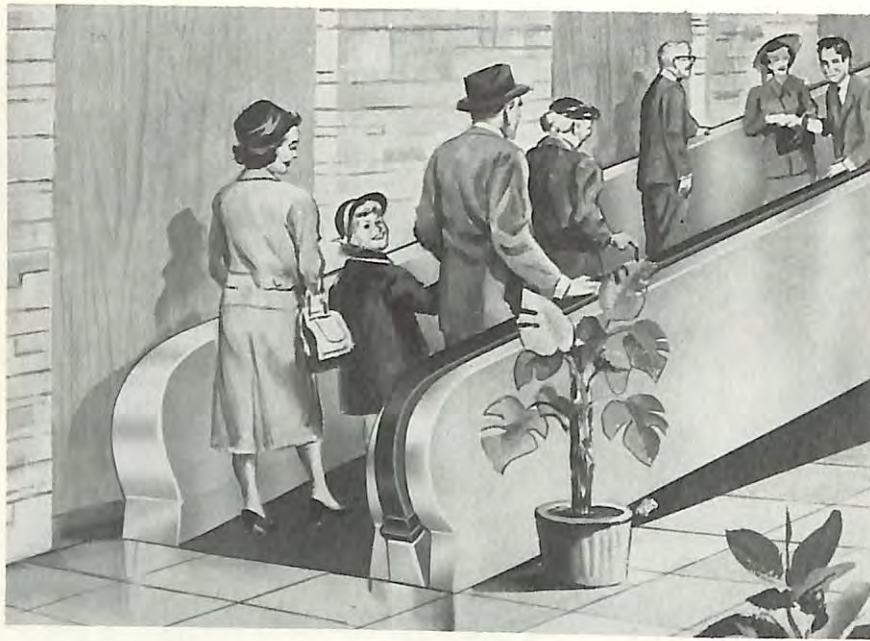
In 1933 the growing Association moved to larger quarters at 110 Fox Street, where the Merchants Bank now has its small loan department. In 1938, the Association moved to 34 South River Street, once the home of the Merchants National Bank. In 1946 we purchased this property, and later purchased the adjoining property to the south with a view toward future expansion.



In March of 1958 our Association celebrated it's 32nd birthday by giving everyone entering the offices a piece of birthday cake, and paying 32c to each person bringing in a 1926 penny, the year of our founding. Needless to say, hundreds of hard-to-find 1926 pennies found their way to our "32c" window each day from March 17th, through the 22nd. Many of these pennies are in the cornerstone at 101 No. Lake St.



Progress photographs of our new building. #1—excavation, August, 1957; #2—lower level and concrete footing, October, 1957; #3—Steel framing and masonry, February, 1958; #4—Exterior, July, 1958.



Artist sketch showing passengers entering "thrift-lift" speedramp conveyor at lower parking lot level to be transported to lobby level. As an added convenience in saving time and effort for our customers, we have installed this Speedramp Passenger Conveyor System, manufactured by Stephens-Adamson Mfg. Co., Aurora. Since our building is located on an incline, the Speedramp offers a rapid, effortless means of transportation for customers parking in the lower lot, or for those who walk the few steps from down-town Aurora.

Safety of customers' funds has always been of utmost importance at Aurora Savings. While we have substantial reserves, and we add to these reserves regularly, we were the first financial institution in Aurora to meet the rigid requirements to secure insurance with the Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corporation, an agency of the United States Government. Each account was insured up to \$5,000.00. All accounts are now insured to \$10,000.00.

World War No. 2 with all its shock did not shake the stability and security of our Association. Being born in the depression years, baptized and tested by the war, seemed to have its beneficial effects—we continued to grow and grow and grow.

The first G. I. loan in the Fox River Valley was made in 1945 by our Association. For almost two years this was the only institution in this vicinity serving the returning veterans. We made literally hundreds of these loans and assisted the veteran in acquiring a home of his own and re-establishing himself in the community. We are happy to have been able to assist these worthy gentlemen in solving their critical housing problems.

Our assets reached the million dollar mark in 1943, and by 1946 it had grown to over four million dollars. Today our assets are in excess of \$25,000,000.00. In 1926 there was but one employee. Today we require 24 full time employees to serve our customers.



Waubonsie Falls graced with Indian maidens from the Aurora Savings Tribe.



President E. E. Elder and Mrs. Eldora Day chat at the unveiling of the late Chas. E. Day's photograph in the directors room.

The year 1956 brought sadness to the Association with the passing of its president, Charles E. Day. Mr. Day joined the organization in 1934, and guided its affairs successfully through the years of growing pains. E. E. Elder, the Association's treasurer and executive officer, filled this vacancy, and every indication shows him setting the sails for a steady course.

In 1955 it became apparent that we needed more operating room as well as space for customer parking. The Board of Directors then purchased the site on the northeast corner of Lake and Walnut Streets and proceeded with plans for a new building. The old building at 34 and the one at 36 South River Street was sold, since a Savings and Loan Institution may not own two office buildings at one time. 34 So. River Street was rented from the new owner until our Lake Street building was completed.

The big, new home of the Association was in the planning stage for a long time to assure its meeting every qualification necessary to make it efficient in its operational functions for our many thousands of customers, and pleasing as an architectural addition to the rapid growth of the City of Aurora. The new building is attractively modern in style, without extremes of design. It is one story high on the Lake Street side, with the Walnut Street hill making a two-story level possible on the east side of the building. There is a twenty foot canopy on the north side for customer's cars to drive under in inclement weather. Waubonsie Falls enhances the north side of the building, a memorial to the Indian Chief who ruled over his tribe when the first white man entered the Fox River valley. Beautiful shrubbery graces the west side of the building.

There are three entrances for customer conveniences. A Stephens-Adamson "thrif-lift" speed ramp will convey you from the lower parking level up to the main business floor. This entrance is also convenient for those who walk the few blocks from down-town. Another entrance is in the south-west corner of the building, and the canopy entrance is at the north-west end of the structure on Lake Street.

The entire building is air-conditioned, and the main floor is constructed without columns for maximum flexibility and efficiency in the public area. This floor houses the complete public operations, including new savings accounts department, the tellers, bookkeeping, appraising and loan areas, the directors' room, display space, the vaults, and wash rooms.

The lower level contains the microfilm, printing, and photographic departments, layout area for display advertising, employees recreation room, storage room for our antique displays, a storage vault, the heating plant, garage for appraiser's car, and two rental units which may eventually be used for expansion.

Customer parking was one of our greatest concerns in arranging the new site. Patrons desiring to enter the building for interviews and other business may drive into a parking lot from any of three streets. An upper level lot will accommodate 40 cars, and an 18-car lot is provided on the lower level. There is also a 20 foot public alley running from Walnut to Spruce Streets at the rear of our building.

## Cornerstone

In our cornerstone we have placed thousands of voices of our customers, local and national dignitaries, and friends, all tape-recorded for posterity. It is our intention to have these removed and played back in the year 2000 A.D. Ten of our most popular large postcards, photos showing various stages of construction of our new building, totebags, 1926 pennies, account books, rain



The contents of our corner stone, including many voices, tape recorded, to be opened in the year 2000 A.D.

gauge, newspaper ads, savings leaflets, photographs of all our present employees, and many other items appropriate for the occasion are to be found in the cornerstone.

A bronze historical plaque, commemorating the visit of President Theodore "Teddy" Roosevelt in the home of United States Senator Albert J. Hopkins, was dedicated by the Aurora Historical Society on July 4, 1958. This plaque is placed on the north-west corner of our building.



At left, Clarence R. Smith delivering an address in behalf of the Aurora Historical Society at the Roosevelt-Hopkins historical plaque dedication. At right, the cornerstone box being put in place by Paul P. Schmitz, chairman of the Board of Directors. President E. E. Elder acted as master of ceremonies at the celebration July 4th.

Our new structure was designed for just one purpose—to house the Aurora Savings and Loan Association, and to serve our many customers and friends more efficiently. We trust that we will achieve this objective.

## What Is Aurora Savings and Loan Association

Some people say we are the loan company that's been on River Street for many years. Some say we are the institution that sends everyone those large historical post-cards, while others will tell you that we are the ones with whom they have their savings. We are, in fact, a savings and loan institution, chartered by the State of Illinois and insured by the Federal Savings & Loan Insurance Corporation, to receive sums of money from individuals, trust funds of groups and industry, while paying them a return for the use of their money. We then, in turn, loan this money to people who desire to build or buy a home of their own. We maintain rigid inspection on new construction to safe-guard our customers as well as ourselves. Our operations are guided by a board of directors—a group of eight gentlemen, all local residents and businessmen who have been interested in community progress and service all their lives. An attorney, a doctor, merchants, men who have achieved success in their own rights. We encourage savings accounts and pay the highest return on savings. Customers who save with us may soon build up an equity sufficient for the down payment on a home. They may save money to send Junior to college, or any of a number of objectives may create their desire to save.



**Board of Directors of Aurora Savings, left to right, Paul P. Schmitz, Chairman of the Board, (Director General of the Loyal Order of Moose); L. E. Rowe, Secretary, (Secretary-treasurer of Aurora Savings); Glenn T. Johnson, Vice President, (Attorney at Law); Sam Badner, (Manager of Kleinert's); Charles Borngrebe, (retired businessman); Hugh C. Kleckner, Chairman of Executive Committee, (Manager of Eberly's Drug Store); J. D. McCullough, (Physician and Surgeon); and E. E. Elder, Executive Officer, (President of Aurora Savings & Loan Association).**



**The Aurora Savings family consists of, left to right, front row: Faith Ness, Ann Lenert, Carol DeCelles, Florence Ferguson, Mary Schuler, Catherine Schuler, Eunice Grote. Second row: Louise Brouch, Vivian Flock, Kenlyn Demeter, Marjorie Brummel, Millicent Taylor, E. E. Elder. Third row: Eunice Stroud, Shirley Fatten, Bernice Bauman, Nancy Millen, William Deisher. Back row: Evelyn Prater, Cecilia Heins, Alan Schuler, Vernon Derry, Ted McCann, L. E. Rowe.**

## All Savings Receive The Same High Earnings

We pay no one more, or less, earnings than others. All dollars look alike to us, therefore we do not discriminate against any one group.

## All Your Savings Dollars Are Safe With Us

While we maintain a healthy reserve of cash for our own peace of mind, this Association is audited by three separate auditors. One audit is made by a private auditor hired by the Board of Directors. Another is made by the State Department, and another by the auditor representing the Federal Home Loan Board of the U. S. Government.

In addition, monthly reports are submitted to the Federal Home Loan Bank Board, setting up the operation and condition for, and at the end of each month.

The general rule that applies to the qualifications for Insurance of Shares as set down by the Federal Home Loan Bank Board, is that the Association shall have UNIMPAIRED CAPITAL, safe Finance Policies, good management, and earning ability sufficient to pay a competitive rate of return. Aurora Savings and Loan Association easily meets all these qualifications for your protection and security.

# A Savings Plan for Every Purpose

Aurora Savings offers a savings plan for every purpose: Individual, Partnership, Business, Joint Tenancy, Corporation, Union, Welfare, Credit Union, Church Building Funds and many other Trust funds.

One of our most popular is the Optional Payment Savings. This flexible account may be started at any time with any amount, and may be added to at any time with any amount. Every six months your earnings are compounded and added directly to your account. The balance always shows in your passbook.

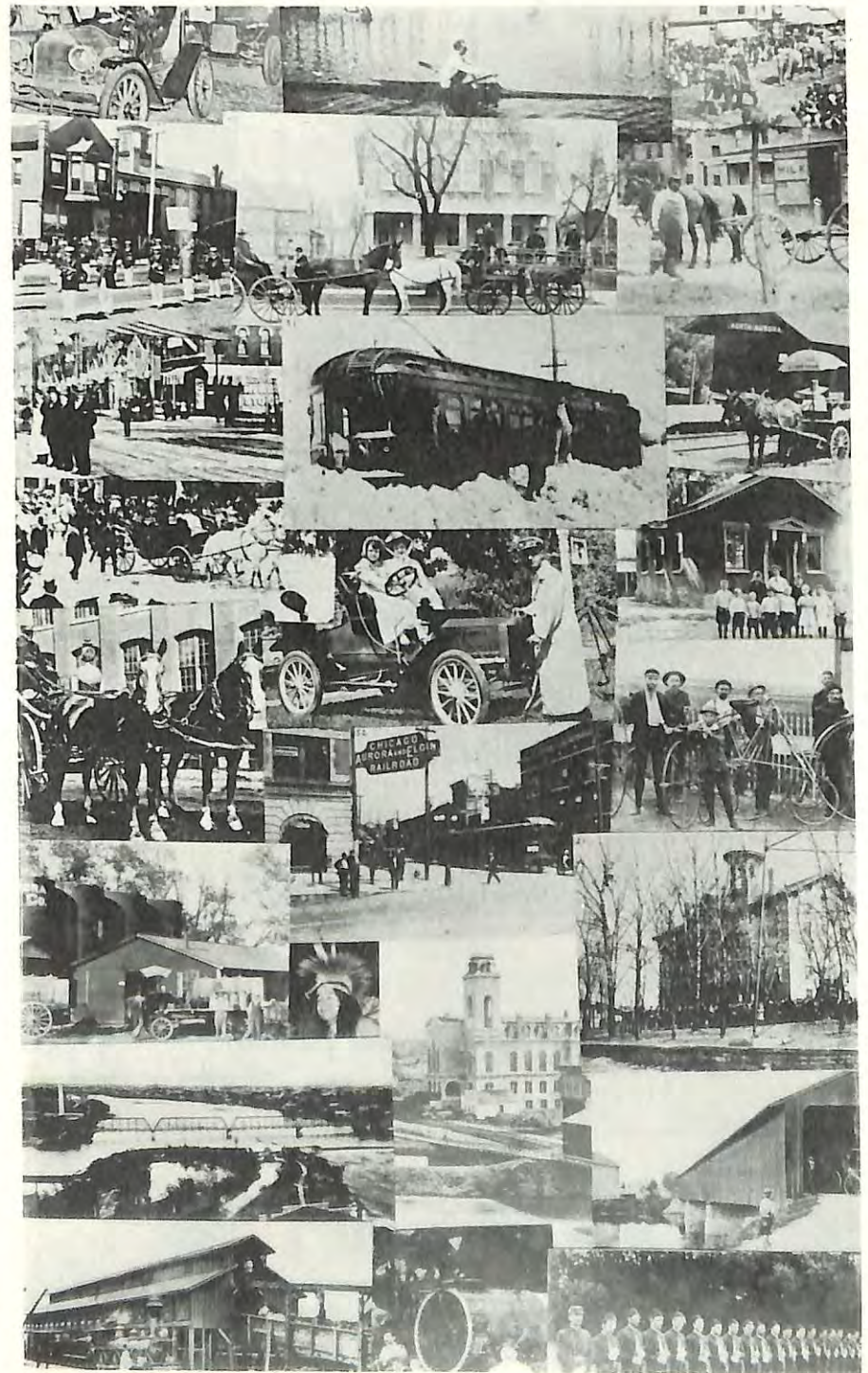
Perhaps our Paid Up Investments account is better suited to your needs. These may be purchased in multiples of \$100.00 at any time. A check for your earnings is mailed directly to you every six months.

Here you will receive the highest rate of earnings, and your savings are insured SAFE up to \$10,000.00 by an agency of the Federal Government. Your savings are also safe in the hands of experienced management who make only sound investments, and who accumulate adequate reserves.

Take your choice of plans, but **DO** save something regularly. The future you save for may be your own.



The small savers find our new facilities most convenient.



A few of the many large historical postcards we mail to you.

# Aurora Savings

OFFERS YOU . . .

Safety of your savings



Highest rate of earnings



Earnings compounded every 6 months



Savings available when needed



Save by mail--we pay all postage



Interior view of our new building at 101 N. Lake Street.

## Financial Assets

1939 .....	\$152,718.84
1943 .....	\$1,064,442.76
1946 .....	\$4,105,114.74
1951 .....	\$9,368,783.79
1955 .....	\$18,388,433.75
1958 (Jan. 1) .....	\$22,450,904.84
1958 (October 14)	
In excess of .....	\$26,000,000.00

Whether you dwell in

# CABIN OR CASTLE



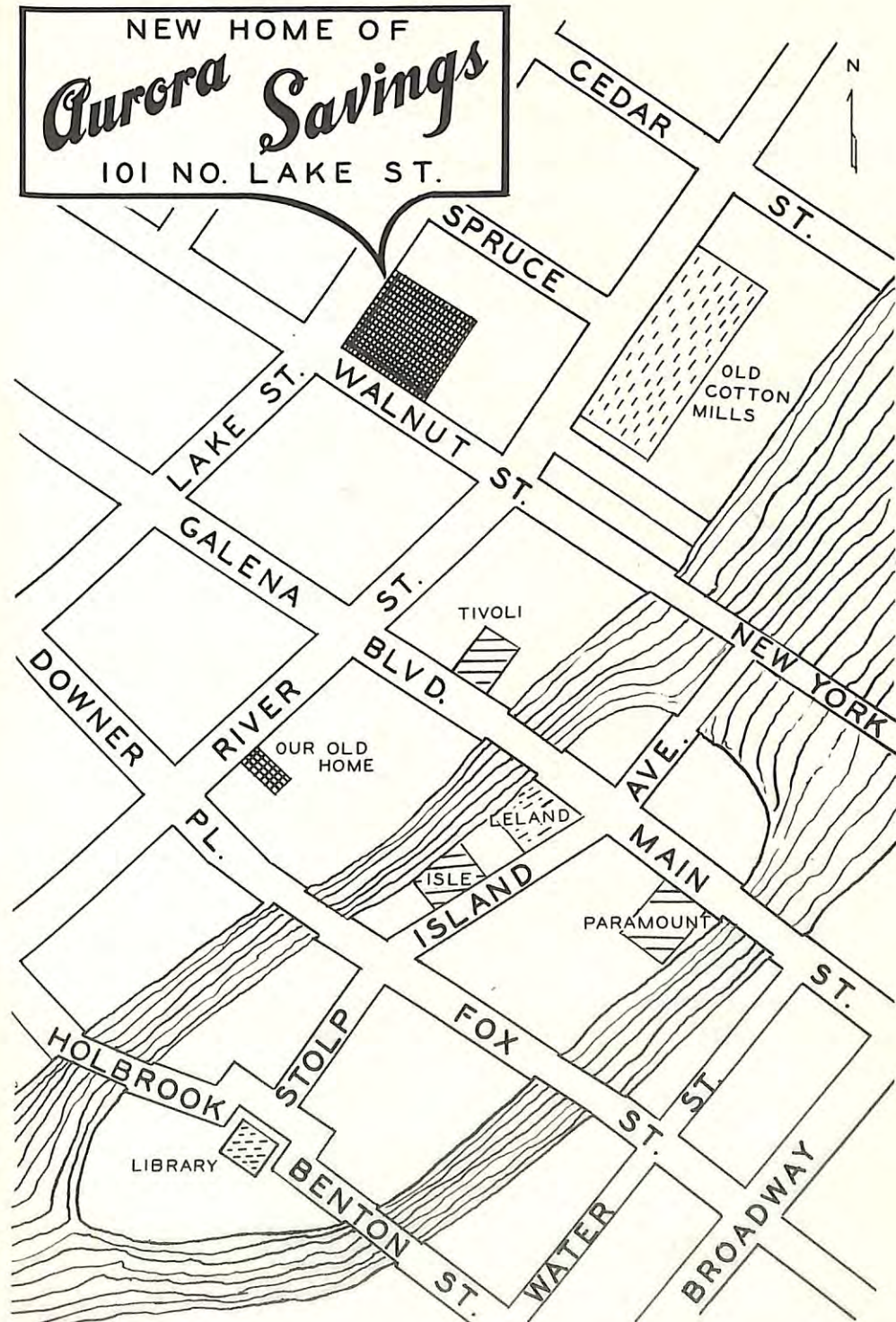
**ALL**

Your Savings Dollars Receive The Same

## HIGH RATE OF EARNINGS

We have no preferred classes that receive more or less than others

We offer **STABILITY, CONSISTENCY, SECURITY**  
and **FAIR TREATMENT**



**ARCHITECTS AND INTERIOR**  
**BANK BUILDING AND EQUIPMENT CORP. OF AMERICA**  
St. Louis, Missouri

**GENERAL BUILDING CONTRACTOR**

**EARL LITTLE & SON**

**SUB CONTRACTORS**

**MASONRY**

ILLINOIS MASON CONTRACTORS  
Wheaton, Illinois

**STEEL**

GARBE IRON WORKS  
Aurora, Illinois

**PLUMBING**

KNEIPPER & WEIGEL  
Aurora, Illinois

**HEATING, AIR CONDITIONING**

HARIED COMPANY  
Aurora, Illinois

**ELECTRICAL**

REEDCO ELECTRIC  
Aurora, Illinois

**SPEEDWALK**

STEPHENS ADAMSON CO.  
Aurora, Illinois

**EXCAVATING SITE WORK**

T & R CONSTRUCTION CO.  
Aurora, Illinois

**SHEETMETAL**

HARRY GENGLER  
Aurora, Illinois

**GLAZING**

PITTSBURGH PLATE GLASS CO.  
Aurora, Illinois

**SIGN WORK**

FUNKEN & CO.  
Aurora, Illinois

**ALUMINUM SETTINGS**

JOSEPH STROTZ  
Aurora, Illinois

**TERRAZZO**

ILLINOIS TERRAZZO CO.  
Aurora, Illinois

**PLASTERING**

JAMES PLASTERING CO.  
Lombard, Illinois

**PAINTING**

ALLEN SWENSON  
Aurora, Illinois

**VAULT EQUIPMENT**

HARRY HALL MARVIN SAFE CO.  
Hamilton, Ohio

**CERAMIC**

FRANKE TILE CO.  
Joliet, Illinois

**FLOOR COVERINGS**

DU AL FLOOR COMPANY  
Chicago, Illinois

**TOILET STALLS**

SANGMETAL PRODUCTS CO. INC.  
Cleveland, Ohio

**CAULKING**

E. J. BRADBURY & ASSOC.  
Chicago, Illinois

**GRID WALL**

KNAPP BROS. MFG. CO.  
Cincinnati, Ohio

**GYP DECK**

HOGE WARREN ZIMMERMAN CO.  
Chicago, Illinois

**ROOFING**

OLSSON ROOFING CO.  
Aurora, Illinois

**MEMBRANE WATER-PROOFING**

MALCOR ROOFING CO.  
Aurora, Illinois

**FINISH HARDWARE**

GUSTAFSON & STEEL  
DeKalb, Illinois

**MUSIC SYSTEM**

JOHNSON'S RADIO & ELECTRONICS  
Aurora, Illinois

**PARKING AREA**

AURORA BLACKTOP CO.  
Montgomery, Illinois

**HOLLOW METAL FRAMING**

SUPERIOR FIREPROOF DOOR  
& SASH CO.  
Scranton, Pennsylvania

**OVERHEAD DOOR**

OVERHEAD DOOR SALES  
Aurora, Illinois

**STAINLESS DOORS**

SCHACHT DOORS  
New York, N. Y.

**OFFICE FURNITURE**

FREDRICKSON'S  
Aurora, Illinois

Foreston

