

Women's Signatures on National Bank Notes

By M. OWEN WARNS



From David J. Levitt comes this rather attractive Third Charter \$5 National Bank Note sheet on the Grape Belt National Bank located at Westfield, the famed grape growing center in western New York. The sheet is of particular interest because it bears the signature of a woman cashier, Lucile Lichtenwalter.

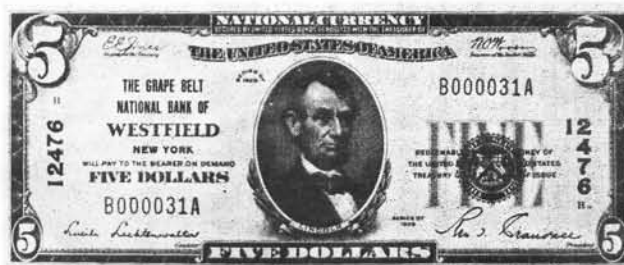
Other National Banks reported to have had female cashiers are:

The First National Bank of Casey, Illinois, charter 6026; signed by Rose Turner, the sister of J. E. Turner, the bank's president. This is the well-known "Brother and Sister Bank" (see page 76 of SPMC's *National Bank Note Issues of 1929-1935* where the note is illustrated).

The National Bank of Argyle, New York, charter 13521, signed by Lillian J. Johnson.

The Montour National Bank of Montour Falls, New York, charter 13583, signed by Belle P. Cornell.

(Both of these New York State banks' notes are illustrated in *PAPER MONEY*, Vol. 11, No. 1, p. 5.)



These four instances are the only ones known to date with women cashier signatures on National Bank Note issues. However, the Grape Belt National Bank has an additional distinction. Its notes are the only ones bearing a woman's signature which cover two note issuing periods, the Third Charter and the 1929-1935 period, the woman being Lucile Lichtenwalter.

This same set of circumstances could not have obtained on the other New York banks, charters 13521 and 13583, as all banks chartered after number 13307 were limited to issuing small size notes of the 1929-1935 period only. However, charter 6026 of Casey, Illinois could have had notes of the Third Charter period signed by Rose Turner as cashier.

Happy Hunting!

Bank Officers, 1930 Report

President, Roy T. Grandall Vice-President, E. T. Welsh
Cashier, Lucile Lichtenwalter
Ass't. Cashier, Gerald Martin

#12476 THE GRAPE BELT NATIONAL BANK OF WESTFIELD

—chartered in Dec. 1923 with a capital of \$50,000.
—placed in voluntary liquidation on April 13, 1931; cap.—\$50,000.
—absorbed by #3166

CIRCULATION ISSUED

Third Charter Plain Back Blue Seals

\$5-5-5 plate=\$236,780 worth; serials 1 to 11839
10-10-10-20 plate=\$30,000 worth; serials 1 to 600

Small Size

\$5 type 1=\$81,450 worth; serials 1 to 2715
—Total amount of circulation issued =\$348,230
—Amount outstanding in 1931 =\$50,000
—Amount of large outstanding at close=\$1,610

Larry Adams of Boone Iowa has called to our attention an article in *Popular Science* magazine of October 1973 on paper money. Called "Counterfeit Money Detectors: Do They Really Work?", it was written by Doug Carr. According to Mr. Adams, the article is very well done.