

ABOUT TEXAS MOSTLY

THE FARMERS NATIONAL BANK OF HILLSBORO, TEXAS

by FRANK CLARK

THE Farmers National Bank of Hillsboro was chartered on June 27, 1887 with a capital of \$50,000. It received Charter 3762 from the Comptroller of the Currency.

The bank's building was completed that same year. It was constructed of sun-dried brick. In 1912 this brick was replaced by kiln-dried brick. It still stands on the Southwest corner of the town square, and is one of the oldest bank buildings in Hill County.

The bank's capital grew to \$100,000, but, like many other banks, it was unable to weather the stress brought on by the Great Depression. It was placed in voluntary liquidation on



A \$20 1929 Type I national bank note issued by The Farmers National Bank of Hillsboro, Texas. Olney Harris, cashier; Wm. Williams, president.

April 24, 1931, and was succeeded by the Colonial Trust Company of Hillsboro. Colonial Trust Company still occupies the original building, which has been altered by the addition of a Greek Revival front and columns.

During the national bank note issuing-period, The Farmers National Bank issued Second Charter Series 1882 Brown Back \$10 and \$20 notes; 1902 Series \$10 and \$20 Red Seal, Date Back and Plain Back notes; and Series 1929 Type I notes.

The total amount of circulation was \$1,445,980. When the bank was liquidated, \$12,500 in large-size notes and \$74,520 in small-size notes remained outstanding.

REFERENCES

Hickman, J. and D. Oakes. (1990). *Standard Catalog of National Bank Notes*. Iola, WI. Krause Publications.
Texas Historical Landmark. 1966.

"Oh, Is That What That Means?"

by BOB COCHRAN

THE Society of Paper Money Collectors is listed in several "Directories of Organizations." These publications are found in virtually every library in the United States.

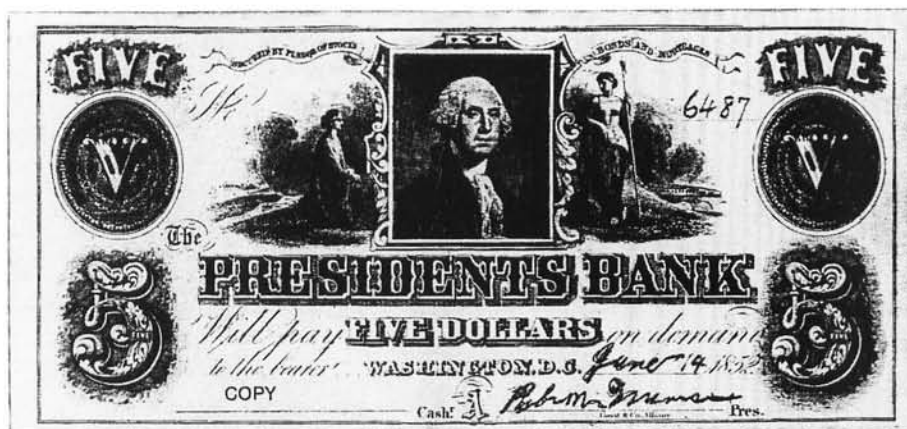
When members of the general public inquire about paper money at a library they're often referred to these directories. The SPMC receives many requests about "old paper money." Some of these letters lead to almost comical situations.

Recently, one of your officers received the following letter:

"I would like some information on the value of my 5 Dollar Bill dated June 14, 1852. This Bond or Bill is in great condition; it has a yellow color and the writing is very recognizable in gray tint.

"Please write to me or telephone at the above address."

The woman included the photocopy accompanying this article. She didn't enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope, but did list a telephone number where she could be reached.



The officer decided the woman deserved to know what she had, so he placed a collect call to her. After some deliberation, the woman decided to accept the charges.

When the officer explained to her that the note was a modern reproduction, as indicated by the word "COPY" clearly printed in the lower left-hand corner on the face of the note, her reply was "Oh! Is that what that means?"