

About TEXAS

Mostly

By FRANK CLARK

FNB of Lewisville Texas Bank Robbery

ON APRIL 25, 1934, THE FIRST NATIONAL Bank of Lewisville (#7144) was robbed by Raymond Hamilton and T.R. Brooks. Raymond Hamilton was a former member of the Bonnie and Clyde gang. Hamilton and Brooks fled with a total of \$1,000.

They were pursued by bank customer T. "Bull" Hyder and Denton County Constable D.H. Lawrence for two hours north toward Sherman, Texas.

Hyder and Lawrence were closing in on the bank robbers, but a train cut them off. However, police in five North Texas counties had been alerted by radio of the fleeing bank robbers. This helped produce a large posse of lawmen and citizens. The posse

eventually caught up to Hamilton and Brooks when their car stalled just south of Sherman.

Hamilton and Brooks were armed, but they surrendered without a shot. Grayson County deputies recovered the bank's \$1,000 from the robbers' car, which was also found to have been stolen.

Hamilton was already on the lam. He had escaped from prison while serving a 263-year sentence. He was returned to prison. Texas Governor Miriam Ferguson awarded Hyder a \$100 reward for aiding in the capture.

A small size National Bank Note on the First National Bank of Lewisville is shown. Nationals like this one were in circulation at the time of the bank robbery.



BIBLIOGRAPHY

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The Last Shipment of National Bank Notes

THE LAST SHIPMENT OF NATIONAL BANK Notes was made to The First National Bank of Chillicothe, Ohio, charter #128. This shipment was due to a bond adjustment caused by a clerical mistake in totaling the value of the bonds that were used to secure the circulation issued by the bank.

An addition error was made by a clerk in the Comptroller of the Currency office who was balancing the bond ledger for charter #128. The circulation of the bank was understated by \$50,000. This mistake was discovered by the Comptroller of the Currency office on July 10, 1935.

The last printing of notes for this bank was January 19, 1935, and consisted of serial numbers A010261-A015216 for the \$10 denomination and serial numbers A002545-A003936 for the \$20 denomination, with engraved signatures of C.F. Hagemann as cashier and O.G. Kerr as president.

Therefore, there were notes on hand when the \$50,000 mistake was discovered. On July 13, 1935 \$50,000 in Type 2 nationals were shipped to The First National Bank of Chillicothe via registered mail from the Comptroller of the Currency for \$10.77. This was two months after the National Bank Note program came to a close due to the U.S. Treasury recall of certain United States bonds.

This recall made the bonds unavailable as security for further issuance of National Bank Notes. When this happened the word came down to stop the presses for nationals immediately.

The serial numbers for the last shipment were: \$10 A010261-A013260 and \$20 A002545-A003544. Several notes from this last shipment of nationals survived. Recently, the very last \$10, serial number A013260 has turned up. Pictured is a \$20 from the last shipment, serial number A002790. These are a nice addition to a collection of nationals.

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