



## Mary A. Bartlett, National Bank President

By Karl Sanford Kabelac

Above: A Series 1929 Type 1 note on the bank with the fancy facsimile signature of bank president, T. B. Benson, the son-in-law of Mary A. Bartlett.

**B**ARTLETT, TEXAS IS A COMMUNITY OF SOME 1,700 RESIDENTS IN east central Texas, about midway between Dallas and San Antonio and 40 miles northeast of Austin. It was named for John T. Bartlett, one of the donors of land for the community, which was incorporated in 1890.

Bartlett, a native of Kentucky came to Texas in 1877, and purchased land where the community developed. He was first a merchant and then began a private bank in the growing community.

Mary A. Bell, a native of Labadie, Missouri, was born on March 1, 1848. She

had married John T. Bartlett on October 22, 1871. At his death on April 24, 1904, she and six of their seven children survived. His obituary made special mention of his love for his wife and children.

Several months after Bartlett's death, the bank became a national bank, The Bartlett National Bank (charter #7317) with a capitalization of \$35,000 and 39 stockholders. Mary A. Bartlett was named president; their son, John T. Bartlett, vice-president; and son-in-law, Thomas B. Benson, the cashier.

She served as president for almost two decades, until 1923/24. Her son-in-law T. B. Benson then became president, but with his death in 1932 she resumed the presidency and continued until the bank was



The Bartlett National Bank had been open less than a week when this advertisement appeared in the local newspaper on July 22, 1904.

voluntarily liquidated in December 1934.

She died at her home in Bartlett on December 8, 1936, at the age of 88. Survived by four of her children and seven grandchildren, she was buried in the Bartlett Cemetery.



**LOG ON TODAY AND SEE WHY COLLECTORS HAVE MADE PCGS CURRENCY THE PREFERRED GRADING COMPANY**



**COLLECTING RESOURCES AT YOUR FINGERTIPS - LOG ON TODAY!**

**Get access to the latest Monthly Specials, Population Report, Set Registry, Online Grading Standards, Message Board, News Articles and more!**

**WWW.PCGSCURRENCY.COM**



#### **Currency Message Board**

- Most Popular Currency Message Board
- Share Information & Learn From Other Hobbyists
- Meet Other Currency Collectors



#### **Population Report**

- Most accurate population information on graded currency
- Easy to navigate and user friendly
- View by type, denomination, series, varieties and blocks



#### **Collectors Club**

- Monthly submission specials
- Access to the PCGS Currency Pop Report
- Direct Submission Privileges



#### **Set Registry (FREE TO ALL)**

- Most popular set registry in the currency hobby
- Sets include Nationals, Large & Small Type, Blocks and more
- Post images and compete with other collectors
- Meet collectors who share your collecting passion

PCGS Currency: P.O. Box 10470 Peoria, IL 61612 (309) 222-8200 [www.PCGSCurrency.com](http://www.PCGSCurrency.com)



Mary A. Bartlett resumed the presidency of the bank in 1932. She was then in her mid-80s, as her facsimile signature on this Series 1929 Type 2 note would well lead one to realize.



# REPORT OF THE COMPTROLLER OF THE CURRENCY.

## TEXAS.

### Bartlett National Bank, Bartlett.

MARY A. BARTLETT, President.

No. 7317.

T. B. BENSON, Cashier.

Resources.		Liabilities.	
Loans and discounts.....	\$40,363.50	Capital stock paid in.....	\$20,250.00
Overdrafts.....	5,477.64	Surplus fund.....	
U. S. bonds to secure circulation...	8,800.00	Undivided profits, less current expenses and taxes paid.....	
U. S. bonds to secure deposits.....		National bank notes outstanding.....	8,800.00
Other bonds to secure deposits.....		State bank notes outstanding.....	
U. S. bonds on hand.....		Due to other national banks.....	1,248.32
Premiums on U. S. bonds.....	437.25	Due to State banks and bankers.....	201.02
Bonds, securities, etc.....	169.25	Due to trust companies and savings banks.....	
Bank's house, furniture, and fixtures.....	6,000.00	Due to approved reserve agents.....	
Other real estate and mortgaged owned.....		Dividends unpaid.....	
Due from other national banks.....	47,465.13	Individual deposits.....	165,999.66
Due from State banks and bankers.....		United States deposits.....	
Due from approved reserve agents.....	14,252.24	Deposits of U. S. disbursing officers.....	
Internal-revenue stamps.....		U. S. bond account.....	
Checks and other cash items.....	45.68	Notes and bills rediscounted.....	
Exchanges for clearing house.....		Bills payable.....	
Bills of other national banks.....	215.00	Liabilities other than those above stated: capital stock not reported.....	930.00
Fractional currency, nickels, cents.....	118.21		
Specie.....	16,059.50		
Legal-tender notes.....	6,589.00		
Redemption fund with Treas. U. S.....	440.00		
Due from Treasurer U. S.....			
Canadian bill.....	5.00		
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>146,428.40</b>	<b>Total.....</b>	<b>146,428.40</b>

The Comptroller of the Currency annual report for 1904 provides financial data as of September 6, 1904 for the newly opened bank.

## Sources

A long run of the Bartlett newspaper, 1902-1978, has been digitized and is available on "The Portal to Texas History" website. Via this, one can find the obituary for John T. Bartlett in the April 29, 1904, issue of *The Bartlett Tribune* and the obituary for Mary A. Bartlett in *The Bartlett Tribune and News* for December 11, 1936. Unfortunately, the newspapers for the years 1932 and 1934 are apparently not available. These would have had an obituary for Thomas B. Benson and information on the closing of the bank. *The Handbook of Texas Online* was helpful for background information on the community. ❖

## Death claims SPMC Member Thomas P. Rockwell

THOMAS P. "TOM" ROCKWELL PASSED AWAY on Sunday, September 2. He was active, mobile and mentally alert until shortly before he drifted off to sleep and died at home in his own bed, according to a family friend.

Mr. Rockwell was well respected in the hobby. He was SPMC member #5726, a 30-year-plus member who joined the Society in 1979.

Two of Mr. Rockwell's nieces and a Hospice nurse were at his bedside when he passed. He would have been 95 in December.

In addition to SPMC, Mr. Rockwell had been a member of the Boston Numismatic Society since 1958

and served as Treasurer for 39 years (1964-2003). He was a member of the Collectors Club of Boston since 1969 and served as Secretary for 31 years (1972-2003). He was also a charter member of the Currency Club of New England and Secretary and/or Treasurer of that club until 2003.

In April of 2008 Tom was awarded the *Numismatic News'* Numismatic Ambassador Award, an honor for dedicated and selfless devotion to coin collecting goals.

The internment took place on Saturday, October 13, at Ridgewood Cemetery, North Andover, MA. It was followed by a Celebration of Tom's Life at the Rockwell Family home. ❖