

HISTORY OF ROANOKE COUNTY

BY GEORGE S. JACK

HISTORY OF ROANOKE CITY

AND HISTORY OF THE
NORFOLK & WESTERN RAILWAY COMPANY

BY E. B. JACOBS



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By GEORGE S. JACK and E. B. JACOBS

It is one of the handsomest and most substantially built structures of the kind in the country, and is a notable addition to the buildings of the city.

During its long and successful career the First National Bank has pursued a policy of conservatism and care in guarding the interests of its patrons, and has continued to grow in popularity.

Its business has shown a steady and substantial growth, and it ranks to-day among the leading financial institutions of the South; with a capital of \$400,000, surplus and undivided profits in excess of \$500,000, deposits aggregating \$3,000,000, and total resources of more than \$4,000,000.

During the panic of 1893 and throughout the later financial depression of 1907, the bank paid currency for every check presented, and at no time resorted to the use of scrip. This attested its stability at a time when many similar institutions in other cities were forced to the expedient of using scrip to meet the demands of depositors.

Hon. Henry S. Trout was the first President of the bank and has served in that position since the date of its organization.

J. W. Shields was the first Cashier and acted in that capacity until the time of his death which occurred in 1903, when he was succeeded by the present Cashier, J. Tyler Meadows, who has held every position in the bank, from that of runner to his present office as Vice President and Cashier.

The First National Bank is the oldest financial institution in the city, and its progress has kept pace with the growth of Roanoke. Its operations have been characterized by a strict observance of sound banking principles, and courtesy and care are manifested in all transactions with its patrons.

The personnel of the management and office force is of a high order, and efficiency is evidenced in every branch of the business. A savings department is a feature of the bank's business, three per cent. being paid on time deposits. The Board of Directors of the First National Bank is composed of men prominent in the affairs of the city.

The officers and directors of the institution are as follows: Officers: Henry S. Trout, President; David W. Flickwir, Vice President; J. Tyler Meadows, Vice President and Cashier; J. C. Davenport, Assistant Cashier. Directors: H. S. Trout, David W. Flickwir, T. C. Denton, A. M. Nelson, L. H. Vaughan, James M. Gambill, A. L. Sibert, Dr. J. D. Kirk, Frank W. Read, S. H. Heironimus, N. D. Maher, and J. Tyler Meadows.



ROANOKE BRIDGE COMPANY INCORPORATED

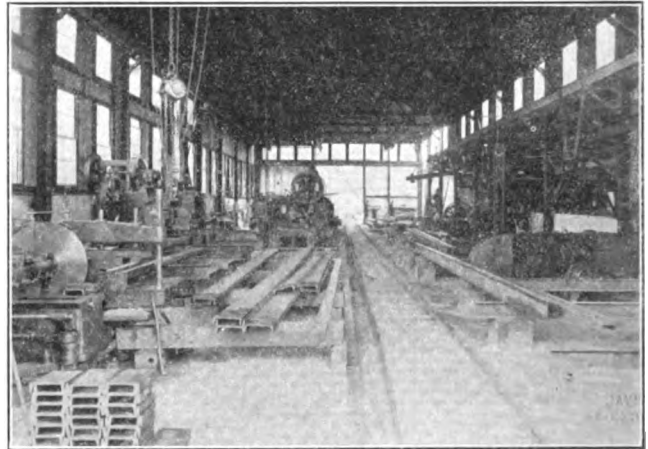
The Roanoke Bridge Company, Incorporated, was organized February 14th, 1906, with E. C. McComb, President; J. B. Botts, Vice President and Treasurer; S. H. Heironimus, Assistant Treasurer, and S. H. Holland, Secretary. These gentlemen with H. B. McComb, constitute the Board of Directors of this progressive enterprise. The Roanoke Bridge Company was organized with the purpose in view of constructing county and municipal bridge work and formerly had contract with the Virginia Bridge and Iron Company to fabricate all structural steel in their shops at a specified price, while the Roanoke Bridge Com-

pany contracted for and erected in the field. This plan of procedure obtained until the beginning of 1911 when shops were built at the intersection of the Virginian and Norfolk & Western Railways, in the southeastern part of the city, when the contract with the Virginia Bridge and Iron Company was severed. The year of 1911 has been the most successful of any in the history of this enterprise.

When organized the capital stock was \$35,000 all of which is owned by a few well known and progressive citizens of this city. The authorized stock at the present time is \$140,000.

The Roanoke Bridge Company operates in all of the Southern States and conducts branch offices in Atlanta, Georgia; Rock Hill, South Carolina, and Jacksonville, Florida.

At the present time, a force of about three hundred and fifty men are employed, including office forces here and elsewhere. Shop forces at the Roanoke plant, and men connected with the construction work throughout the country. About twenty gangs are now engaged in various parts of the country in structural and bridge work.



PARTIAL INTERIOR VIEW

Among the recent contracts secured by this firm is a seven hundred foot bridge, including a two hundred foot draw span, over the Nanticoke River in Maryland, at a cost of \$55,000; a \$26,000 bridge in Polk County, Tennessee; the building of the Wasena Bridge over the Roanoke River, for the Wasena Land Company and contracts were recently closed for the construction of thirty-three bridges in Wise and Lee counties in Virginia. A contract for an oil house, one hundred by two hundred feet near New Orleans was recently completed; also large warehouse and car shops for the Carolina & Northwestern Railway at Hickory, North Carolina.

The Roanoke Bridge Company is also general contractor for reinforced concrete work and substructures of all kinds.

At the new plant in Roanoke, a large and substantial brick office building has been constructed, with every modern convenience. From eighty to one hundred men are employed regularly in the shops in this city and the clerical forces number about twenty people.

This company, since its organization, nearly six years ago, has contracted for and erected about six hundred bridges throughout the Southern States.