
JAMES SANFORD LOVE.

There is probably no man in the entire state of Mississippi who is better known in banking and financial circles than James Sanford Love of Greenwood, an authority on banking and finance, who was recently elected by the bankers of the state as the first superintendent of state banks in Mississippi. Mr. Love began his career as a banker when he was a youth of some twenty summers, as a bookkeeper in the Merchants & Farmers Bank of Macon, Mississippi. Since then he has been an official in several well known banking institutions of the state and has served a long term of office as a member and chairman of the board of bank examiners of Mississippi. Indeed, it would be difficult to find a man so well qualified by knowledge and experience as is Mr. Love for filling this highly responsible position of superintendent of state banks.

The son of Davis Milton and Mary Jane (Cockrell) Love, James Sanford Love was born in Brookville, Noxubee county, Mississippi, January 25, 1877. His parents were likewise natives of that county, their birthplaces being neighboring plantations west of Macon—the Love homestead about four miles from Macon; and the Cockrell plantation two miles farther on. Davis M. Love was a soldier in the Confederate army during the Civil war and served throughout the period of hostilities, although he was seriously wounded in the first battle of Manassas. His wife, who is still living at the advanced age of eighty, is of Scotch-Irish descent and traces her lineage back to a Harrison of the same line as General William Henry Harrison, president of the United States.

James Sanford Love was educated in the public schools of Brookville, where he lived as a boy, and completed his junior year in the Mississippi College at Clinton, but did not return for his senior year and graduate. In 1897 the young man left his home to go to Macon to accept a position as bookkeeper with the Merchants & Farmers Bank of that city. The following year he worked as bookkeeper in the National Bank of Commerce, now known as the First National Bank of Hattiesburg, and in 1899 organized the First National Bank of Lumberton, Mississippi, in which he served in the dual office of cashier and vice president until 1907. At that time he moved back to Hattiesburg and in 1908 was elected cashier of the Hattiesburg Trust & Banking Company. By 1914 Mr. Love had attracted such favorable attention in banking circles that he was selected as state bank examiner from the southern district of Mississippi and in 1915, on the first of January, he took up his new duties as chairman of that board, an office he filled with merit from the first of 1915 to October, 1919. At the conclusion of this term of office Mr. Love came to Greenwood as vice president of the Greenwood Bank & Trust Company. During his residence here Mr. Love has also become the banking and financial agent of Humphrey & Company in this city. On the 10th of December, 1923, the bankers of Mississippi, assembled in a convention in Jacksonville, elected Mr. Love to fill the new position of superintendent of state banks in Mississippi. He is, therefore, the first man to have held this office. In order to accept this position it was necessary for Mr. Love to resign his official position with the Greenwood Bank & Trust Company and to move to Jackson, which has been his headquarters since he took office on the first Monday in January, 1924. While Mr. Love owns stock in several banks he is, of course, not connected with any of them in an official capacity during his four-year term of office.

It was not without regret that the people of Greenwood sped Mr. Love on his way to accept his new position and enter into a larger sphere of activity. He had made many friends during his stay in this pleasant little city who were loath to see him depart, although they console themselves with the hope that at the end of his work in Jacksonville, Mr. Love will return to Leflore county. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias and as a member of the Baptist church since early boyhood, has held several official positions in that church. Politically he ranks as a loyal democrat. The

members of the Greenwood Country Club found in the vice president of the Greenwood Bank & Trust Company another ardent golfer to swell their numbers on the fairways and greens.

Mr. Love was married in Hattiesburg, on the 27th of May, 1903, to Miss Lillie A. Bufkin, daughter of Dr. C. W. and Corin (Heidleburg) Bufkin, natives and lifelong residents of Jasper county, Mississippi. Mrs. Love was born in that county, in Vossburg, on New Year's day, of 1882. Mr. and Mrs. Love have four children: Eloise, a student at the Mississippi State College for Women at Columbus; Alleene, James S., Jr., and Marguerite. Mrs. Love will likewise be much missed in the social circles of Greenwood. She is a Methodist and a worker in the church, and has been prominent in the women's club activities of Greenwood.
