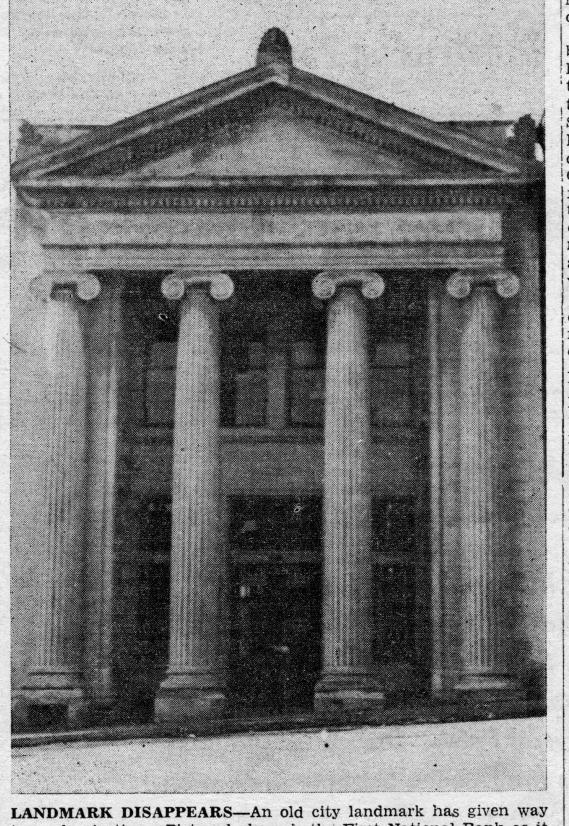
Diamond Drill

Out of the Past

December 11, 1958

The First National (305 Superior) hosted over 1,000 visitors for their open house celebration showcasing their newly remodeled and redecorated building. The major exterior facelift included the elimination of the four massive Greek Gothic cast concrete pillars that for 50 years have been a Superior Avenue landmark. Inside the renovations featured replacing the Terrazzo floor with tile and removal of the ornate stained hardwood and marble slabs that formed the counters replaced by work desks, counters, tables and fittings of the most modern design. No longer will the bank tellers greet customers from behind barred cages. The Iron County Bank first opened a bank at the location on February 17, 1890. A new building was constructed in 1907. The First National Bank was organized and opened on October 1, 1934 a consolidation of the two Crystal Falls Banks, Iron County National Bank (305 Superior) and Crystal Falls National Bank (300 Superior) that were closed on March 5, 1933 during the depression.

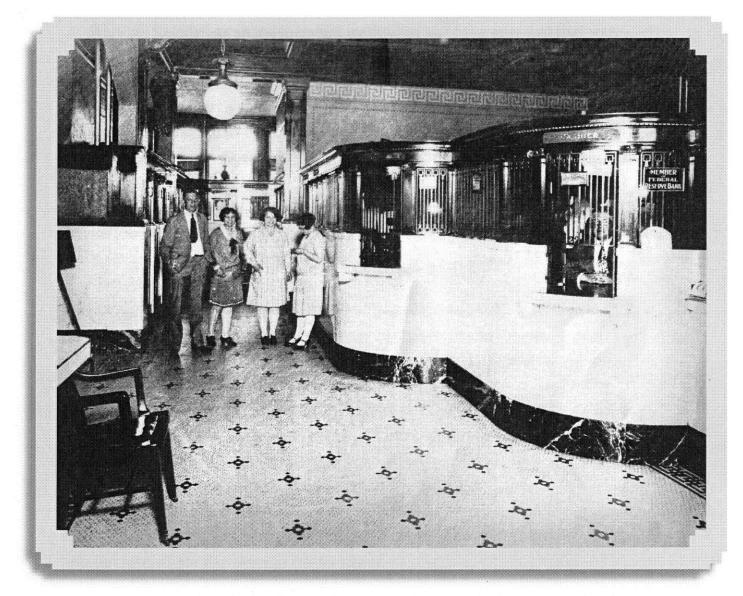


to modernization. Pictured above is the First National Bank as it appeared on April 1, when workers began dismantling the front of the building to make way for the recently completed modernization. The front shown above is the result of an earlier modernization completed about 50 years ago. Many were reluctant to see the massive front which had, what they termed a "distinguished and imposing look about it", fall in the interest if improvement.



"NEW LOOK" OF FIRST NATIONAL—The new face of the First National Bank, though probably not t so "imposing" as the one it replaced, is certainly a thing of beauty when viewed from an architectural standpoint. Square, clean and modern looking is the best way to describe the marriage of brick, metal and glass that has produced a new front for a pioneer Crystal Falls building. Open house will be held Saturday, and residents will have an opportunity to get a close look at the many improvements that have been made to both the inside and exterior of the building.

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The First National Bank was chartered in 1934 and opened for business on October 1 of that year. It moved into facilities formerly occupied by Iron County National Bank. Pictured above, from left, are: Ed Budden, Katherine Anesi, Ann Schmid, Ellen Anderson, and G.A. Brotherton behind the teller cage. Opposite page: First National Bank's operating license, issued by the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis.

