

"INDUSTRY AND THRIFT ARE THE FOUNDATIONS OF PROSPERITY"



**THE STORY
of
40 FRANKLIN STREET**

MAIN OFFICE
OF

 Rochester Savings Bank

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The Franklin Street Office, now the Main Office, of the Rochester Savings Bank was opened for business on January 9, 1928. The building was designed by McKim, Mead & White, Architects of New York City, under whose supervision in association with J. Foster Warner, Rochester Architect, the building was erected. John B. Pike & Son of Rochester were the general contractors.

Byzantine Style of Architecture

In order to take full advantage of the "V" shape of the site and of color and mosaics, the architects adopted the Byzantine style of architecture. The exterior is of Kato stone, a product of Minnesota quarries. The building is mainly formed of large circular-headed windows framed in by Pilasters and Arches which are decorated with Panels and inserts of Levanto and Pavonazzo marbles.

The Main Entrance is fittingly the richest part of the whole facade. Its depth and dignity accurately portray the Strength and Security of the bank, while the color scheme of the marble signifies the warmth and friendliness of the entire institution. The main doors open directly into the rotunda where the marble mosaic floor, marble and terrazzo walls and colorful tile dome, give a foretaste of the Main banking room.

The Main banking room is shaped after the fashion of an ancient basilica with a semicircular apse at the entrance end.

Passing on through the mosaic encrusted arch, one receives the impression of a dignified richness which is produced by the colorful marble mosaic floor, mosaic arches, the large Rouge antique columns, the richly decorated ceiling by Ezra Winter, and the yellow Sienna marble tellers counters. The entire wall surface of the room is of various marbles, chief among which are the Rouge Royal Pilasters and Botticino and convent gray Sienna panels.

Allegorical Glass Mosaic Mural

(Picture on Front Cover)

Photo taken by Prof. Leslie StroebeI of R.I.T.

A beautiful allegorical glass mosaic composition, the work of the famous American painter of murals, Ezra Winter, has been set in a panel on the north wall directly above the auto bank entrance. The panel is seen below a mosaic arch, which carries the inscription "Industry and Thrift are the Foundations of Prosperity", the Motto of the Rochester Savings Bank. The panel is the artist's conception of the inscription and depicts three figures of heroic stature, representing Prosperity, Thrift, and Industry.

The central figure of the work shows a winged figure, Prosperity, in a red robe, rewarding Industry, represented by a figure of a man sitting beside the implements of the field and products of the harvest, and a woman, Thrift, holding a small child in her arms and a treasure chest in her lap.

Mr. Winter's painting was reproduced in glass at the Ravenna studios in Berlin, and was rendered under the personal direction of the artist, who went to Germany especially for that purpose.

Innumerable pieces of glass have been used in the work. They are of many colors, and have been pieced together with such care that the colors flow together in perfect harmony.

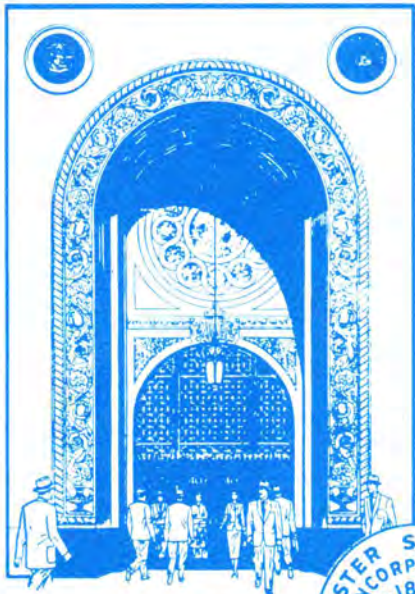
Mosaic glass work was one of the artistic products of the Byzantine civilization, and its greatest development was centered around Ravenna, Italy. In past years many of the famous paintings that adorn St. Peter's in Rome have been reproduced in this sort of glass in order to enhance their permanency.

Mr. Winter, who made an intensive study of glass mosaic work, has been famous for many years as a mural painter. His work is seen in the Eastman Theater in Rochester, and his decorations in the offices of the Cunard Steamship Company in New York brought him international recognition.

Since July 2, 1831, when the Rochester Savings Bank first opened its doors, the basic truth of the inscription "Industry and Thrift are the Foundations of Prosperity" has served to guide the Bank and inspire thousands of its depositors.



ROCHESTER SAVINGS BANK



40 Franklin Street

