

## Has Played Large Part in Development Of County

State—March 24, 1940.  
**Organized Bank  
At Conway  
47 Years Ago**

Conway, March 23.—Colonel Dock  
Allen Spivey, prominent Horry county  
citizen known throughout the state,

was honored Friday night March 15th, when citizens from all walks of life gathered at The Peoples National Bank of Conway, which institution he organized 40 years ago, to celebrate the 47th anniversary of his work as organizer, past president and present chairman of the board of directors of the institution. The spacious banking quarters recently altered and modernized were decorated for the occasion and approximately 1,000 Horry county folks gathered to speak to Colonel Spivey, inspect the renovated banking quarters and extend felicitations. Colonel Spivey, surrounded by letters, telegrams, flowers, trophies and birthday cake sat in his office in the rear of the bank and greeted the many folks who came to assist in the celebration. The unique celebration was arranged by the officers of the bank. Refreshments were served during the evening and souvenirs distributed.

Born in Horry county, Colonel Spivey gained a scholarship to The Citadel back in the early 90s where he equipped himself for his work, graduating with honors from this institution. Returning to his native home, he organized the first bank in Horry county, the quarters being in a part of the law office of the late Colonel C. P. Quattlebaum on Main street. Within a few years Colonel Spivey had erected on the corner of Main street and Fourth avenue the present quarters of the financial institution and in connection with the bank had built the first brick hotel in Horry county, which is still in active business. The stockholders of the bank later received and now own these valuable properties as a bonus on their stock. With the exception of Sunday and legal holidays the doors of this bank have never been closed, and with each examination of the bank it is rated on the honor roll of South Carolina banks. In 1933 following the inauguration of President Franklin D. Roosevelt when a banking holiday was declared, this bank along with others was temporarily closed and friends of the institution throughout the county jokingly remarked that it took the president of the United States to close Colonel

Spivey's bank and the Colonel reopened it among the first to be reopened.

In addition to his activity as a banker, Colonel Spivey organized the first Building and Loan association in the county, which is still in operation, and in its long history has never had a foreclosure.

Even with all of these exacting activities Colonel Spivey found time to serve as a member of the South Carolina legislature and has twice been honored with the senatorship of his native Horry. His endeavors throughout these years have touched

every section of the county. He sponsored the first bonds to be issued for road improvement and there is not a section of Horry county today that cannot point to some improvement sponsored and brought about by the work of Colonel Spivey. Along with his public service his ability was recognized throughout the state and he was offered many places of prominence in larger cities of the state with larger remuneration than he was receiving, but invariably after considering the offers he told his friends that he could not leave Horry. With all of his public activities he did not lose sight of his personal interest and while his modesty will not admit it, just the same it is well known that Colonel Spivey is one of the wealthiest citizens of Horry county, in fact, in the eastern part of South Carolina.

The extent of his philanthropy is not known even to himself. Schools, bridges, seashore developments, play grounds, libraries, churches and religious institutions have received many dollars from him. Knowing probably more people than any individual in the county and conversant with local affairs in every section of the county, Colonel Spivey has almost daily given to individuals who found themselves in dire financial circumstances. He has given away thousands of dollars to individuals and in any section of Horry county today one can find folks who will tell you of how Colonel Spivey came to his assistance. Probably his most interesting experiment was that of college students. There are many citizens today in Southeastern South Carolina who owe their chance in life to Colonel Spivey. He saw to it that they had a chance in college if they desired and remarks with pride today that of the many he helped only one or two ever failed him. As a legislator, he was interested in education. He recalled the hardships accompanying his college career and he tried to make it easier for deserving boys and girls who wanted an education. He brought the first summer school for teachers to Horry county. With his vast business experience he has been firm in his dealings, but always with a kindness and cordiality that won him friends. When asked the other night how he invariably came out successful in his endeavors he said with due modesty: "Well, I haven't always done that—sometimes I had heartaches; sometimes I was disappointed, but after all I was human. I knew human nature. I trusted folks and they trusted me and working together we came through all right."

In a reminiscent mood the other night at the party given in his honor, he said, "Back in the days of the depression when banks in every sec-

tion were failing, I was worried. I never let the sunrise find me in bed. I came to my desk and talked with folks. I listened to their views and oftentimes as I sat at my desk I saw old friends come to the bank door who had savings in the bank. I knew how hard they had worked for these savings. I knew of the privations that had come to them in saving some money and oftentimes I felt they had come for their money. One man I recall—he came early one morning just after many banks in the state had closed. He wore a hickory shirt, brogan shoes, wide galluses and patched pants. I knew of my personal

knowledge that the old gentleman and his faithful wife had made many sacrifices to accumulate a small competency. I was sure he had come for his savings. We greeted each other, and finally, thinking I could make it easier for him I said, "Well, Mr. ———, you came for your money. He replied, "No, Colonel, it's been safe here all these years, my wife and myself talked it over and we had rather have these funds saved for our last years in your bank than under our pillows." Colonel Spivey told with tears in his eyes. A few years ago this good friend passed on to his eternal reward and there in Colonel Spivey's bank was a large sum of money sweated out on a small Horry county farm by one of God's noblemen. The Colonel said he could give many more instances, but that through all of the depression not one depositor came for his savings.

Colonel Spivey planned for his bank all these years. Today his son, Collins A. Spivey, a Citadel graduate, is the head of this institution and almost daily when some customer comes to the bank to transact business he passes through the door of the president's office to that of the chairman of the board of directors, Colonel D. A. Spivey, and tells him, "Colonel, I just happened to be down, have transacted my business, but wanted to drop in and shake your hand." And so down to old age, the friends, their sons, daughters, grandsons and granddaughters come through the door and shake the hand of their friend. He enjoys this, and these later years find him mellow and grateful. Truly his works have not been in vain.