

Johnny In Town?

Kinston police, experienced in the "taking" ways of Johnny Myers, feel that he may have visited Kinston Wednesday night. An attempt was made to break in the Carolina Diner but the thief finally gave up. Also Wednesday night the Esso Drive-in at La Grange was entered and the cash register was hauled away — a favorite Myers trick. Myers, now escaped for the fourth time from the prison department was last recaptured in Ayden after stealing several cars, shotguns and rifles in Kinston. He is rated as the most brazen thief to ever operate in this area. But he is also one of the most likable thieves the local cops ever sent off to prison.

Smallest Cotton Crop Since 1871

The area of cotton in cultivation on July 1 in North Carolina is estimated at 475,000 acres, according to the North Carolina Crop Reporting Service. Such an acreage is 15 per cent below the 557,000 acres for last year and 33 per cent below the 10-year (1944-53) average of 711,000 acres.

Assuming 10-year average abandonment of 1.3 per cent, the area for harvest this year is calculated at 469,000 acres. This would be the smallest acreage of cotton harvested in North Carolina since 1871.

Cool days and nights throughout most of May and June have not been favorable to the cotton crop. Stands are reported to be spotted, and plant growth has been retarded by the below normal temperatures. However, the crop appears to be making favorable response to warmer weather in late June and early July. Infestations of insects have been comparatively light thus far.

Telephone Company Pays Local Taxes

The bill of county and city tax collectors was substantially increased when checks dated June 20 totaling \$25,710.78 were presented to the town of Kinston and Lenoir County by Carolina Telephone and Telegraph Company.

According to W. E. Thornton, manager for the telephone company, payments were made in the month of June in order that the company could avail itself of the discount allowed on ad valorem taxes paid prior to July 1.

The sum paid represents the estimated ad valorem taxes for the city and county and is based on the valuation of the company's property in that area as determined by the State Board of Assessments on other than real property and the local valuation of the real property of the Company.

The local manager noted that the amount of taxes paid in this city and county exceeded those of 1954 by nearly \$6,000.00.

Robert Hines Jr. On ROTC Cruise



AT SEA (FHTNO) — With the first Midshipman Practice Squadron of 1955, NROTC Midn. 3-c Robert Hines, Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Hines of 117 S. Trianon St., Kinston, sends a flashing light message aboard the heavy cruiser, USS Des Moines.

He is a sophomore at the University of North Carolina.

More than 3,000 NROTC and Naval Academy Midshipmen left Norfolk, Va., June 6 aboard 18 ships of the Atlantic Fleet for

A two-month cruise. They are undergoing training in shipboard life and duties.

The Midshipmen are afforded the opportunity of visiting interesting and historical sights during scheduled stops at ports in Spain and England.

Gunnery practice at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, will climax the cruise before returning to Norfolk August 2.

Shall Child Lost

Clarence Lee Williams, 2 1-2 year old son of Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Williams, tenants on the Craven Brooks Farm in Contentnea Neck Township has been lost from the home since about 4 Wednesday afternoon. The sheriff's department aided by bloodhounds from the Greenville Prison Camp and dozens of volunteer workers searched throughout the night and at the latest report (Noon Thursday) no trace had been found of the small tot. The mother reported that she and the child went fishing Wednesday morning, but returned to the home for lunch and she then went to work, leaving the child at the house. During the afternoon it apparently wandered away from the home, which is located near a mile from Contentnea Creek.

Dennis Lunsford Is Heading Trucking Group Member Drive

A Lenoir County trucking industry leader, Dennis Lunsford, Carolina Cleaners, Kinston, will head-up the local 1955 membership drive of the North Carolina Motor Carriers Association.

State Membership Drive chairman E. J. Carney of Charlotte, named Lunsford as chairman for the Kinston area. Assisting Lunsford will be A. K. Barrus, Asphalt & Petroleum Co.

Chairman Carney, in appointing the local chairman, explained plans for the "big '55 drive" to increase the NCBCA state-wide membership, which is now more than 5,000 strong.

R. W. Miller, Jr., Miller Motor Express, Inc., Charlotte, is NC MCA president and J. T. Outlaw of Raleigh is executive vice president. The drive will end

Continued from page one cepts, which was an increase of better than 18 per cent. This indicates that customers of the court were more plentiful, and they were also paying more for the dubious honor of appearing

before Recorder Albert Cowper. Indicating that "Crimes Does Pay", at least to the courts is the fact that the total cost of operating this court is slightly less than \$20,000 per year which is shared by the City of Kinston and Lenoir County.

The "take" for the last year is divided as follows: Lenoir County \$26,812.39, City of Kinston \$20,138.50, to the county school systems \$50,738.20 (this is divided on the basis of total enrollment in the two systems and County Auditor Katie Cobb says it is approximately 62 per cent to the county and 38 per cent to the city at this time), the state law enforcement officers retirement fund got \$10,376.

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At the Close of Business June 30, 1955

RESOURCES

Cash and Due from Banks	\$ 24,429,403.06
United States Government Securities ---	\$30,142,685.75
Obligations of Federal Agencies	4,696,345.66
State, County and Municipal Securities	10,397,391.43
Public Housing and Municipal Notes --	2,472,229.48
Total Bonds at Cost Less Valuation Reserves	47,708,652.32
Loans and Discounts	19,437,582.40
Accrued Interest--Investments and Other Assets	304,633.81
Banking Houses, Furniture and Fixtures and Real Estate	715,645.74
	\$ 92,595,917.33

LIABILITIES

Capital Stock	\$ 1,000,000.00
Surplus	5,000,000.00
Undivided Profits	2,786,026.21
Reserve A-C Accrued and Unearned Interest, Insurance, Taxes and Other Reserves	454,885.70
Other Liabilities	48,806.37
Deposits ..	83,306,199.05
	\$ 92,595,917.33

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