

Person Donation to Local Gamblers is \$826,539.45

When June 18th of this year when First Citizens Bank & Trust Company Executive Joseph E Peterson committed suicide two big questions have been before a great many Eastern Carolinians: How much did Peterson embezzle and what did he do with it. Both questions were answered during the past week.

Robert Holding, president of the chain bank with headquarters in Smithfield, announced Saturday that the shortage totalled \$226,539.45. Monday Mrs. Peterson revealed part of the contents of a suicide note left by her husband in which he said the money had been lost gambling.

Peterson killed himself with a .38 caliber pistol wound through the heart late in the afternoon of June 18th in his office in the downtown branch of his bank on Queen and Gordon streets. He left two notes, one to Holding, the other to Mrs. Peterson.

Holding released parts of the letter addressed to him immediately in which Peterson confessed a shortage and assumed full responsibility, pointing out that none of his colleagues in the bank knew anything about his act. Mrs. Peterson did not publicly release any of the contents of the note to her until this week when she said it included the confession that the money had been spent gambling.

Peterson had headed the Kingston branches of the large chain since 1904 and served as credit manager for branches in Pink Hill and Grifton. He took an active part in community affairs and was accepted as one of the "best and best liked bankers in North Carolina".

Although many local observers were shocked at the size of the shortage, few were actually surprised since it was generally known that Peterson was a heavy drinker and a big-time gambler. He was indicted four times and convicted three times for drunken driving and at the time of his suicide was under a suspended jail term for the last of that series of drunken driving indictments.

Holding stressed in his Saturday release that the shortage was fully covered by the bank's bonding company and full repayment had already been made.

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## Jones County FHA Loans Total \$355,825 for Year of '55-56

Farmers in Jones County obtained loans totaling \$355,825 through the Farmers Home Administration during the year ending June 30, 1956 the agency's county supervisor said this week. These loans total 137, advanced for farm operating purposes. The average loan was \$2592.

Repayments on loans outstanding during the year totaled \$344,011.30.

The Agency has advanced credit to buy feed, fertilizer, equipment, livestock, and other farm operating items needed to place farms on an efficient operating

basis, and to buy and improve family-type farms.

Applications are approved as eligible only if other lenders cannot adequately supply their credit needs and only if prospects are favorable for their being able to improve their farming and repay their loans.

Families are expected to refinance their loans with other lenders as soon as they are in position to do so.

Three real estate loans were made during this period, one each for tenant purchase, building improvement and farm development.

## Alvah B. Howard Succeeds Bruce Foy as FHA Director

Alvah B. Howard of Route 2, Trenton, is the new member of the Farmers Home Administration county committee, J. E. Mewborn Jr. county supervisor announced this week.

Howard's appointment became effective July First. The committee of which he will serve determines the eligibility of local farmers who apply for Farmers Home Administration loans.

The new committeeman owns and operates a tobacco farm located at Taylor's Corner in the Chesapeake community.

County Howard succeeds G. Bruce Foy, also of Route 2, Trenton, whose term expired this year.

The other two members are W. Grover Mallard of Route 1, Trenton, who also owns and operates a farm in Jones County, his farm being located in the Oak Grove Community, and W. Denford Eubank, owner and operator of a tobacco farm in the Lees Chapel community of Jones County, whose

address is Route 1, Pollocksville.

Each agricultural county in the country has a similar committee of three members who are responsible for determining loan applicants' eligibility, certifying the value of farms being purchased or improved through Farmers Home Administration loans, and making recommendations on loan approvals and loan servicing actions.

Each member is named for a 3-year term and one appointment expires each year. A member completing his 3-year term cannot succeed himself. At least two of the members must be farmers.

The committee works with the county supervisor in connection with all type loans. These include farm operating loans and loans to buy, improve, or enlarge efficient family-type farms in this area.

They also include loans to farmers or their nonprofit associations to establish and carry on approved soil erosion measures, farmstead water systems, irrigations, drain-

## Maysville Board Votes 'Three-Mile' Limit For Fire-fighting

In its regular August meeting, after considerable discussion the Maysville Town Board voted to continue restricting the use of its fire-fighting equipment to a three-mile circle around the town. This rule was originally passed in June of 1955, when calls on the equipment made some such move necessary.

Fire Chief Joe Monette asked the board for gas mask refills and a power operated megaphone and both requests were granted.

Preston Collins was authorized to purchase a new switch for the spotlight at Fifth and Main streets since the old one was worn out and was giving trouble.

Collins, F. H. Pruitt and Rudolph Pelletier were named to a committee to study and make recommendations for repair of the paved streets in Maysville.

age, and many other conservation practices.

Most of the soil and water conservation loans and loans to buy or improve farms are made from funds advanced by private lenders and insured by the agency. Some of these loans, however, and all loans for operating farms, are from annually appropriated funds.

The agency makes emergency loans in areas designated for that purpose by the Secretary of Agriculture.

No loan of any type can be approved for an applicant whose credit needs can be handled adequately by other credit sources.

The regular office staff of the Farmers Home Administration serving Jones county consists of the county supervisor, J. E. Mewborn Jr. and County office clerk, Mrs. Clarice L. Pollock. The office is located in Trenton.

## Polio Clinics in Area Jammed as Pitt Cases Jump

For almost 18 months Salk Vaccine has been available to children under 20 years of age and to all expectant mothers but acceptance of this proven protection has been slow, and no where slower than in Eastern Carolina.

In spite of every kind of publicity, in spite of the vaccine being given free and in spite of the threat of the dreaded disease parents have been reluctant to give their children this protection.

But fear, apparently, is a much more positive prod than all the other factors combined since the mild outbreak of polio in Pitt County has sent thousands of parents to public and private clinics to get their children inoculated.

This upsurge of acceptance has brought the Salk Vaccine protection to thousands more but District Health Officer Dr. R. J. Jones says the job will not be complete until every eligible person has gotten the protection.

The inoculations are given every weekday from 9 until 5 in the clinics of the Health Department and, of course, can be obtained at any time from private physicians.

## Multiple Charges in Monday Night Incident

Clarence Hines, a day-laborer of 22 B Carver Courts, is facing multiple charges after "breaking bad" on the Bruce Heath Farm north of Kinston Monday night.

Hines reportedly went to the farm about drunk and began to raise a little disturbance during which he attempted to break into a tenant home on the farm.

When Owner Heath came to quiet things down Hines took a couple of shots at him with a .38 caliber revolver and then fled. He has been charged with assault with a deadly weapon, attempted breaking and entering, disorderly conduct and public drunkenness.

## Small Child Hurt Critically Sunday

Five year-old Kenneth Myron Seymour, son of Sgt. and Mrs. Garland Seymour of Belmont Trailer Park, remains in critical condition at the University Hospital in Chapel Hill from head injuries suffered at about 6 p. m. Sunday.

Mrs. Seymour with another child was waiting to cross US 258 to visit a friend. The little boy pulled loose from his mother and dashed directly into the path of a car being driven southwardly by Shirley Glenn Smith of Kinston route three.

Investigating Patrolman Lloyd Pate says Mrs. Seymour assured him that the accident was unavoidable so far as Miss Smith was concerned so no charges were made.

The child suffered a long cut on the head, a severe concussion and other minor cuts and bruises about the body. After being given emergency treatment at Parrott Memorial Hospital the child was rushed to the Chapel Hill medical center for specialized treatment. There he remained in a semi-coma late Tuesday but a good chance was held out for his recovery by the attending physicians. His father is on duty with the armed forces in Japan.

## Battle Communique No. 13 From 'West Wall' Line

At about midnight Monday night a one-man task force from Camp Lejeune invaded West Machinery Company on South Queen Street in Kinston and when the smoke

of battle cleared away damages running into thousands of dollars had accumulated.

Eighteen year-old Private James A. Roberts began his infiltration

of the local International Harvester establishment quietly by attempting to steal away into the night with one of the parked trucks outside the building. His efforts proved futile, however, and then the main assault began.

Armed with a weapon classed as obsolete in most military circles (two large rocks) this Pennsylvania private turned his ancient but effective artillery on a large glass window in the south rampart of the West outpost.

Close support of this artillery barrage by the teen-age task force breached the defensive line of quarter-inch glass and the capture was complete.

Once inside he found the West Fortress deserted by defensive forces. Following accepted military practice Private Roberts decided to immobilize the materials of movement enclosed therein.

A brand-new pickup truck seemed the most effective instrument for rendering the establishment impotent and open to future assault. With this he rammed through the northern protective

wall (a large folding door that could have been easily lifted). This left the south and north walls open to future enemy assault but left the pickup truck precariously hung over the moat around the fortress, not to mention folded up from front bumper to windshield.

Private Roberts apparently decided that his mission had been accomplished and it was time to re-contact his own forces. He then returned to the shattered West Wall of the breached Kinston defenses and took another, larger but equally brand-new truck.

Here this Pennsylvania Panzer Division made his first mistake of the mission. Apparently in the darkness and confusion of battle he had lost his battle compass and turned north into enemy lines, rather than south to regroup with strong Marine reinforcements which were moving up from the New River Estuary.

The defensive line of Kinston was spread pretty thin. One captain of police and three sold-

See Battle Communique Page 8



This was the gap torn in the north wall of the West Machinery Company defenses by the same Camp Lejeune secret weapon that James A. Roberts, when he

broke out into open country in a lightning-like thrust that carried his assault through Kinston and into the northern defenses for nearly eight miles.

Sell Your Tobacco in Kinston, The World's Top Market