INTERIOR OF OLD BANK BUILDING—Shown above is a picture taken of the interior of the First National Bank before the re-building of the banking house. The bookkeeping department was not separated from the tellers windows. The new building has ample space for all departments. In the picture, left to right, are Miss Pauline Ware, busy at the adding machine, Cashier M. B. Winstead, and Mrs. Fred Wright, Jr.

Elephant Challenges Lion At King Of Beasts

Schenectady, — "Leon the Lion" may be king of the beasts, but as far as voice is concerned "Toby" the elephant seriously challenged and almost copped "Leo's" sceptre at the circus. A General Electric sound level meter, which measures quantity of sound, tested the vocal renditions of both beasts and found the lion's to be just a shade stronger.

Technically, peaking, the docile elephant with his shrill trumpeting registered 109 decibels of sound intensity on the sound level meter, while the king of the beasts, after many trials runs below this figure, finally managed to muster 110 decibels. As means of comparison, the elephant's trumpet and the lion's roar equaled in sound intensity the noise at two feet of four men hammering a steel plate.

Roaming the Ringling Bros.-Barnum and Bailey Circus grounds, the sound level meter found that the tiger, usually considered second only to the lion, could emit a roar worth only 89 decibels, equivalent to the sound volume of a pneumatic drill at 10 feet. The hippopotamus, although dubbed the "Silent Joe" of the circus, co-operated with a pectoral grunt that registered 90 decibels.

A black leopard, a kangaroo and a chimpanzee each moved the meter counter to 79 decibels, equivalent to a radio at normal volume, but a small macaw proved raucous enough to triumph over this group with a reading of 84. This, according to the sound level meter, would equal sound volume of normal State Street traffic.

Meekest voice at the circus, except for the giraffe which makes no sound, was that a boa constrictor, whose hiss at two feet registered only 60 decibels. Low conversation at the same distance from the meter is the equivalent.

Various tonal qualities make no difference to the sound level meter. Only the strength in the noise is recorded on the indicator.

BANK DIRECTOR — Dr. L. P. Baker, above, will-known Kings Mountain dentist, became a member of the board of directors of the First National Bank in 1943, filling the vacancy created by the death of the late D. M. Baker, former bank president.

NEW YORK. — The Inter-American Safety Council has given certificates of Safety to 21 airlines operating on inter-American routes for having completed a year's operations without accidents or fatalities to passengers or crews.

Fuel for jet-propelled fighter aircraft currently being supplied by an oil company is described as something between kerosene and gasoline in nature, and the lubricants are able to withstand temperatures ranging from 80 to 90 deg. F. below zero to 250 deg. ayove.

War Ration Book 5, New Gas Books Will Be Issued

War Ration Book Five "smaller than a dollar bill" and containing just half as many stamps as the last book issued, will be distributed through the public schools in December, Chester Bowles, Administrator of the Office of Price Administration, announced recently. At the same time, the new "A" gasoline ration book will be issued.

Distribution will take place at school houses or other public buildings throughout the nation from December 3 through December 15. OPA district offices will fix the exact time for each local area. The new "A" gasoline books will go into use December 22, and War Ration Book Five will be used soon after the first of the year for food rationing shoes.

Mr. Bowles said — "It takes a long time to plan, print, and distribute a war ration book. That's why we must arrange now for a book that will not be used until early 1946.

"The supply agencies — the Department of Agriculture and the War Production Board — have told us that meats and fats, canned goods, sugar and shoes all will be in tight supply for some months to come, and so it looks as if a ration book will be needed at least throughout most of next year. To be reasonably on the safe side, and avoid the expense of having to get out still another book later, we have set up Book Five so that it can last from 10 to 15 months if it is needed.

"Even so, the book contains only half as many stamps as Book Four. By holding Book Five down to half the size of the present book, we are getting a book for less than half the cost of Book Four, and we are using only half as much paper.

"We hope War Ration Book Five will be the last in the series of wartime ration books, and that there will be plenty of stamps we won't have to use. We cannot gamble too heavily on that, though, since so many months are needed to bring a book into being.

"The new book is a better book, as it ought to be. It will be much easier to carry and handle, since it will be much smaller — smaller, in fact, than a dollar bill, it will be just as long as Book Four, but only one-half as wide. The numbering and arrangement of stamps is better, too All the housewife and the grover will have to remember is that stamps of certain numbers are good. The new stamps will not have both a letter and a number as the present stamps do.

"We are sure, too, that distribution of the book will be well handled.

"The United States Office of Education has assured us that America's school teachers, who have become experienced hands at distributing ration books quickly and efficiently, again can be counted on to do this distribution job as a patriotic service for 130,000,000 of their fellow citizens.

"I really don't know how we could get along without their help. Practically every man, woman and child in the country, including military personnel who live at home, is eligible for War Ration Book Five. About 28,000,000 motorists are entitled to receive the new "A" gasoline book.

"The gigantic nature of this task is obvious. Probably it is the biggest distribution job ever undertaken in this or any other country. But we [illegible] experience that the teachers and school officials are fully [illegible] Many people will [illegible] way in which they handled the distribution of War Ration Book Four. This time they are called on to do an even bigger job. We are grateful to them. We believ, too, that millions of Americans will appreciate and applaud their patriotic martime serfice."

RATION BOOK FIVE

The new all-purpose ration book will measure 5 11-16 inches by 2 1-8 inches. Over all, it is exactly one-hal the size of the present ration books, Bookes Three and Four, and contains just half as many stamps as were in Book Four—192 stamps in Book Five as compared with 384 in Book Four. The stamps in the new book, however, will be the same size as the stamps now in use.

Housewives will find the new "small check book" style ration book much more convenient to carry and handle.

At the current rate of making stamps good — five red stamps and five blue stamps at the beginning of each month—War Ration Book Five can last, it needed, about 15 months.

One hundred and fifty million copies of Book Five are now being printed. The cost of printing and shipping to distribution centers will be approximately $750,000. The cost of printing and shipping a book containing as many stamps as Book Four would have been a little more than twice that amount.

The book will contain 48 red stamps numbered from 11 through 58 for use in the meat-fats program. There will be 48 blue processed food stamps, also numbered from 11 through 58. There will be 12 sugar stamps numbered from 23 through 34, and 12 shoe stamps, numbered from 11 through 22.

The book will also contain 72 "spare" stamps — 24 of them green stamps numbered from 35 through 58, and 48 of them brown stamps numbered 59 through 106. These spare stamps will be available for use in extending the life of the book to approximately 15 months if needed.

The last full set of five blue stamps in War Ration Book Four will become good on September 1. The final set of five red stamps will be validated a month later, on Oct. 1.

Since War Ration Book Five, containing the new red and blue stamps will not go into use before January 1, 1946, it will be necessary to use other stamps in Book Four as substitutes for processed food and meat-fats stamps during the interim period

Interim period use of shoe and sugar stamps will not be necessary since the stamps provided for these items in Books Three and Four will carry the programs without resort to substitutions.

Interim use of other stamps in Book Four after all blue and red stamps are validated will permit a considerable money saving. The saving will come from the fact that maximum possible use will be made of the remaining stamps in Book Four, and because the life of the incoming Book Five thereby will be lengthened.

Ware Ration Book Five will be the fourth war ration book to be distributed by school teachers and other volunteers. On May 4, 1942, distribution of Book One began as school houses and other public buildings throughout the country. Book Two was distributed in the same way, beginning February 23, 1943. War Ration Book Three was distributed by mail, beginning June 20, 1943. Distribution of Book Four got under way at school houses on October 18, 1943.

NEW "A" BOOK

The new "A" Gasoline Book, the third issued under rationing, will differ from the present book only in color. The book will contain five sets of coupons, six coupons to a set numbered A-18 through A-23. Each set of six ccupons will cover a different validity period. The first set —the coupons numbered A-18—becomes good December 22.

The first gasoline ration book issued became valid in 17 eastern states on June 22, 1942, and throughout the country on December 1, 1942. The second book was issued in all states except those in the eastern shortage area during September 1944. The first coupon in this book, A-12, became valid September 22, 1944. In the east, this second ration book was issued in October and November of 1944, and the A-13 coupons in the Book became good November 9. Since then coupons of the same number have been validated on the same dates throughout the country.

EDITOR CLEM
By Ralph Kemp

"This next stickful o' type is goin' to say just one thing—We got 35 millions of Japs to beat."

WAR BONDS in Action

[redacted]

Signal Corps Photo
Ryukyu Landing. The War Bonds you buy provide funds for building [illegible] such as this one [illegible] to drive the Japs from [illegible] portant Pacific island.
U. S. Treasury Department

SALUTE

To The

First National

IN OFFERING OUR CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK ON THE COMPLETION OF THEIR RE-BUILDING PROGRAM, WE THANK THE BANK FOR THE SERVICE IT HAS RENDERED THIS FIRM THROUGH THE YEARS.

WE ARE ALSO HAPPY TO HAVE HAD A PART IN THE CONSTRUCTION OF THIS MODERN BANKING HOUSE BY FURNISHING BUILDING SUPPLIES AND MATERIALS.

Bridges & Hamrick

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