

At Annual Meet First Federal's Growth Reflects Area Progress

A 147 per cent gain in total assets, was reported today by W. L. Foy, president, First Federal Savings and Loan Association of Florence in a statement released with the association's annual report.

The association's assets increased from \$10,888,428.48 on Dec. 31, 1953, to \$24,541,921.46 on Dec. 31, 1954. "This fine growth," Mr. Foy commented, "is a reflection of the confidence of the citizens of this area in this specialized thrift and home ownership institution."

Highlights of the association's annual report were listed as follows:

1. Net savings in 1954 increased by \$1,713,537.38 or 18.1 per cent. Dividends paid out to savers totaled \$11,170,319.44.
2. The number of new savings account holders was 1,377, or 11 per cent over last year.
3. Total savings paid out to savers totaled \$30,551,040.
4. Home loans made during the year amounted to \$2,879,693.25. Total home loans outstanding now amount to \$10,703,816.60.
5. The association favored \$160,544.06 in its reserve fund in the first year, increasing its reserve to \$1,283,978.19, or 14.2 per cent of savings.

Such gains, Mr. Foy said, were of "great significance" since they came at a time of moderate business decline, and some unemployment. This would seem to indicate, he said, that the people of the Muscle Shoals district have realized the importance of having a portion of their income each year for things they wish to buy in the future, as well as for financial security.

The report described the outlook for business in the coming year as "highly favorable." Although the leveling-off period which started in the second quarter of the year would exceed an annual rate of \$350 billion, or about \$5 billion more than current levels.

Home building in the coming year, Mr. Foy said, would most likely equal this year's levels of between 1.1 million and 1.2 million. He said, in that 1954 was the second biggest home building year

in the country's history. Demand for new homes continued strong, commented with demand greater for larger, well-designed, well-equipped and well-located homes. Prices of new homes should remain stable, he said, "with some improvement in quality" likely. In 1955, the home buyer should be able to get more home than in 1954, he concluded.

Nationalists Get Another Jolt Today

By SPENCER MOOSA
TAIPEH, Formosa (U-Comm)-The Southeastern Greyhound Bus Lines, shown in front of the bus are (left to right) H. S. Simons, Kelly Watkins and Maynard, drivers, all of Florence.

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TAIPEH, Formosa (U-Comm)-The Southeastern Greyhound Bus Lines, shown in front of the bus are (left to right) H. S. Simons, Kelly Watkins and Maynard, drivers, all of Florence. Among the features of the new vehicle is rubberized crash pads, emergency push out glass in the top of the sides, new type ICC emergency brake, automatic power steering, twin motors of 150 horsepower each, new reclining type seats, a rest room and six forward facing seats with fingertip control. The bus has no springs but has something similar to air cushions called "air ride" with rooms for 43 passengers above, the bus has in the lower section four spacious baggage compartments. Making good use of public relations, the drivers gave free test rides to residents of the Tri-Cities and to Florence State students Wednesday afternoon. (Staff Photo).

U. S. May Aid Chinese Evacuation

By ROWLAND EVANS JR.
WASHINGTON (U-S)-Sen. H. Alexander Smith (R-N.J.) predicted today Congress would approve any request by President Eisenhower for authority to use U.S. air and sea power to assist in the possible evacuation of some Chinese Nationalist islands.

Eisenhower was reported last night to be considering the island of Kinmen, which had been held by the Nationalists, and they have stepped up attacks on the Tachen group, including Ching Kai, which Nationalists have some 20,000 men.

Some American military men here said to believe that if Nationalist forces were withdrawn from some offshore outposts, they might profitably be deployed elsewhere for the defense of Formosa.

Secretary of State Dulles and Admin. Arthur W. Radford, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, reportedly sounded out congressional leaders at a State Department briefing yesterday on the possibility of a congressional resolution to give the President authority to use the sea and air power if necessary in any evacuation attempt.

Sen. Mansfield (D-Mont.), a member of the same committee, said President Eisenhower has exercised a pretty patient attitude up to now and he wants to take the position that there is no alternative to peace.

"I assume he would be fully aware of the implications in any such move," he said. "The possibility that any evacuation effort in the Tachen islands, for example—would bring respect of the U.S. to Communist artillery batteries.

This risk was said to be back to Eisenhower's reported desire to have Congress give its consent in advance. Two congressional leaders said the request, if forthcoming, may be made Monday.

The Sign Sign 'Help Yourself' So They Did
PORT COLLINS, Colo. (U-S)—A self-service gasoline pump got stuck with the gasoline on while the owner was away—and the gas was on.

Deputy Sheriff Ray K. Sheerer said motorists were lined up for half a block when he arrived. An unidentified caller had told the sheriff motorists "were stealing the owner blind."

The station owner, T. W. Trester, was in a hospital in Denver for an eye operation. An oil company check Monday will indicate how much gas was taken during the hour-and-a-half run.

90 New Locomotives Are Put Into Use
WASHINGTON (U-S)—The Association of American Railroads says it has received 90 new locomotives in December, compared with 27 new installations in November.

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Changes In Un-American Staff Talked
WASHINGTON (U-S)—Chairman Walter (D-Pa) promised today a series of changes in the staff of the House Un-American Activities Committee as the group prepared to resume its Red-hunting under Democratic control.

Walter was named chairman yesterday at what he called a "very harmonious" meeting. He said the committee "decided unanimously to direct our attention to information we had concerning defense industry."

But its principal aim, he said, will be to study communism generally in a locality, rather than in a type of industry or occupation.

Reading the staff, Walter said will be Frank S. Tavenner, who held a similar post before the Republicans took control in 1953 and who continued as co-counsel with Robert L. Kunzig during the last two years. Kunzig's resignation has been accepted, Walter said, and the Republican committee members made no objection to elimination of the co-counsel post.

Walter said staff members slated to go off the payroll include: Rea Van Patten, the former Air Force intelligence agent who was hired as a committee investigator last November after reportedly giving the congressional group secret FBI data.

A Choice Steak For Eisenhower
DENVER (U-S)—Denver real estate official Arthur Rydstrom announced yesterday his firm has bought Cam Double Zesto #11, grand champion steer of the National Western Stock show here, and will send along a choice cut to President and Mrs. Eisenhower.

Reds Hold Possession Of Island
TAIPEH, Formosa (U-Comm)—The Nationalist Defense Ministry said 720 Nationalist guerrillas on Kinmen Island were wiped out by the last day.

Resistance ceased on the island, the ministry said, at 9:12 p.m. last night. 61 hours of fighting followed after Chinese Red invaders landed behind pulverizing naval and air bombardments.

"Our brave guerrillas accomplished their anti-Communist, resist Russia and territory protection duty and all of them died gloriously in the fight," the ministry said. "Such valor has gained respect and admiration of the world."

Peiping radio, however, insisted that all fighting had ended Tuesday night. The same day its amphibious invaders struck in overwhelming force.

The broadcast, heard in Tokyo, said the Communists had killed about 500 Nationalist troops, captured more than 500 and seized stores of guns and ammunition.

Another Peiping broadcast hailed the "liberation" of Kinmen as a victory which has "inspired the men in its struggles to liberate Taiwan (Formosa)."

The briefing broadcast, heard in Tokyo, stressed the importance of the Kinmen action in Red China's "campaign to liberate the coastal islands and ultimately Taiwan itself."

A Nationalist spokesman said the Communists had thrown a force of 5,000 troops onto Kinmen and had high winds south of Montauk Point, Long Island, after extensive surface tests.

The Navy said the Nautilus was scheduled to make further dives before the end of the month, including launching and christening by Mrs. Dwight D. Eisenhower in a General Dynamics Corp. boat yard here.

Message of "being of therapy" is one of the oldest means of hand, according to the Encyclopedia Britannica.

Reds Hold Possession Of Island
Negro Social News
By MABLE LEE
Mrs. Georgia Thomas has returned from a visit in Corpus Christi, Tex., and reports an enjoyable trip. While there she was entertained by her husband and her friends, Mesdames Louise Pettit, Gertrude Lovelace, Rosa Lovelace and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Scott.

The guests included C. W. Newman, Messrs. and Madams Willie Thomas, W. L. Lovelace, Nora Pettit, Odell Lovelace, Robert Scott, and Miss Margaret Daniels. Mrs. Pettit and Mrs. Lovelace will remain in Texas as their husbands are employed by the Reynolds Aluminum plant there.

PERSONALS
En route to Memphis, Messrs. Willard W. Russell, Edward Gere, and Clifford Farris of Chattanooga, were the guests of Misses Mellican, McKee, instruction, Sterling High School, Sheffield, and Josie L. Hartfield, clerk, Trenholm High School, Sheffield, and worshipped at the First Baptist church, Sheffield, last Sunday morning.

Willie McKee, Jr., student and assistant coach at Xavier University, has been named as the new guest of his sister, Miss Mellican McKee of Sheffield.

Calvin Hampton left Sunday night for Seattle, after visiting his mother, Mrs. Mabel Smith, who is ill at her home, East 20th street, Sheffield.

Mesdames Orceola Adams and Hattie Jeffries of Seattle, and Louise Hardin and daughter, Rita Gail of Detroit, daughters of Mrs. Mattie Smith, East 20th street, Sheffield, also grandchildren Elly Wade Hill, son of Mrs. Mabel Ockerson and Janice Maria Hampton, daughter of Calvin Hampton, are still visiting Mrs. Smith due to her illness.

Rev. A. Fountain of Florence, who will leave for his trip to Chicago, Sundays due to illness, his members and friends will wish him a speedy recovery.

YOUR HEALTH TODAY CASE 201
Dr. Anderson
Formerly a Sanatorium patient, this young married woman with a child came to me with headaches, shortness of breath and a history of mental anxiety, nervous and completely unable to adjust to everyday events or deal with her child.
After chiropractic care she has returned to normal way of life and health.

ANDERSON Chiropractic Clinic 215 W. College Phone 3747 Florence, Ala.

84th Annual Convention: Alabama Press-Meeting Today in Huntsville
HUNTSVILLE, Ala. (U-Success)—The nation's guided missile program was attributed to American know-how and cooperation between the Army, Navy and Air Force today by the commanding general at Redstone Arsenal.

Brig. Gen. H. N. Toffey spoke to members of the Alabama Press Assoc., meeting here for their 84th annual convention.

Toffey declared that a full and free exchange of technical information between the three services is essential, and said "the cry of unwarranted duplication comes from the uninformed."

The general told the Alabama newspaper editors and publishers that "Our program has paid off. We in the Army are mighty proud of the performance of our new missile weapons, and you will be too, when we are in a position to sell all the facts."

Toffey gave a brief description of the guided missile program at Redstone, he told the newsmen, that public relations is important to the arsenal as well as to the newspapers and their readers.

"I know you wouldn't want us to give official confirmation or denial to rumors or stories. Our policy is to give out such information as we can providing it will not be valuable if used against our country," he said.

"However, we have a firm policy at Redstone Arsenal that every legitimate request for information from the press will be granted promptly, honestly and fully."

Frank H. Higgin, assistant secretary of the Army, who spoke at the press association's annual banquet tonight.

Other speakers at the convention include Jim Lucas, Scripps-Howard staff writer and Pulitzer prize-winning correspondent, and John Scott, assistant to the publisher of Times Magazine.

The convention opened last night with the annual meeting of the association's past presidents.

Steele McGrew, publisher of The Birmingham Democrat and Alabama Courier, Athens, is president of the group. George Watson, Shades Valley Sun, Himeewood, is first vice president, and Ben G. George, Demopolis Times, second vice president.

A brief session Saturday morning will include reports of committees or election of officers for 1955. (End Advance for use at 11 a.m. Friday, Jan. 21)

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