

The Carolina Review—Utility Rates Continue To Rise

SPIRAL ... The never-ending spiral of utility rate hikes continued last week as the N. C. Utilities Commission granted Southern Bell Telephone various rate increase options that will total almost \$82-million per year.

Efforts to tag a percentage figure on the rate hike for telephone users are difficult since the changes will differ from city to city and for varying services. Still, estimates for residential customers in Raleigh suggest average increases of 28 per cent. Southern Bell had petitioned the Utilities Commission for

Headmaster's List

Lawrence Academy is proud to announce its 3rd six weeks Headmaster's list. This includes those students who consistently score 93 or better in all subjects. We are very proud of the academic progress of our students.

Fourth Grade — Tammy Woodley, Max Hoggard, Ryan Swain, Glen Taylor, Harris Vaughan, and Tonya Baker.

Fifth Grade — Lora Askew, Amy Cobb, Reada Ellen Evans, Anissa Roberts, Elizabeth Thompson, Toni Nobles, Kim Jackson, Tres Pittman, Rinda Pack, and Shannon Allgood.

Sixth Grade — Chris Carraway, Jason James, Kristy Spencer, and Lynette Swain.

Seventh Grade — Beth Boyce.

Eighth Grade — Kinnan Lane.

Ninth Grade — Robin Spruill and Buck Spruill.

Tenth Grade — Lindley Chappell.

Eleventh Grade — Rose Baker, Mary Dee Carraway, Amy Hamilton, Susan Hassell, Jim Rasberry, and Sandy Stillman.

Twelfth Grade — Lynne Daniels, and Tommy Phelps.

Honor Roll (those students who have earned a 90 grade average):

Fourth Grade — Connie Corey, Brien Hardison, Preston Harris, Melinda Hassell, Haze Lancaster, Greg Little, Amy Pritchett, Stephanie Sawyer, Shelly Styons, Brian White, John Waters, Patty Chappell, Wendy Copeland, Louann Gay-Lord, Stephanie Joyner and Ginger Lord.

Fifth Grade — Adam Brown, Jenny Dunstan, Todd Edwards, Stacey Johnston, Torrey Phelps, Melanie Reel, Rex Stotesberry, Julie Lindsey, Michael Coward, Marianne Harrell, Michael Frank, Sheila Gunnells, Fulton Roberts.

Sixth Grade — Gregory Bass, Rene Collier, Don Gurkin, Nolan Kirkman, Gary O'Brien, Armistead Perry, Melissa Smith, Greg White, and Kim Yates.

Seventh Grade — Dee Brown, Beth Boyce, Jennifer Gaylord, Carole Baker, Jarahnee Alexander, Chris Grimes, Mike Oliver, Brian White, Amber Cantrell, Ann Jones, Molly Lane, Melissa Modlin, Nicole Swain, Geraldine Swinson, Jay Carawan, and Carole Sanders.

Eighth Grade — Hope Dail, Tracy Lindsey, Sallie Ann Attkisson, Laura Hufton, and Wendy Miller.

Ninth Grade — Kris Barnes, Barry Cobb, Kathy Rawls, Tim Griffin, and Marla Styons.

Tenth Grade — Chamblee Burch, Annalisa Carawan, Kim Daniels, Ray Phelps, Jon Powell, Emily Rascoe, and Don Stotesbury.

Eleventh Grade — Jan Brown, Connie Cole, Kim Elliott, Shirl Modlin, Dawn Robertson, and Shannon Sawyer.

Twelfth Grade — Todd Johnson, Pat Sawyer, Donna Darnell, Brett Chappell, Dee Ann Copeland, Clay House, Cindy Reel Treavis Taylor, and Nona Weaver.

increases of \$129-million per year.

If recent experience suggests anything, then Southern Bell will soon be back before the Commission for yet another boost. The Commission has released figures that reveal Southern Bell base rate increases in Raleigh of only 45 cents from December of 1975 until February of 1980. But from April of 1981 until this month, less than a year and two rate increases later, the Raleigh residential user's cost has risen a staggering 45 per cent.

Only this past December, the Utilities Commission permitted both Duke Power and Light substantial rate hikes for their electricity. Two weeks ago the Commission issued its quarterly order for fuel adjustment proceedings for the utility companies — allowing even higher rates.

CP&L now charges the highest rates of any of the "big three". Once when VEPCO (based in Virginia and serving only a few northeastern counties) had that dubious honor, Governor Hunt suggested that they (VEPCO) should perhaps sell their holdings to CP&L.

ABORTIONS ... Since 1978, when federal assistance for elective abortions was eliminated, the state has picked up the tab for women who could not afford an abortion otherwise. To qualify, the woman has to be a North Carolina resident and have a gross annual income of less than \$4,300 or a family income of less than \$8,200.

Gov. Jim Hunt has supported the state funding. According to press spokesman Brent Hackney, the governor "out of fairness ... felt strongly about providing the money for the poor."

But state-funded abortions are no longer available in North Carolina, at least

not until July 1 — the beginning of the next fiscal year. The Department of Human Resources says abortion funds have been exhausted and the governor has said additional monies are not forthcoming.

In the past, when budgeted monies were spent — about \$1-million annually — other funds within the Human Resources Department were juggled to meet the need.

Juggling funds within the departments, however, was eliminated by legislative decree last year. The governor, strapped by tight fiscal problems and already under attack from Jesse Helms' Congressional Club over highway taxes, did not fight the prohibitive legislation — though it was aimed directly at the imaginative abortion funding.

Nor can the governor be expected to try and find emergency funding for

Tax Breaks May Be Claimed

GREENSBORO — Two tax breaks may be claimed by working parents in North Carolina who file Federal income tax returns, the Internal Revenue Service said.

One is for those families who made less than \$10,000 in 1981 and provided a home for a child. It's called the Earned Income Credit and is based generally on 10 per cent of earned income (wages, salaries, tips, etc.) up to \$5,000. When the family's earnings exceed \$6,000, the percentage is reduced accordingly and the credit is phased out at \$10,000 income. The maximum credit is \$500 and may be claimed even though the family had no tax withheld in 1981.

The other tax break is called Child Care Credit and is for parents who pay to have their children cared for while the parents work

or look for work. The maximum is \$400 for one child and \$800 for two or more. It is based on 20 per cent of the first \$2,000 in expenses for one child or \$4,000 for two or more. This credit may be used only to reduce the tax liability of the taxpayer, the IRS said.

Additional information is available in Publication 596, "Earned Income Credit", and Publication 503, "Child and Disabled Dependent Care." Free publications may be ordered from the IRS over the toll-free phone line, 1-800-241-3860. Information on any credit, deduction, or other tax matters may be obtained by calling the tax assistance line, 1-800-822-8800, toll-free any weekday. This phone line is occasionally monitored to ensure courteous and accurate information to the taxpayer.

Without trying to judge the right or wrong of state-funded abortions, North Carolinians should recognize that, for the next two years, similarly important governmental decisions will be made on the basis of a 1984 Washington Senate race — and not necessarily on the governor's sense of what is fair.

And Jesse Helms will be doing his share of political posturing in Washington for the folks back home.

But that's politics. At least Jim Hunt and Jesse Helms

seem to act on conscience more than most politicians. You would think someone might realize that's why those two have been so successful.

Northside Auto Parts Appointed

CHARLOTTE — The Carolina Motor Club (AAA) has announced the appointment of Northside Auto Parts as a contract service facility representing the motoring organization in the Edenton area. The announcement was made by Ray Hill, director of emergency road service, for the Charlotte-based affiliate of the American Automobile Association.

Hill said, "We feel very fortunate to be affiliated with a service facility the caliber of Northside Auto Parts in Edenton. We here at AAA are looking forward to working with Carroll Smith, the owner, and are sure that he will provide the best possible service for our many members in this area." The new AAA affiliate is located on North Broad Street in Edenton, North Carolina.

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Oil Change

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Albemarle Auto Parts

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Manning Tours, Inc.

MYRTLE M. & THOMAS K. PRITCHARD
615 E. Main Street
P.O. Box 385, Elizabeth City, N.C. 27909
PHONE 338-6879

MARCH 14-17 — WINTERGREEN SKIING

MARCH 21-26 — SKIING IN KILLINGTON, VT.

MARCH 27-APRIL 3 — NATCHEZ, MS. SPRING PILGRIMAGE

WORLD'S FAIR DATES: MAY 12-15; MAY 19-22; JUNE 13-16; JUNE 20-26;

AUG. 9-16; SEPT. 22-28; SEPT. 29-OCT. 2; OCT. 11-17.

All accommodations for World's Fair are in Knoxville, just 7 miles from fair site.

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Business Activity In NC Declines

The level of business activity in North Carolina declined sharply in January, according to the Wachovia Business Index. The Index registered 149.9, down 0.9 per cent from the revised December level.

The drop in the Index was primarily the result of a shorter manufacturing workweek caused in part by inclement weather during the period; a decline in manufacturing and non-manufacturing employment; and an increase in overall unemployment. However the impact of these factors was moderated somewhat by a 2 per cent increase in average hourly earnings for manufacturing employees.

Manufacturing employment was down 0.6 per cent with losses in both the durable goods and non-durable goods sectors. Virtually all durable goods industries reported lower employment levels in January. In the non-durable goods industries, employment gains in food,

tobacco, and chemicals were offset by declines in textiles and apparel employment.

In the non-manufacturing sector, employment was 0.3 per cent below the December level. Modest increases in trade and services employment were countered by declines in contract construction and government.

The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for North Carolina was 7.9 per cent in January, up 0.8 per cent from the revised December level. The national rate for January was 8.5 per cent, down 0.4 per cent from December. The unadjusted unemployment rate in North Carolina was 9.1 per cent in January.

Unit sales of cars and trucks in January were well below year ago levels.

The January figures reflect revised benchmark employment data and refinements in Index methodology. Historical Index data has been adjusted accordingly.



R. Dillard Dixon, III

Dixon Promoted

Fidelity Financial Services of Raleigh announced recently the election of R. Dillard Dixon, III, CFP, to vice president of the firm.

Dixon is a native of Edenton, a graduate of John A. Holmes High School and N. C. Wesleyan College. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Dixon, Jr., of Edenton.

Fidelity Financial Services, where Dixon is a Certified Financial Planner, specializes in corporate and personal estate planning, pension planning, and tax sheltered investments through its national broker-dealer Capital Analysts, Inc. of Philadelphia, Pa. Dixon also is a registered consultant with the National Association of Securities Dealers.

R. Hector Lupton, Jr., formerly of Edenton, is president of the firm.



Some oak trees are 1,000 years old!

The Human Dimension

THE AGE OF RENAISSANCE AND REFORMATION

7:30 P.M.

Lecture Auditorium

The Lectures

March 15

The Vision of Man

Charles H. Havvs, O.D.U.

March 30

Seas and Stars

Louis V. Nadeau, E.C.S.U.

March 23

The Trails of Faith

Charles E. Scillia, O.D.U.

April 5

The Brightest Heaven of Our Invention

Malcolm South, E.C.U.

Sponsored by

COLLEGE OF THE ALBEMARLE

In cooperation with the University of North Carolina at Greensboro with funds provided by the North Carolina Humanities Committee

The Public Is Invited

HOW DOES YOUR PEOPLES BANK IRA GROW?

Fixed Rate or Variable Rate — that's the choice Peoples Bank offers its IRA customers. Peoples Bank wants you to get the most out of your retirement savings so you can get the most out of your retirement.

Variable Rate IRA — A variable rate will be paid based on, and will not be less than, the discounted 91 day Treasury Bill rate. The investment will be a Time Deposit with an 18-month maturity. For as little as \$20.00 per month, you can take advantage of this rate.

Fixed Rate IRA — A \$500 minimum deposit is required and a fixed rate will be paid for 18-months on those funds. A new fixed rate will be established each month.

Daily compounding on our part and regular deposits on your part will give your IRA a snowball effect.

Get your IRA underway with a choice of plans.

To make your Individual Retirement Account as convenient as possible, Peoples Bank offers four deposit plans.

Direct Deposit from Payroll — Peoples Bank's Employer Assistance Program allows you to specify an amount to be transferred from your monthly pay to your IRA.

Scheduled Deposit Plan — Establish your own payment schedule with Peoples Retirement Club. You can use our handy coupon books to make your IRA contributions along with your monthly bills.

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