

Take The Hassle Out Of Moving

One out of five families moves every year and summer is the time most of them do it. If this is your year to move, you're probably not looking forward to it. No matter how you feel, moving is a hassle. But if you take a systematic approach, says the Better Business Bureau, you can minimize aggravation.

The first thing you must do is to choose a moving company. This has been easier for consumers since March, when the Interstate Commerce Commission (ICC) started to require moving companies to give each prospective customer a copy of its performance record for the previous year. This is done when the salesperson come to your home to estimate how

much it will cost to move your belongings.

The company's performance record should give you some idea of what you can expect from it. The categories cited include the percentage of shipments underestimated, shipments picked up late, shipments delivered late, shipments with damage claims of \$50 or more, and the average time to settle claims.

In addition to inspecting a company's performance record, ask friends for recommendations about van lines. Additionally, you may want to call a nearby Better Business Bureau to see what the mover's customer experience record may be.

Because the ICC establishes rates on interstate moves,

actual charges from different companies will not be too dissimilar. Be suspicious if the sales person takes only a cursory look at your household of furniture and gives you a low estimate. You may be in for a big surprise in the way of a big bill.

The cost of the move is based on the weight of your household goods and the distance they are moved. The shipment's weight is determined by weighing the truck before and after your belongings have been loaded.

The mover's amount of liability for your shipment is up to you. Protection of \$60 per pound is available at no additional cost, but most furniture and household goods are valued higher than this.

tips for consumers from your **BETTER BUSINESS BUREAU** TM

Also, this low insurance will not cover goods you pack yourself. You may want to declare the value of the shipment and pay \$.50 per \$100 for more protection. This should fully cover items you packed yourself.

The mover will make an inventory as the furniture is loaded. Be certain that

everything is described accurately. While you may take as long as you want to file a loss or damage claim, it is best to check the inventory descriptions against the goods as they are unloaded and note where damage or loss has occurred. Do not sign the receipt until loss or damage has been noted in writing.

Numbers Game

Cont. from Page 1

follow odd numbers and even numbers follow even.

The player said if a person has any type of numbers records he can play the first three numbers prior to that number that fell today and the numbers that fell the two days before and two of these numbers would play within a week's span.

He said if you watch the stock page and use the numbers 1, 2, 3 adding and subtracting these numbers from the winning number of that day, your chances are 7 out of 10 of hitting the number within the next 72 hours.

Another way the player finds the number is from articles in the paper about Wall Street. One article always carry the number for the next day or week. For

example 050 was the number for August 5. The closing stock number for the day was 815.500.

The player says playing the numbers in North Carolina is tough for two reasons, "first because you must trust your writer and "they've been known to change the number" and second because only one number comes out per day while in New York for example there are three numbers per day; one each night and even on weekends." The writer said the pay-off is also less in North Carolina than in the Northern States.

Throughout the whole interview he did not once mention the danger of arrest. Playing the numbers is illegal but it has not stopped people here from playing and hoping for the "big hit."

Panthers Jailed

Cont. from Page 1

the cell.

"We had no lights, or newspapers. We couldn't use the telephone and had no human rights," he charged.

In solitary, according to Zollicopper, food is slid under a small opening at the bottom of the door. He said the opening is so small that much of the food is pushed from the plate by the door.

"You get your food from the floor before the roaches cover it, then you have about five minutes to eat. When the jailer comes back after the plate you've got to give it back even if you haven't finished." He also said that nothing to drink is served with most meals. "You have to drink the hot water in your cell," he added.

He said there was no bath cloth, toilet tissue or soap in the cell. "I asked for tissue but the jailer never brought it and he told me I couldn't have any soap." Zollicopper said he used a paper bag as tissue

and his sock as a wash cloth.

He said jailers continually harass prisoners. "They leave the radio off all day, then turn it on full blast at about 11:30 at night to keep you awake."

He says all of the prisoners in the hole are black. "The hole is a torture chamber. I feel it's designed from a model of the jailers' own fears. If one of them spent one hour there he'd die."

The two are out now and are continuing their support for JoAnn Little.



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