



Decisions

Men and nations gain or lose by the quality of decisions they make. Founders of this remarkable republic made a wise decision long ago, in favor of personal self-reliance and individual government. America is great today because so many smart people were left free to do as much as they could, as well as they knew how, and gain as much of a reward for themselves as they were able.

Not all Americans are models of progress and success but they all have benefited more or less from the achievements of those who did have the immortal spark. You can't pick successful men before they try, but more men of outstanding talent are sure to come to light where everyone is allowed to do his best. A large number of thinkers at work always adds up to more for everybody.

Not Luck at All

People may orate about America's greatness coming from her vast natural resources. The resources exist all right but the redskins had them before Columbus came and didn't know the use of a wheel. Some people boast of this nation's blue-blood heritage. It was good. Our forebears, in large part, came from Europe. That was probably the smartest thing most of them ever did.

America's economic system is what made America great. It is a system of liberty giving every man the right to pick what he wants and go after it hammer-and-tongs, get it if he can and enjoy it to the extent of his capacity, so long as it does not trespass the rights of somebody else. It is a sprightly and dynamic economy, quickly adjustable to changing times and conditions.

What Developed?

Limitless opportunity and keen competition have borne a rich harvest. Our farmers live better than the peasantry of some foreign lands. Our laborers have more than workers elsewhere ever had at any time. America has 7% of the world's population and 80% of the world's automobiles. We send more children to high school and college than all the rest of the world combined.

During the last two years of World War II, from a startled start in December, 1941, America made more war materials than all her allies and her foes put together. An American carpenter can buy more with his pay for a day's work than any other carpenter anywhere—2½ times as much as the carpenter in Germany or France. And the same goes in all trades; the butcher, the baker and the street-car conductor.

How It Works

Freedom of opportunity fires everybody to try; thus men of great genius come to light and the whole nation benefits. Then competition between men of special ability stimulates them to zealous effort in turning out products of excellence at fair prices to develop and hold profitable markets. This enables America's middle class to enjoy luxuries unknown to run-of-mine kings.

Mass production for volume sales demands fine and expensive tools. Buying this machinery calls for capital investment—averaging \$8,000 per industrial job in the United States. The thing that made America great was a decision to be free: Free to work, free to think, free to earn, free to save and free to invest and make a profit. It is called Free Enterprise and it's too valuable to lose.

We are entering the season of lowered milk production but not the season of lowered milk consumption. Therefore, fall and winter feeding should not face a slump, says Dr. W. M. Roberts of State College.

Premiums for individual farm displays at the State Fair, Raleigh, week of October 15, total \$2330. Write Hazel Meacham at State College for suggestions on how to prepare this display.

Garden Hints To Farm Home Makers

Home made pickles entered hopefully for a blue ribbon at a fair to stand judging on such points as uniform size and shape and clearness of liquid, as well as good flavor, color, and texture. Dinner-table judges may be less critical on some fine points, but they expect a pickle to do its best to provide a meal with something crisp and agreeably sharp flavored.

To homemakers who are including pickles in this year's food preservation program, home economists offer these reminders in achieving good pickling:

Use only fresh, good quality fruits and vegetables.

Follow good directions, exactly. Shriveled pickles, for example, may owe their unpleasant state to use of over-strong salt, sugar, or vinegar

solutions. On the other hand, too weak brine may cause dilled cucumbers or tomatoes to spoil.

If directions call for weighing fruit or vegetables, and kitchen scales are lacking, note weight at time food is purchased and estimate waste. Or, if the food is home grown, here are some average equivalents for aid in measuring emergency: 20 medium cucumbers weigh about 8 pounds; 6 medium-sized onions weigh 3-4 to 1 pound; 20 medium to large tomatoes weigh 8-12 pounds; 35 medium-sized peaches weigh 8 pounds; prepared rind 1-2 inch thick from a 15 pound watermelon weighs about 4 pounds.

For full flavor, use spices of good quality, and don't forget that spices saved from a preceding year hold flavor well only if kept in air-tight containers. Pickle fruit or vegetable slices of uniform size, not merely for neat appearance but also because the pickling liquid will season them more evenly.

Use a clear, standard vinegar, free from sediment.

By Way Or Mention

Lois Beattie

Charles Duns of the Army was a recent visitor in this community. Mr. and Mrs. Hubert Davidson and daughter, Dolores, and Mrs. Carl Davidson were recent guests of Mr. and Mrs. A. T. Randall of Ross Grove. Maurice Handlin of the Army was a recent visitor in this community. Mr. and Mrs. Jay Moore and family of Bostie spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. R. Lee Blanton.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Lovelace had as guests Sunday Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Patterson and son, Gilbert of the Oak Grove section.

Miss Wilma Hope in company with her sister, Cadet nurse Ella Mae Hope of Shelby spent the week end with Mr. and Mrs. Baily Morrow of Cherryville.

News has been received that Wesley Blanton of the Navy has arrived in Japan.

Mrs. J. I. Hope is improving at writing this writing. Mr. and Mrs. J. I. Hope had as their guests Sunday Mr. and Mrs. Holt-Stekler has headed in Japan. Mrs. R. Lee Blanton is sick at this time.

Please Read this Notice of Request For Increase in Telephone Rates

Your Telephone Company has found it imperative to file application with the North Carolina Utilities Commission for higher rates on business telephones and on most long distance calls within the state. This action was taken because telephone earnings are dangerously low and reasonable earnings are required to furnish adequate service. We ask that you read this message carefully so you will understand clearly why increased telephone rates are necessary.

Your telephone rate is low and it is the earnest desire of your Telephone Company to keep it low.

While your rate has remained the same for many years, the total cost of furnishing telephone service has steadily gone up. Since 1941 our expenses for North Carolina operations have increased more than 102 per cent, while revenues increased only 76 per cent.

Wages Up \$2,311,415

Much of the increase in expenses is represented by wages, since wages make up the greater part of the cost of furnishing telephone service. In keeping with the general trend of wage increases throughout the country and to assure through competent personnel the provision of an adequate service, telephone wage rates have been raised \$2,311,415 in North Carolina in the past 12 months.

Since the first of this year, 36,000 new telephones have been installed in North Carolina, but 23,000 people are still waiting for telephones. This demand forces us to build new facilities now, in the face of high costs. The cost of erecting buildings has jumped 75 to 100 per cent; the cost of erecting telephone facilities is up 45 to 60 per cent and the cost of telephone materials has increased 15 to 25 per cent. Despite these high costs we must continue to improve telephone service generally, and to expand it. Our plans call for gross expenditures of approximately \$40,000,000 for telephone construction in North Carolina during the next five years.

Pay-Out Is Increasing Faster Than Take-In

With the tremendous increase in the expense of furnishing telephone service and with rates unchanged for years, we telephone folks, and there are over 4,300 of us in the State, have had a difficult time making ends meet. So much so, that today we find ourselves confronted with the lowest earnings in our history in spite of a record volume of business.

No business can long continue to render service when the amount paid out to provide that service is increasing faster than the amount taken in. Therefore, it is our duty, as your public servant, to report this condition to you

since it directly affects your telephone service. We must appeal to you for relief through the North Carolina Utilities Commission, which regulates our rates.

Increase Placed on Business Telephones

The requested rate increase for local service would apply to business customers only and would be on a sliding scale depending on size of locality. Authority is also being asked for an increase of 5 cents on most long distance calls within the state.

Today's high costs indicate a need for greater increases than we are asking, but it is hoped the proposed new rates will prove sufficient. In view of this, no increases are being requested on residential service. Your Telephone Company feels that it is to the best interest of every business man in North Carolina that residential rates remain as low as possible.

The new rates we are asking represent an increase of only 7 per cent of our total revenue in North Carolina. This is small when compared with the increased costs of doing business. In fact, even with the new rates, long distance charges generally would be lower than they were 21 years ago and business rates only slightly higher, while service has been considerably extended and its value has been increased many times.

Southern Bell wants rates no higher than necessary to furnish everyone with good service and expand it. The proposed rates are the very minimum increases we can get by on. In face of rising costs, they are very modest.

PROPOSED NEW MONTHLY BUSINESS RATES	
KINGS MOUNTAIN, N. C.	
Business Individual Line	\$4.25
Business 2 Party Line	\$3.50
Business 4 Party Line	\$3.00

SOUTHERN BELL TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH COMPANY INCORPORATED

NO BUSINESS CAN GIVE ADEQUATE SERVICE WITHOUT ADEQUATE EARNINGS

CONSTIPATION is the cause of MUCH SUFFERING

Constipation may cause no symptoms for a long time, but unless corrected will finally break the health. Symptoms associated with advancing constipation are loss of appetite, heavily coated tongue, tired feeling and mental depression. Headache, dizziness, nervousness, and skin disturbances such as acne, are commonly experienced in severe cases. Constipation and loss of sleep, nervousness and loss of appetite, and other symptoms are caused by the accumulation of waste in the bowels.

No matter how many other medicines you may have tried for constipation, the time has come to try B-L PREPARATION with the understanding that B-L PREPARATION must bring you satisfactory results or your money back. Caution: Use only as directed.

Kings Mountain Drug Co.