

This Is The Law

by Robert E. Lee

CONVEYANCES OF WIVES
A wife, prior to marriage, inherited real property from her parents. On February 1, 1971, consideration conveyed the real property to John Jones without the written consent of her husband. On May 1, 1971, the wife died without a will. Is the surviving husband entitled to assert an interest in the property?

Yes. The husband by the filing of a timely notice with the clerk of the superior court may elect to take a life estate in one-third of the value of the real property in lieu of that which is

entitled to take under the Intestate Succession Act. Under the existing statutes of North Carolina the surviving spouse is entitled to elect to take, in lieu of rights under the Intestate Succession Act, a life estate in one-third of the value of all real property which the deceased spouse owned at any time during their marriage, provided the surviving spouse has not waived his or her rights by joining with the other spouse in a conveyance thereof.

The law is applicable alike to both widows and widowers. And the existence of children of the marriage is immaterial. The particular real property

was owned by the wife during marriage and there was no written joinder of the husband in his wife's deed.

In lieu of rights under the Intestate Succession Act, and regardless of the value thereof and despite the fact that a life estate therein might exceed one-third in value of all real property owned at any time during marriage, a pertinent portion of the statute permits the surviving spouse to include a life estate "in the usual dwelling house occupied by the surviving spouse at the time of the death of the deceased spouse if such dwelling house were owned by the deceased spouse at the time of his or her death, together with the outbuildings, improvements and easements there-to belonging or appertaining, and lands upon which situation and reasonably necessary to the use and enjoyment thereof, as well as a fee simple ownership in the household furnishings therein."

A person who buys land owned solely by either the husband or wife should at times insist that both spouses sign the deed. If this is not done, the grantee and his successors in title run the risk that the non-signing spouse will survive the grantor and elect to take a life estate in one-third of the value of the land.

Since a married person is usually unable to sell his or her own real property for a fair value without the written joinder of the other spouse, it turns out as a practical matter that neither the husband nor the wife can convey by deed without the written consent of the other.

Phone Users Dial More, Save Dollars

Telephone users are dialing more of their long distance calls than ever before and saving money in the process, according to R. B. Moore, local manager of Southern Bell Telephone company.

About 67 per cent of all interstate long distance calls now are placed without operator assistance, Moore says. Calls dialed direct by the customer are up six per cent from last year's average, an increase double that of previous years.

The company credits much of the increase to a consumer-oriented national advertising program that tells customers they can save money by dialing their own long distance calls.

"We're offering advice on ways and means to pay less for such calls," Moore says. "In today's economy we feel that our customers welcome any tips on how to save money."

Long distance rates are lower on direct dialed calls, Moore explains, because they are less costly for the telephone company.

"When customers keep their costs down by dialing direct, they help us keep our costs down—so we offer them a discount of sorts," he says. "There's no difference in the quality of the call. What makes the difference is the lack of operator involvement. The same network is used in both types of calls."

"More than seven billion long distance calls were placed in 1970 and about 60 per cent of them were dialed by the customer. One notion persisting from years ago, before our major reductions in long distance rates, leads many to believe they can save money by calling person-to-person. But it's not so. More than half of all person-to-person calls are completed on the first attempt—yet customers pay a much higher rate for person-to-person service.

"About 33 per cent of our long distance calls still go through an operator—for credit card, collect, coin and person-to-person service, and about one-fourth of those operator-assisted calls are person-to-person."

Customers can save even more by dialing interstate long distance calls after the rates drop at 5 p. m. on week days and yet more on weekends. The late night rate, which applies to direct-dialed calls after 11 p. m., provides a one-minute coast-to-coast call for 35 cents.

The difference in rates is substantial, Moore points out. A three minute station-to-station

Broyhill Favors Cancer Crusade

Congressman James T. Broyhill (R-N.C.) has joined more than 45 House Republicans in sponsoring legislation to enable any member of Congress to require a vote on proposed pay increases for congressmen and government executives. Present law permits congressional and executive salary increases recommended by a presidential commission to take effect unless either the House or Senate votes to disapprove them.

"In 1967, the Congress passed a law establishing the present procedure for federal salary adjustments," Broyhill explained. "This procedure allows the congress to bypass the whole issue and to receive a pay increase without taking a vote. I opposed this bill at the time because I feel the congress should retain responsibility for setting salary levels for the federal government and for its own members."

Broyhill's legislative proposal would enable any member of congress to require action on a resolution to disapprove the recommendations of the special salary commission. Present procedures provide for referral of the disapproval resolution to the post office and civil service committees of the house and senate for consideration, and the committees decide whether to bring the measure to a vote of the full congress. This bill would enable any member of congress to move to take the resolution from the committees and bring it to a vote in either house, if the committees did not act on the resolution within ten days.

"In 1969," Broyhill stated, "a large increase in federal executive salaries and congressional pay became effective without any vote being taken by the house of representatives. This bill would restore the right of the congress to act on such measures and would hold the congress responsible to the public for its actions."

S/Sgt. Joe Green With 3rd Division

OKINAWA. — Marine Staff Sergeant Joseph L. A. Green, husband of Mrs. Ann Green of 1300 Shelby Road, Kings Mountain, has reported for duty with the Third Marine Division at the Marine Corps Helicopter Air Station on Okinawa.

call from New York to Los Angeles, placed during the weekend, costs \$1.40 if handled by an operator, but only 70 cents if dialed direct. The same call placed person-to-person is \$3.55.

Bonds Make Good Gifts

"This year, U. S. Savings Bonds make better-than-ever Christmas gifts," Bland W. Worley, North Carolina volunteer state chairman for the treasury's savings bonds program, said today. "The interest rate is higher than ever, and the popular E bond has a shorter-than-ever maturity period."

There are other reasons for buying Savings Bonds as gifts, Worley pointed out. "You don't have to worry about style, size, shape, or color. And they're priced to fit almost any pocketbook. They're indestructible—if lost, stolen, mutilated, or destroyed, the treasury will re-

place them free of charge. They are patriotic, too.

"It's easy to buy bonds. Your bank has them available in denominations ranging from \$25 to \$1,000. And you now have a choice of four colorful—and free—gift envelopes.

"While savings bonds are especially appropriate for Christmas time, they are ideal gifts for almost any occasion," Worley added. "For birthdays, new babies, anniversaries, graduations, weddings—you name it—savings bonds are the gift that keeps on giving."

A recent law allows the Veterans Administration to provide up to \$30,000 worth of low cost mortgage protection life insurance for about 10,000 severely disabled veterans.

Flying Course Is Offered

GREENVILLE, S. C.— The board of directors of the Liberty Corp. today declared regularly quarterly dividends of five cents per share on common stock and 10 cents per share on voting preferred stock. Both dividends will be payable on Dec. 31 to shareholders of record on Dec. 15.

The board also set the date of the annual shareholders' meeting for April 11, 1972 at 11 a. m. at the Liberty Life Building, Wade Hampton Boulevard, Greenville. Record date for voting will be Feb. 22, 1972.

Ricky Childers Wins Promotion

CAMP LEJUNE. — Marine Pfc. Ricky F. Childers son of Mr. and Mrs. Ray Childers of Route 2, Kings Mountain was promoted to his present rank upon completion of Individual Combat Training with the First Infantry Training Regiment at the Marine Corps base, Camp Lejeune.

From June through October, VA increased the number of drug abuse treatment centers from five to thirty-two, thus completing a six-fold increase announced in June 1971.

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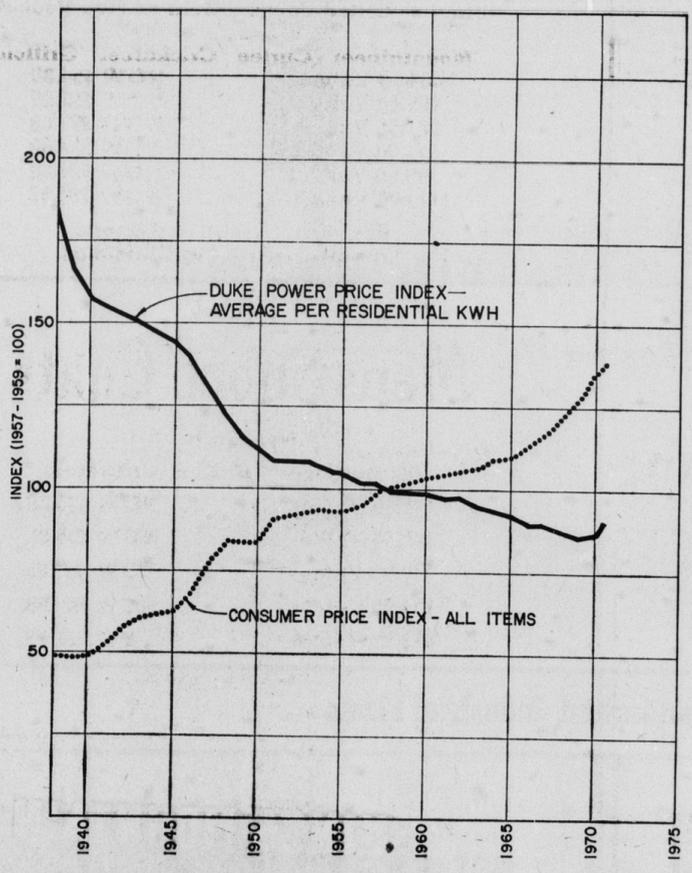
We have a good selection of holiday dresses and pantsuits. Layaway now for Christmas.

We honor all major charge cards, ask about our 30 day charge plan when you visit our store.

Tolly Shuford, owner and manager

Margaret Watts, clerk-bookkeeper

Vera Laughridge, clerk Josie Shuford, clerk
Debbie Timms, clerk



What else can you buy today for less than you paid ten years ago?

Today—even with the recent rate increases—the average cost per kilowatt-hour to Duke's residential customers is less than ten years ago, or anytime before that.

In 1960, for example, our average residential customer paid 1.97¢ per kilowatt-hour.

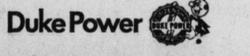
But in 1970, he paid only 1.73¢ per kwh. Our most recent figures—for the 12 months ending August 31, 1971—show an

average cost of 1.82¢ per kwh. Your electric bill is higher mainly because you use more electricity today. You'll be using even more in the future.

We're building now to provide all the electricity you need at the lowest possible cost.



Carl Horn, Jr.
Carl Horn, Jr.
President



FIRST-CITIZENS BANK'S NEW Can Do SUBORDINATED CAPITAL NOTES

By investing \$500 or more, you earn **8.25% INTEREST**

(Fitch rating: AA)

This issue is \$5,000,000. It is the first issue of an authorized \$10,000,000 issue. The offering may be limited or withdrawn at any time.

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Sale of notes: These notes will be sold directly by First-Citizens Bank & Trust Company.

Date of issue: This issue is as of June 1, 1971.

Maturity: June 1, 1995

Registration: All notes will be fully registered as to principal and interest.

These notes do not represent deposits and are not insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or by any other government agency. Payment of these notes is subordinated to the claims of depositors of the bank and of its other creditors except those holding securities on a parity with this note or expressly subordinated to this note. In the event of insolvency or liquidation of the bank these notes cannot be paid until the claims of all depositors and of all other creditors of the bank (with the exceptions aforesaid) have been satisfied in full. These notes are unsecured and are ineligible as collateral for a loan by First-Citizens Bank & Trust Company.

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