

THE NEW BERN MIRROR

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YOU CAN STOP IT

Sooner or later, just about every New Bernian is a target for somebody who wants to swindle them by mail or pull a fast deal on the telephone. The fact that these deceptive shake downs continue is proof that the practice is successful, here and elsewhere.

If you've wondered what your obligation is when you receive unordered merchandise, lend an ear to this. You don't have to acknowledge it, return it, pay for it, unless used, give it particular care, or keep it beyond a reasonable length of time.

In the event the sender shows up at your door, and the chances are extremely remote, he can ask for his goods back. He has that right, but you also have the right to charge him storage, and our advice is to soak him plenty. If more people will do it, a nuisance that the Postmaster General has admitted is growing by leaps and bounds can be cut out or reduced to a dribble.

As for those annoying telephone calls from strangers, trying to sell you this or that with a parrot-like, memorized sales pitch, there's a cure for such stuff too. Simply interrupt the caller, and state curtly that you never purchase anything from a stranger over the telephone.

The telephone is a wonderful convenience, and an important fixture in legitimate business. Unfortunately, it also is of considerable aid to the anonymous salesman who wants to steer clear of meeting you face to face.

In fact, the owner of the voice at the other end of the line is usually a local person — poorly paid by a fly-by-night out of town to make the calls from a rented room. Ask for the phone number, and you'll get some stammering.

Occasionally, the unethical telephone solicitor manages to rope in a local organization, and the sales pitch is made in the name of that group. In return, the organization gets a small cut from the proceeds. Members are pleased at this opportunity to obtain money for their treasury with no effort on their part.

It's a sorry way for any club, lodge or church to get money, and The Mirror wants no part of it. We not only refuse to make purchases on such a basis, but intend to discourage anyone else we can reach against falling prey to things of this sort.

While we're on the subject of swindles, beware of the smooth talker who wants to sell you a vacuum cleaner or some other appliance on the referral system. You sign a contract at a price that is apt to be considerably higher, with the understanding you'll get it free by lining up 12 other buyers.

It's nothing more nor less than the old "chain letter" shake down. Six such steps, with everybody following through, would mean that in New Bern more than a quarter of a million cleaners of one brand would have to be sold.

If this sounds fantastic, just pick up a pencil and do a little figuring. It will be more than worth your while, especially if you're gullible enough to believe that characters you've never seen before are going around the countryside giving something for nothing.

Follow the sound advice of a former chairman of the Federal Trade Commission and shy away from what he calls "Six Sucker Signals." The list includes "Buy Now! — Or Lose The Chance." . . . "You Have Been Specially Selected." . . . "It's Only A Legal Form." . . . "Just A Few Easy Lessons." . . . "You Can Save Up To." . . . and "Yours Absolutely Free."

As the former FTC official says, these do not always indicate fraud or dishonesty, but they do so often that the very sight of any one of them should make a wise buyer stop, look, and ask questions. Ironically, reputable business firms that use these terms legitimately are unintentionally strengthening the hand of crooks who misuse them.

Historical Gleanings

—By—
ELIZABETH MOORE

PETITIONS TO BUILD HILLS

North Carolina, Craven County: April Court 1767, William Wilton and Samuel Hill petition leave to build mill on land on Beaver Dam leading into Trent River.

September Court 1796, Jonathan Perkins petitions to build mill on land on Goose Creek, at a place known as the brick yard, says he is lawful owner of both sides of the Creek.

June 15, 1768, Thomas Collier, Thomas Lightfoot, William Lightfoot petition to build a mill on the South side of Trent River; the land on the North side of the river is owned by William Lavender.

March Court, 1770, John Day prays leave to build water grist mill says his land has a valuable stream running through it.

December 12, 1772, William Bryan petitions to build a water grist mill across Coor Creek on land owned on one side by James Green, and on the other side by Andrew Watson.

1772-3, Petitioners of Little Swift Creek, says building a mill where Samuel Swift obtained an order to build a mill will be a great disadvantage—pray that order be reversed. George Fisher, John Hill, James Willis, John Griffin, Abraham Warren, Aaron Ernul.

September 7, 1772, the freeholders on the NW Branch of Ray River recommend your worship that John Carruthers, Esq. have liberty to build a public grist mill across the river a little below Mr. Adam Mackelroy's house from a place called Daniel's old Field on the lower side of the mouth of Deep Branch on the W side of the River, to a point of said Mackelroy's old field, and East side of the said River. Adam Mackelroy, Thomas Mackelroy Samuel Brothers, Samuel Mackelroy, John Herrington, William Trippe, Jesse Holton.

December 8, 1772, Petition of John Bishop and Peter Physioc that they own land on one side of Slocumb Creek, desire to build a water grist mill.

June Court, 1772, Thomas Haslen petitions that he owns and on both sides of Swift Creek, desires to build a water grist mill.

June 8, 1772, Pursuant to annexed order, William Isler, Hardy Bryan, Jacob Rhem, and Samuel White, appeared before me, one of the Justices of the Peace for Craven County, and did value the acre of land mentioned in said order to be worth 25 shillings proclamation money, land for Edward's Mill.

March 8, 1773, Samuel Smythe. Surveyed for Samuel Smythe agreeable to an order of court one acre of land on the West side of Little Swift Creek in said county, beginning at a large beech near the main run of said creek on Bank's Island, and to Rigdon Brice's Survey. Land valued at 40 shillings. Commissioners Zeb Rice, James Pearce, Edmund Pearce, John Clark, Charles Crawford.

September Inferior Court,

Village Verses

DAWN ON THE NEUSE

God put forth His mighty hand—
He made the skies for us to love;
He fashioned streams, and gave us land,
Then placed a glorious sun above.
How wondrous is His special way—
No two dawns are quite the same;
There's freshness in each budding day,
Like the sunset's varied flame.
The rays at daybreak bless the blue,
And as the Neuse flows to the sea,
With colors that are ever new
It mirrors the heavenly gift for me.
Is faith in God an empty dream
Dawn has the answer, on a stream.

—JGMCD.

1774, Petition of James Pearce to build public water grist mill at mouth of Kitt's swamp, being owner of land on one side and Joseph Hartley owner on the opposite side.

December 17, 1774, Petition of Robert Orme, that he owns land on both sides of Duck Creek, desires to build water grist mill.

June 14, 1774, Petition of Farnfold Green and Richard Nixon that they own land on both sides of Coor Creek in Craven County, desire to build water grist mill.

March Court 1776, Petition of James Stevenson and Silas Stevenson that they own land on one side of Half Moon Swamp, place called old Mill, desire to build a water grist mill and Longfield Cox and William Herritage own land on opposite side. With to have Commissioners appointed to appraise land so they can build a mill.

June 14, 1774, Petition of Peter Anderson, owns land on N side of Neuse River, on both sides of Muddy Branch, or Mirey, and South side of Swift

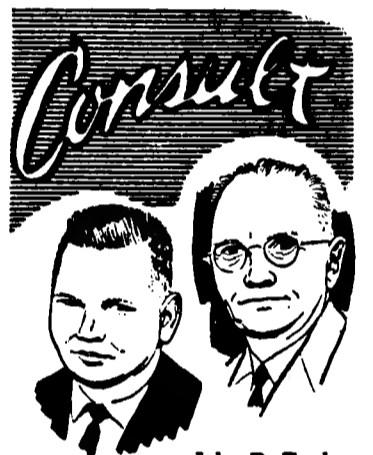
Creek, desires to build water grist mill.

June 14, 1774, Petition of Joseph Worsley and George Bryan that they own land on Maul's Run, desire to build public water grist mill.

September 12, 1775, Petition of Richard Blackledge that he owns land on both sides of Moseley's Creek, desires leave to build water grist mill.

(Copied from Clerk's Papers, Craven County, N. C.)

1918 - - - - - 1963



John R. Taylor

John R. Taylor, Jr.

About This Question:

"Our Suggestion Box contained a request for Group Life Insurance for all employees. Many who cannot pass life insurance tests, can get it thru a group plan. Is it true that the cost per person is less thru group insurance, in spite of the poor risks?"

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