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That telephone on your desk or table, here in New Bern, can link you to 200 million other telephones all over the world. However, 48 percent of the things are in the United States.

No other nation comes close to America. Runner-up Japan has only eight percent, with Britain, West Germany, Russia and Canada well below this figure. Believe it or not, Canadians do more telephone talking than U. S. gabbers, averaging 635 calls a year compared to 620 in our country.

Add the number of people who are tuned in to someone else's juicy gossip on party lines, and you've got a lot of folks involved. As the saying goes, people will talk and the telephone makes it mighty convenient.

New Bernians had less in the good old days, but they whistled more. No one seems to whistle much now, not even small boys. Think back, have you done any whistling lately?

National surveys show that from 3 to 10 times more crime goes unreported than is listed in police statistics. As an individual, there are a few things you can do to help stem lawlessness, and somebody has got to start somewhere.

You can report all crimes or suspicious incidents immediately. You can serve as a witness or juror, when it falls your lot, instead of trying to worm your way out of this responsibility.

You can lock your car doors and remove the key from the ignition. Stealing automobiles is a profitable racket in America, and in most cases the negligence of car owners is a contributing factor.

You can make sure that newspapers on your porch and letters in your mailbox aren't allowed to accumulate, tipping off would be thieves that your home isn't occupied at present.

And so far, no one has discovered a better way to discourage Peeping Toms than drawing your curtains when they should be drawn.

If you're carrying big money around in your wallet, don't advertise the fact by flashing it around others. One of the most brutal murders this town ever saw was inspired by a fellow who displayed a roll big enough to choke an elephant, in a boot-leg joint.

A couple of strangers made friends with him right away, and took him for a ride. They got his cash, bumped him off and tossed him overboard. The slayers were convicted in Craven Superior Court, but at that point their victim was hardly capable of rejoicing over the triumph of justice.

Any list of this year's unbelievable accidents would have to include a freak affair that occurred last weekend on Neuse river bridge. Picture three automobiles headed in the same direction, toward New Bern, shortly before 1 a.m.

The third car in line, driven by a 25 year old Maysville man who was later charged with drunken and reckless operation of his vehicle, rammed the second car in the rear at high speed. That in itself was not remarkable.

What does border on the
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COLD SHOULDER—This honest to goodness snow scene near the entrance to Craven County Courthouse is symbolic of the chilly reception that may be waiting for New Bern newsmen at future meetings of the County Commissioners. Reporters, even under the balmiest circumstances, seldom endear themselves to elected or appointed public servants. Certainly the Commissioners (see the Mirror's editorial) won't do less than the expected, if the fall to roll out the wel-

come mat for the not so gentlemanly gentlemen of the press at their next scheduled session. That's the way the cookie crumbles, as they say in flippant circles. Besides, we've never placed too much faith in the diligence of any newsman who wins popularity contests. Come to think of it, the rather remote prospect of playing in August snow is much more exciting than a Commissioners meeting, so bring the blizzard on.