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All New Bernians, in these troubled times, can do worse than recall President Franklin D. Roosevelt's message to Congress, delivered on January 8, 1941. We offer it to you in its entirety.

"In the future days, which we seek to make secure, we look forward to a world founded upon four essential human freedoms.

"The first is freedom of speech and expression--everywhere in the world.

"The second is freedom of every person to worship God in his own way--everywhere in the world.

"The third is freedom from want, which, translated into world terms, means economic understandings which will secure to every nation a healthy peacetime life for its inhabitants--everywhere in the world.

"The fourth is freedom from fear--which, translated into world terms, means a worldwide reduction of armaments to such a point and in such a thorough fashion that no nation will be in a position to commit an act of physical aggression against any neighbor--anywhere in the world.

"That is no vision of a distant millennium. It is a definite basis for a kind of world attainable in our own time and generation. That kind of world is the very antithesis of the so-called new order of tyranny which the dictators seek to create with the crash of a bomb.

"To that new order we oppose the greater conception--the moral order. A good society is able to face schemes of world domination and foreign revolutions alike without fear.

"Since the beginning of our American history we have been engaged in change--in a perpetual peaceful revolution--a revolution which goes on steadily, quietly adjusting itself to changing conditions--without the concentration camp or the quick-lime in the ditch. The world order which we seek is the cooperation of free countries, working together in a friendly civilized society.

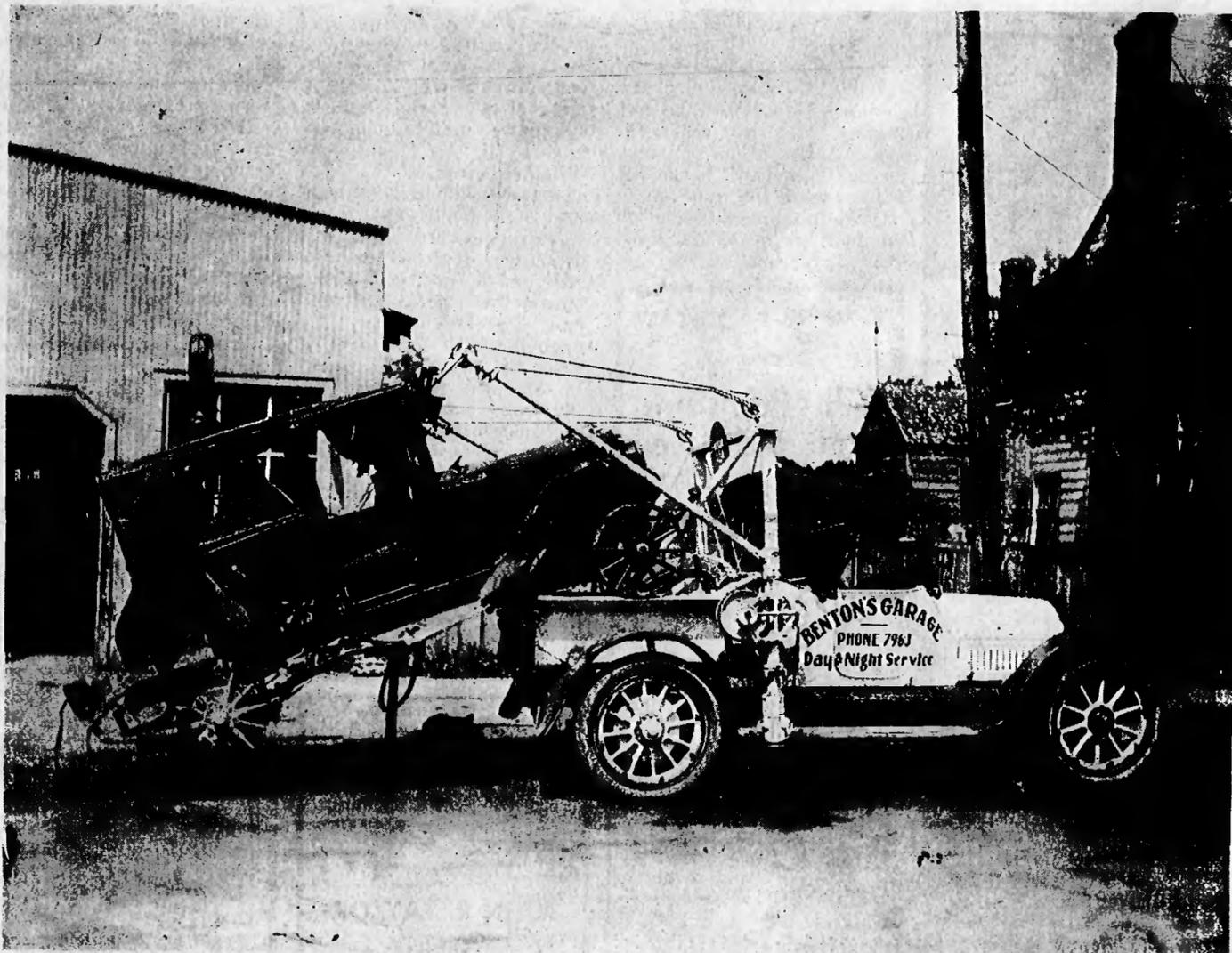
"This nation has placed its destiny in the hands and heads and hearts of its millions of free men and women; and its faith in freedom under the guidance of God. Freedom means the supremacy of human rights everywhere. Our support goes to those who struggle to gain those rights or keep them. Our strength is in our unity of purpose.

"To that high concept there can be no end save victory."

Roosevelt didn't live to see World War II come to an end. Even when it did, his prediction "for a kind of world attainable in our own time and generation" failed to materialize.

FDR, ailing physically and possibly no longer mentally alert in his final days as the nation's Chief Executive, has been blamed by some for the predicament confronting us since hostilities ceased in the global conflict.

Certainly many New Bernians
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ONCE UPON A TIME—Where else but in The Mirror would you expect to see a photograph of North Carolina's first wrecker, towing a demolished auto? Henry Benton, a beloved New Bernian of yesteryear, owned and operated it, more than half a century ago. Henry never referred to it as a wrecker, he called it his "machine". It wasn't a wrecker to start with, but a Cadillac he purchased from J. A. Jones, another well known local citizen. Benton stripped the vehicle down, and had it equipped for towing at a Fayetteville machine shop. For many years, Henry was the one man everybody called when autos collided, got stuck, or ran into a ditch. It is doubtful that anyone else in the history of the Old North State ever went

to as many accident scenes, in all kinds of weather. As cheerful as he was tireless, he had almost as many friends as his wife, Mattie. The two of them were active in church work, and the Order of the Eastern Star. Automobiles weren't as numerous in the old days as they are now. They didn't travel as fast either, but there were enough foolish drivers to keep Henry busy. Fatalities were fairly common. Unless a car was folded up like an accordion, Benton usually managed to restore it to running condition. There is no longer a Benton's Garage here, but daughters Estelle and Sophie, with their husbands, Adolph Paul and Guy L. Hamilton, Jr., operate Adolph Paul's Auto Service and Dealers Auto Service respectively.

