

Boone Phones More Than In Arecibo

Boone now has more than fifteen hundred telephones, which, strange to say is more than are in use in Arecibo, Puerto Rico, which has a population of 76,000. North Carolina use more telephones than India and Red China put together.

H. M. Inabinet, Southern Bell Telephone manager in Boone, released the information today in connection with publication of the Bell System's Telephone Statistics of the World, which comes out every year about December.

The telephone manager delved into the same statistics to come up with the fact that here are now some 94,500,000 talking instruments in the world. As of Jan. 1, 1955, that is; since it takes nearly a year to collect all the figures and get them into print.

People in the United States use close to 53,000,000 out of the above 94,000,000 phones, the statistics show. And, no surprise, they use those instruments to talk than

most anybody. Americans on an average made well over 350 calls apiece during the year covered by the report. That puts us in second place, right behind Canada, which had over 400 calls per capita for the same period.

North Carolina has over 800,000 telephones, 450,000 of which are Southern Bell and the rest in territory served by the state's 51 independent companies. China, with 244,028 telephones, and India, with 245,799, together trail behind the number of phones in the Old North State.

Winston-Salem and Greensboro each have more telephones than Pakistan. Charlotte has more than the Philippines. Asheville more than Alaska and Wilmington more than Panama.

But in spite of rockets, sun batteries and automatic brains, it's still possible to get away from it all, Telephone Statistics reveal. In places like the Comoro Is-

lands, Nauro or even the British Virgin Islands or Greenland, there's not a telephone to be found. For that matter they don't even have one in Bhutan, wherever that is.

It's hard to say, though, just what the long distance situation is at the Kremlin. Back in 1936 the U. S. S. R. obligingly told the world it had 861,181 telephones.

Since then, the telephone statistics situation, as far as the Communists are concerned, has deteriorated just like all the other situations. And since 1936 official Russian telephone figures have been in the deep freeze. None have been released.

On Trucial Oman, in contrast, they make a clean breast of the

telephone situation. There isn't any. Likewise, on Pitcairn Island in the Pacific, where the victorious mutineers from HMS Bounty took it on the lam, the first telephone hasn't been installed.

In tropical Brazil, where the coffee comes from, they get by with 745,617 telephones, also fewer than the number used in North Carolina.

In tiny Liechtenstein, on the other hand, where 10,000 hardy mountaineers have maintained a fiercely Alpine independence over their 60 square miles through two world wars and a raft of "police actions", they make out with some 2,500 phones.

London has 1,900,000 telephones; Chicago, 1,600,000; New York, 3,

Shearing Team Again Does Well

North Carolina's sheep shearing team has always done well in the National Shearing Contest at Chicago. A. V. Allen, extension animal husbandry specialist at State College, points out.

This year's team was no exception. The team made up of Roy Lee Mabe and Emmett Atwood, coach-

ed by County Agent R. E. Black of Alleghany County, finished well among the leaders. In the finals, Mabe finished third in the nation with an average score of 93.9, and Atwood placed seventh with a score of 92. The winning score was 94.4.

Coach Black is well-pleased with the showing his boys made. Each won a \$50 Savings Bond. In addition, Mabe received a handsome belt with a sterling silver buckle.

Allen says that the record made by North Carolina boys is even more outstanding considering the fact that many of the boys competing in the contest are from counties which have more sheep than can be found in the entire

Far Heel state. The trip to the national contest was sponsored by Chatham Manufacturing Company of Elkin.

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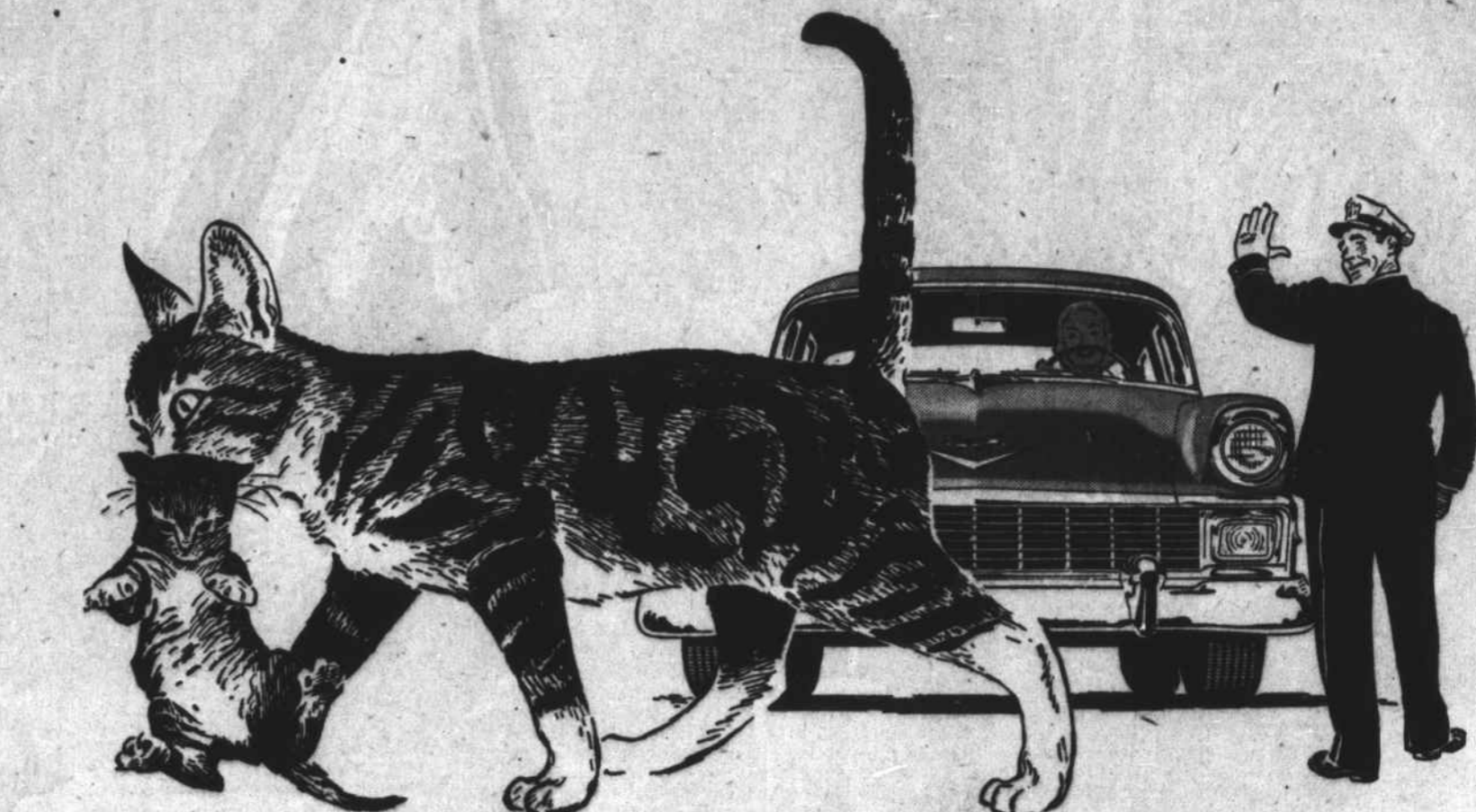
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