

'PHONE COMPANY TO BE 'AT HOME'

Developments in Telephonic Communication Will Be Shown This Week

The Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph company will hold open house for the public at its new building, 81 St. Philip street, from Tuesday through Friday, it was announced yesterday by William P. Cantwell, Jr., district manager.

Visiting hours will be from 2 p.m. until 4 o'clock in the afternoons and from 7 p.m. until 9 o'clock in the evenings. Another open house is scheduled for negroes Saturday, from 9 a.m. until noon.

Charleston secured its first telephone service in 1879, when eighty-four subscribers were served from a room on the second floor of a building at 135 East Bay street. The first subscribers included Aimar & Co., the Bank of Charleston, The News and Courier, the chamber of commerce, C. and E. L. Kerrison and the South Carolina railroad. The open house is being held to demonstrate the new "magic of the world of telephony" which has come with more recent inventions and developments, the latest of which in Charleston has been the dial telephone.

When the dial system went into operation here with opening of the new building in June, approximately 10,500 instruments were in service. About 106,000 local calls are made here every day and about 1,150 long distance calls originate in the city.

Equipment on Display

Visitors will be shown over the building, which has three stories and a part basement. In addition to the large electro-mechanical switchboard, known as the automatic dial system, the long distance manual switchboard with the operators at work, the test rooms and the other regulation equipment, the company has brought here a number of special exhibits for the public to see.

The "voice mirror", recently developed by the Bell Laboratories and demonstrated at the New York World's Fair, will be shown and visitors will have an opportunity to use it. This is a device which enables one to hear one's own voice as others hear it over the telephone.

A "voice scrambler", used to provide privacy on overseas telephone conversations, will be demonstrated and explained. Visitors may hear speech "scrambled" and "un-scrambled".

An oscilloscope showing the variations in the voice current as different words and sounds are spoken into the transmitter will be depicted graphically in motion on a small screen.

First Phones Recalled

Reproductions of Alexander Graham Bell's first and second telephone instruments will be shown. A modern hand set telephone, such as is used in many homes here, has been dismantled and mounted on a display board to show the 247 separate parts that go into one such telephone. The artificial larynx, called the "voice that science made", will be demonstrated.

Various types and sizes of telephone cables, including a submarine cable, foreign telephone directories, and raw materials which go into the making of the telephone will be shown.

Mr. Cantwell and his local staff will be assisted by Norris Russell, of the division office.

The telephone company has an exchange and construction store-room at 34 Radcliffe street. Its main building in St. Philip street is made up as follows:

First floor, business office, power room, toll test room; second floor, operators' quarters, service observers' quarters, classroom, district traffic manager's office, plant chief's office; third floor, dial switching equipment, local test door, plant department locker room, wire chief's office. The basement contains the heating plant and the air conditioning equipment is on the roof.

The company will give visitors an attractive booklet on the telephone system and building here.

Charlestonian in Er... Finds War Quiet--S...

The letter published here was written by Mrs. Eleanor Ball Hewitt-Myring, formerly of Charleston, to her sister, Mrs. Margaret Ball Hickey, in Chattanooga, Tenn. Mrs. Hewitt-Myring and her husband, Philip, have their home in Madesley, a small village on the North sea, in Norfolk, but they are staying with a friend of Mr. Hewitt-Myring, one of his former masters in Eton, now retired, at Tewkesbury in the Cotswold Hills, the west of England. The reference to the "Bon Air school outfit" is to the school in Columbia of the late Miss Annie E. Bonham, in which the children writer sat wrapped in layers of warm clothes from head to feet--feet included--the school room being a broad piazza with revolving windows that were kept open regardless of low temperatures. The letter was dated October 22, the Abbey cottage, Tewkesbury.

It has taken me over a month to answer your letter, and I have no real excuse, except that Philip and I have both been in bed with complicated colds and there has been a terrific amount of accumulated work whenever we get around to do anything. We are, both all right now, and are getting back into routine.

Anyway, if you still have the birthday handkerchief for me (you've probably worn it out by now—I would have) I don't see any reason why it shouldn't arrive safely. A pair of stockings came all right from Mama. Of course, some things are bound to be lost by U-boats, but, as far as regulations are concerned, little parcels go as usual. But unless you have the identical handkerchief, please forget about it.

The war hasn't affected us much here except for the blackout. By the time sunset arrives (before 6 these days) the house has to be hermetically sealed with the dark curtains and over-draperies, and you can have very much less light than usual indoors or a gleam shows through. It was particularly annoying when Philip and I were ill in bed to realize that a light couldn't be turned on during the night after we had opened the windows unless all that rigmarole of pulling blinds and inner and outer curtains were attended to.

As far as food is concerned, we are living very well here, and no doubt will continue to do so after rationing begins. We've been living on pheasants and an occasional hare the last couple of weeks, but that is because Mr. Robeson does a lot of shooting. I must say I can't get enough pheasant. It's a lovely bird. Heating will very likely be a problem, but then it was a terrible problem in Columbia during the last war, and I suppose we'll manage.

We haven't had an air-raid warning here yet, but we all sleep ready-prepared with warm clothes by the bed and our gas masks handy. Also a flask of brandy. We won't be able to use any heat in the room that has been gas-proofed and is to be used as a "shelter", so I have slacks and a very heavy sweater and very thick socks (ones I got in the Alps). I wish I had a regulation Bon-Air School outfit. If we have an air raid of any pretensions with high-explosive shells the shelter will be quite useless, as it is a room lined with pictures and mirrors—but the windows have been

Marriage Notice

GIBSON-BROWN—Married October 21, 1939, in St. Mary's Rectory, Aiken, S.C., by the Rev. George Lewis Smith. Miss Frances Helen Brown and Mr. John Lowther Gibson.

Card Of Thanks

MRS. LESLIE R. LEAKE wishes to thank her many friends for their floral offerings and kind expressions of sympathy extended her during her recent bereavement.



protected, and we a sunken part of

Letters I get suggest that things comfortable there four air raid warning can occasionally be North sea. Our letters to a woman whose sanatorium (she is the likely name of Mrs. and is paying protection, but the real estate there was no way from being co-evacuees, and it is ruinous to have a and their children using, very often, the "unbilleted billeting committee are all friends of an empty furnished temptation.

Nevertheless, b of a war is not m. Anything that m an air raid siren up one's ears—st cars going up t the house in ge on the Severn ne drawn-out chord gan when I pa practice one day one feels so shut from doing things possible to go ab blackout, and no time with petro terrible train and publishers for been working at some work, as with their curtain course, if the w both be working ever have before there are more country knows w

I hope Chatta with you, and th a nice time.

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