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THE BELL TELEPHONE COMPANIES SALUTE: LEO BERARD

Lee Berard (B.S.M.E., 1957) joined New England Telephone in the fall of 1960 and, within months, was put in charge of an important study to determine the feasibility of large-scale buried cable operations in Rhode Island. Developing standards and practices where few previously existed, Leo presented his final reports before top officers of large-scale buried cable operations in Rhode Island.

His initiative in carrying out the study and his ability to capably represent his company are just two of the traits that earned Leo his promotion to Engineer in the Plant Extension Department.

Leo Berard, like many young engineers, is impatient to make things happen for his company and himself. There are enough people where such readiness is more welcomed or rewarded than in the fast-growing telephone business.

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THE TECH: "To Get a Good Outfit, Circle the Cultured Moon"

THE TECH: "A Rebel Against The Government! Banks in New Hampshire have refused to sell U.S. Savings Bonds! This, actually, is the bank’s response to an ‘instant money scheme’ which has swept the University of New Hampshire campus.

According to a Treasury Department bulletin, the plan is based on the chain letter principle and thus is completely illegal. Chain letters are considered lotteries, and the Treasury Department may reinstate any bond if there is proof that it was purchased in connection with a chain letter.

The scheme, according to the Treasury Department, is based on a letter with ten names on a list. The investor buys the letter and one bond made out to the name on the top of the list for $37.50, mails it. He then makes two copies of the letter, covering off the top name on the new list, and sells each list with a bond for $75.

The Post Office at Durham stated that there is no evidence that the letters are going through the mails, but added that it has no way of checking first class mail. It did say, however, that the chief postal inspector for the New England District had been notified.

Banks in the UNH area have reported an unusual increase in the sales of Savings Bonds. An officer of one bank reported that his bank had run out of bonds. Another bank, which had sold nearly 40 bonds in one week, was refusing to sell more bonds if it suspected any connection with the chain letter.

The scheme, said an officer of one of the banks in the UNH area, was actually originated in Massachusetts. In fact, it was originally appealing to Harvard.

Action at Harvard

About a week after the UNH report, offices of the Harvard Trust Co. and the Harvard Trust Co.-Dorothy Co. Students Robert Watson to take action to head off a chain letter scheme involving the purchase of Series E Savings Bonds.

The letter allegedly promised a return of $200,000 for a $37.50 investment. The banks were seeking to avoid a repetition of a Jan.

The psychology department of a university in the Midwest is now handling the mail. Do not mail the list of names. Do not mail the letter to the UNH address. Do not mail the letter.

The appearance of the letter in the Boston area has not been limited only to Harvard. An editorial in Boston College’s newspaper, The Heights, reveals that “several chain letters had reached the BC campus and that the names on these papers were those of BC students.” States the editorial: “Obviously, the matter has gotten out of hand.”

Handling the Mail

The psychology department of a university in the Midwest is now handling the mail. Do not mail the list of names—labelled “Outgoing” and “Inhibit.”

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By Toby Zibbell