



# TOT TALK

Television's failure in providing a sufficient amount of entertaining material for children is emphasized by the popularity in New Bern and elsewhere of the Little Rascals.

Old timers remember these ancient and well-worn films much better as Our Gang comedies. Hal Roach produced them in Hollywood

several decades ago, and they got just as many laughs then, in local movie theaters, as they're getting today.

It's a pity that Roach couldn't have made several hundred of these features during his long and distinguished career. Then today's kids, so eager to gobble them up, wouldn't be forced to look at the same ones over and over on their television screens.

New Bern's small fry couldn't feel closer to Spanky, Stymie, Porky, Buckwheat, Alfalfa, Butch and Darla if they were living on their own block. Fortunately, a great many of them aren't aware that the moppets they're looking at are no longer children, but grown folks, married and parents themselves.

Hal Roach, even as Mark Twain, knew and loved childhood. He knew, too, that it is a changeless thing. Generations come and go, for better or worse, but kids still skip rope, play hop scotch, stick out their tongues at other kids, and scribble on sidewalks.

Maybe somebody in television will come up with a new series similar to the Little Rascals. Perhaps they would have attempted it before now, but realized that it will be no easy accomplishment to duplicate the mastery of these old features.

Meanwhile, the Little Rascals will continue their oft-repeated appearances. New Bern kids already know their antics by heart, just like they know their nursery rhymes, but that won't keep them from being faithful.

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# Believe It or Not, Children Are Biggest Kitchen Hazards

The No. 1 hazard in the kitchen isn't a sharp knife or a hot burner.

"It's children," the National Safety Council says. "Children underfoot in a kitchen can cause all sorts of trouble."

"They have a habit of leaving marbles, crayons and toy trucks here and there on floors. Such objects on the kitchen floor are booby traps when Mom tries to carry a pan of hot liquid, for example, across the room. She may fall, spilling the liquid on herself or someone else."

The kitchen, the Council says, is the third most dangerous room in the house.

How can you make your kitchen safer?

1. If possible, keep children out

of the kitchen. If not, teach them to stay away from cords, appliances and stoves.

2. Turn in handles of utensils on stoves.
3. Keep knives in racks—and

away from children.

4. Wipe up spilled liquids immediately from the floor.

People who say what they think are more numerous than popular.

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Are these facts about your home



## TRUE or FALSE?

- 1 You put electricity to work in at least 25 different ways in your home. It's at your service at all hours, in every room. TRUE \_\_\_\_\_ FALSE \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 Your electric service takes less than 3% of your household budget—less than cigarettes in many families. TRUE \_\_\_\_\_ FALSE \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 Each dollar in your electric bill buys twice as much electricity today as it did 25 years ago. TRUE \_\_\_\_\_ FALSE \_\_\_\_\_

ANSWERS: All these statements are true for the average home. They are probably true for yours as well. Can you think of anything else besides electricity that gives you so much convenience, pleasure and value for your money?

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