

# Teen Topics



## IN NEW BERN TODAY

Today's teen agers have plenty of faults, and well publicized, but when it comes to vandalism on Halloween they are quite well behaved compared with teen agers of earlier generations.

This is something your parents would probably admit if you would ask them. When they, and their parents before them, were young, it was a general practice among boys particularly to roam and damage property.

In those days they weren't called juvenile delinquents, but some of the things they did on Halloween were as senseless and inexcusable as all acts of vandalism by any age group are.

School buildings were frequently invaded, under cover of darkness, and damage done in classrooms or in the principal's or superintendent's office. In a few instances what was done is unprintable.

On block after block of New Bern's residential sections, chairs on the porches of various homes were overturned, swings were abused, and ashes sometimes mixed with oil or some other sticky substance

spread on porch floors.

Anything they could think of, to inconvenience innocent people who quite often they didn't even know was on the agenda. The easiest prey were the elderly, because they were afraid to chase the marauders away.

In those days, New Bern's police force was smaller than it is now, there were no cruising squad cars, and if they had been, they wouldn't have had a radio in them.

By the time a citizen victimized by the roving juveniles could get word to the police station, and help, if available, came, the vandals had moved to another neighborhood to do further damage, and heap on more indignities.

The fact that past generations were guilty of such behavior is certainly no invitation for today's teen agers too the same. Vandalism can't be justified by calling it a prank. A criminal act isn't innocent fun, and never was.

### Looking Glass -

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must remain indoors much of the time. No neighbor, aware of circumstances of this sort, is apt to be overly impatient.

Maybe we should make some allowance too for the young at heart who are in love, or think they are. In either case the symptoms are the same. What



**CAMERA CONSCIOUS** — April Lynn Hobson is just six months old, but she has enough feminine vanity to pose prettily for her picture. She is the daughter of Julia and Johnny Hobson of 2408 Thomas Avenue.

they say to each other nightly on the phone is, unless romance has changed, invariably more of the same.

For that matter, repetition dominates the extended conversations indulged in by housewives each morning. There's just so much scandal to relate, without repeating oneself, but when gossip is scarce, and even when it isn't, exchanged medical reports take up the slack.

Shakespeare sagely observed that when you laugh, the world laughs with you, but when you weep, you weep alone. This adage can't supplant the equally ancient saying that

miserly loves company. Not just housewives, but everybody, is shackled with the urge to describe actual or imaginary ailments.

All of us feel under the weather on certain mornings, and the older we get the more frequent these mornings become. This sad fact doesn't necessarily mean that others want to hear a gruesome recitation.

Pretend you aren't that bad off. You may convince yourself, your neighbor won't have to lie that her door bell is ringing, and last but not least, the family sharing your party line can get a call through.

### Top Ten Tunes In New Bern This Week

1. I'll Be There--Jackson Five.
2. We've Only Just Begun--Carpenters.
3. Cracklin' Rosie--Neil Diamond.
4. All Right Now--Free.
5. Indiana Wants Me--R. Dean Taylor.
6. Green-eyed Lady -- Sugarloaf.
7. Fire and Rain--James Taylor.
8. Lola--Kinks.
9. Out In The Country--Three Dog Night.
10. El Condor Pasa--Simon and Garfunkel.

(This week's Mirror pick for a future spot in the Top Ten is the Four Tops rendition of "Still Water.")

### CRAVEN COUNTY'S COUNTRY AND WESTERN FAVORITES

1. Run, Woman, Run--Tammy Wynette.
2. The Taker--Waylon Jennings.
3. Sunday Morning Coming Down--Johnny Cash.
4. It's Only Make Believe--Glen Campbell.
5. There Must Be More To Love Than This--Jerry Lee Lewis.
6. Jolie Girl--Marty Robins.
7. I Can't Believe That You've Stopped Loving Me--Charlie Pride.
8. Snowbird--Ann Murray.
9. Angels Don't Lie--Jim Reeves.
10. Fifteen Years Ago--Conway Twitty.

(This week's Mirror pick for a future spot in the Top Ten is Roy Drusky's "All My Hard Times.")

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