

TEEN Topics



IN NEW BERN TODAY

The present younger generation isn't the first one to find fault with the establishment, nor the first to go to great lengths in an effort to be different and avoid regimentation.

Juvenile delinquency probably started with Cain. Undoubtedly he caused his parents, Adam and Eve, a lot of worry before he killed his brother, Abel. In short, human nature hasn't changed much since Biblical days.

When your parents and your grandparents were your age, they were to a large degree exhibitionists just like you. They didn't have as many privileges, but they made the most of the ones they had.

What they probably overlooked and what you may be overlooking now, is the indisputable fact that teenagers, even as older people, are victims of self imposed regimentation.

Could anyone be more regimented in what they wear and how they act than those who are classified as hippies by adults? They take great pains to dress alike, wear ornaments alike, and talk alike.

Originality is a rarity in any age group. As soon as any human is old enough to voice a preference, what he or she wears is dictated as much as possible by those who create fashions or dream up freaky styles.

Your parents wouldn't have gone to school in blue jeans, or worn their hair in the manner that you do, even if refusal to do so meant severe punishment. They knew that no one else would be dressed that way.

Then as now, the unpardonable sin was to be different from the crowd. No matter how ridiculous a style may be, if it's popular that's all that matters. So most of us aren't doing our thing, we're just following the leader.

Humans learn early that conforming is much easier than having the courage to follow your own convictions. We don't want to be out of step, even if the parade is moving in the wrong direction.

So, when you accuse the establishment of regimentation, and being in a rut, don't lose sight of the fact that, more than you realize, the younger generation is just as guilty as the older generation.



HERE'S "CHA CHA" . . . Shirley "Cha Cha" Muldewney wears a heavy protective suit (left) while piloting her "Funny Car" on the drag strips, then slips into something more comfortable while awaiting her next run. She recently suffered third degree burns in her last fire, when at 200 mph the goggles burned off her face and she lost visibility and crashed. The fastest "Funny Car" woman driver in the history of the sport, she's five-feet four, 110 pounds, and 36-22-34.

Looking Glass —

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discovered a green feather sprouting from her, after she shed her dyed purple plumage. Aside from this she was somewhat undistinguished.

For one thing, despite the best of laying mash on her menu, she rarely compensated by laying an egg. As Tommy's parents figured it, each egg cost them at least \$25.

During all those 10 years, Greenie hatched out one lone biddy. It wasn't long among the living. Tommy also had a pony named Nosey, and the biddy drowned when it got up on Nosey's drinking tub, and tried to make like a duck.

Speaking of Nosey, he stepped on one of Greenie's legs one day, and well nigh wrecked it. Mrs. Davis, a graduate nurse, gave the hen all the tenderness and expert attention she could muster up.

The pet never did fully recuperate, but continued to get

a lot out of life. Eggs or not, she knew she would never end up in a stew. It was clear the Davis family wouldn't trade her for a goose that laid golden eggs.

Yesterday was when more houses than not had a rain barrel resting under their gutter spout. The women folks liked to wash their hair in rain water, and it was good for washing clothes too.

Rain barrels were bad for something. They were a wonderful place for mosquitoes to breed.

Top Ten Tunes In New Bern This Week

1. My Love—Wings.
2. Daniel—Elton John.
3. Pillow Talk—Sylvia.
4. Frankenstein—Edgar Winter.
5. Hocus Pokus—Focus.
6. I'm Gonna Love You Just A Little More Baby—Barry White.
7. Tie A Yellow Ribbon Round The Ole Oak Tree—Dawn.
8. Give Me Love—George Harrison.
9. Playground In My Mind—Clint Holmes.
10. Steamroller Blues—Elvis Presley.

(This week's Mirror pick for a future spot in the Top Ten is Billy Preston's Will I Go Round In Circles.)

CRAVEN COUNTY'S COUNTRY AND WESTERN FAVORITES

1. Satin Sheets—Jeannie Pruett.
2. Baby's Gone—Conway Twitty.
3. You Always Come Back—Johnny Rodriguez.
4. Tie A Yellow Ribbon Round The Ole Oak Tree—Dawn.
5. What's Your Mom's Name—Tanya Tucker.
6. Kids Say The Darndest Things—Tammy Wynette.
7. Bring It On Home—Joe Stampley.
8. Sweet Country Woman—Johnny Duncan.
9. Walk Softly On Bridges—Mel Street.
10. Why Me—Kris Kristofferson.

(This week's Mirror pick for a future spot in the Top Ten is Tommy Overstreet's Send Me No Roses.)

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