

TEEN Topics



IN NEW BERN TODAY

Whatever else may be said about today's young people, they are less boisterous on the Fourth of July than their parents were at the same age.

Banning of fireworks, except for professionally staged displays, went into effect in North Carolina before you were born. Some firecrackers and other explosive gadgets are still sold, illegally, but to a very limited extent.

Past generations were treated to exhibitions like the ones we have here on Farmers Day, and the even more elaborate one that was staged on the Fourth again this year at Atlantic Beach.

However, juveniles of yesteryear spent all the money they could scrape up, which wasn't a great deal, to purchase their own supply of firecrackers, sky rockets, Roman candles, and sparklers.

A few of the youngsters whose

parents gave them larger sums to spend even bought large paper balloons. When inflated with hot air from a burning substance that was lighted at the base, they sailed off into the night, glowing until they vanished high above the waterfront.

Sky rockets worked very much like the huge things that NASA sends into outer space now. An explosive charge when lighted sent them soaring. These too were most impressive if launched when it was dark.

Roman candles had several charges of gun powder in them. You lighted them, pointed them at the sky while waving your arm in a circular motion, and several balls of fire came out, one after another.

Blank pistols, very cheaply made, were the most dangerous of all Fourth of July items. They fired a 22 caliber blank, and many young people and adults were badly injured when some of the pistols disintegrated.

As could be expected, some users of these various fireworks were careless and reckless, and there were many cases of blindness and lost fingers. The situation got so bad that authorities outlawed their use.

The flowering of civilization is the finished man, the man of sense, of grace, of accomplishment, of social power, the gentleman.—Emerson.

MIRROR MORSELS

Eternity is the divine treasure house, and hope is the window, by means of which mortals are permitted to see, as through a glass darkly, the things which God is preparing.—Mountford.

Our home joys are the most delightful earth affords, and the joy of parents in their children is the most holy joy of humanity. It makes their hearts pure and good, it lifts men up to their Father in heaven.—Pestalozzi.

If men could learn from history, what lessons it might teach us! But passion and party blind our eyes, and the light which experience gives is a lantern on the stern which shines only on the waves behind us.—Coleridge.

A light supper, a good night's sleep, and a fine morning have often made a hero of the same man who, by indigestion, a restless night, and a rainy morning would have proved a coward.—Chesterfield.

Who seeks for heaven alone to save his soul may keep the path, but will not reach the goal; while he who walks in love may wander far, yet God will bring him where the blessed are.—Henry Van Dyke.

There is this difference between happiness and wisdom, that he that thinks himself the happiest man, really is so; but he that thinks himself the wisest, is generally the greatest fool.—Colton.

When we have practiced good actions awhile, they become easy; when they are easy, we take pleasure in them; when they please us, we do them frequently; and then, by frequency of act, they grow into a habit.—Tillotson.

Looking Glass—

(Continued from page 1)

was not peculiar to his generation. In any generation, Fields would have delighted audiences.

Child actors are notorious for stealing scenes from adults, but W. C. had no fear of them. He used them as brats in some of his best material. It was Fields who coined the expression, "A man who hates children can't be altogether bad."

Charlie Chaplin, like Fields, knew the value of teaming with juveniles. However, his approach was tenderness itself when he discovered little Jackie Coogan, and co-starred with him in *The Kid*. Chaplin preferred the projection of pathos, in marked contrast to the caustic patter that worked well for Fields.

Abusive comedians didn't end with Fields. Much too often you'll find stand-up comics on your television screen, laboring in vain to be insultingly funny. They don't have what W. C. had. Nothing concocted in the way of a monologue can offset the absence of genuine talent.

Yesterday was when no one would have believed that a day would come when Russian fishing boats would ply the waters along our North Carolina coast, making huge hauls. It's happening here, and up New England way too.

Yesterday was when Bunky, a dog that belong to City Hall employee Pete Draney, departed for canine heaven. His remains were entombed at the rear end of the lawn, and a marble marker placed on the grave. Today a paved parking lot has erased the spot. Oblivion, in one way or another, catches up with us all.

Maybe that's what sentimental columnists are for, to rake among the leaves of the forgotten past, in search of trifles worth remembering.

Top Ten Tunes In New Bern This Week

1. Give Me Love—George Harrison.
2. Playground In My Mind—Clint Holmes.
3. My Love—Wings.
4. Will It Go Round In Circles—Billy Preston.
5. Kodachrome—Paul Simon.
6. Shambala—Three Dog Night.
7. Pillow Talk—Sylvia.
8. One Of A Kind—Spinners.
9. Natural High—Bloodstone.
10. Long Train Runnin'—Doobie Brothers.

(This week's Mirror pick for a future spot in the Top Ten is the Carpenters version of Yesterday Once More.)

CRAVEN COUNTY'S COUNTRY AND WESTERN FAVORITES

1. Kids Say The Darndest Things—Tammy Wynette.
2. Why Me—Kris Kinstofferson.
3. Don't Fight The Feelings Of Love—Charlie Pride.
4. Tie A Yellow Ribbon Round The Ole Oak Tree—Dawn.
5. Ravishing Ruby—Tom T. Hall.
6. Send Me No Roses—Tommy Overstreet.
7. Ride Me Down Easy—Bobby Bare.
8. Love Is The Foundation—Loretta Lynn.
9. Come Early Morning—Don Williams.
10. You Give Me You—Bobby G. Rice.

(This week's Mirror pick for a future spot in the Top Ten is Dolly Parton's Traveling Man.)

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