

They Know

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Yea, They Know
Question: Do high school kids ever get hold of beer?
Girl Number One: Beer? Don't you mean hard liquor?

Question: Well, either one.
Girl Number One: All you have to do is go to a bootlegger.

Question: Do you mean a young girl in high school could go to a bootlegger and get what she wanted?

Girl Number One: No, the boys go.

Question: Did you know the names of bootleggers?

Girl Number One: Yes. The boys could borrow cars and get it.

Question: How else could they get something to drink?

Girl Number One: They'd borrow ID cards from the older boys. Or somebody older would buy it for them.

Question: Do bootleggers care about the age of those they sell to?

Boy Number One: Just so you got the money, you get what you want.

Question: Where could you go to drink?

Girl Number One: When I was in school, it was a motor court. Or out into the country.

Question: Don't I hear something about beach parties?

Girl Number One: My parents never let me go down to parties on the beach except with the family. I guess they knew what they were like. You could hear talk when everybody got back. They made it big or small, you know.

Question: This was in the summer?

Girl Number One: Mostly after the Junior-Senior. Most of it was that the boys got drunk. There was chaperoning by the girls' parents but they didn't know. The boys would be out. The girls and boys didn't stay together.

Question: So parents can't really stop the drinking very easily?

Girl Number One: They do it right in front of the children so I don't see how they expect them not to.

Question: You didn't drink did you?

Girl Number One: No.

Question: Did any of the girls?

Girl Number Two: Some of them.

Question: Enough to get drunk?

Girl Number Two: Well—

Question: Well, did they fly high enough they could have used wings?

Girl Number Two: Yes.

Question: Can all this be fixed if the parents will keep the kids under lock and key?

Girl Number One: That's the trouble. Parents try to be too strict, and they'll drink themselves, but they don't have enough for teenagers to do. If they let them have more parties—

Question: There's not enough activities going on?

Girl Number One: In the summertime, they ought to fix a dance place so we wouldn't have to go to — and —. The pavilion would be fine.

Question: Don't you have any good place?

Girl Number One: Williams Lake is a nice place. Mr. Williams keeps things underhand out there. It's about the only decent place there is to go to dance. But it's 15 or 18 miles.

This Sunday, a Dunn minister, the Reverend Ernest C. Russell, said from his pulpit that teenagers here are able to get hold of liquor, either legally or illegally. Chief of Police Alton Cobb, a member of his congregation, said frequent checks are made on town beer joints to see that they aren't selling to under-age customers—but beer can be sold to those who are 18. Despite a flurry of night checks, no infractions have been found and Cobb believes the tavern men watch the age of patrons pretty closely.

Once in a while a teenage drinker is spotted around town by police. Mostly not. It's quite possible that Dunn has a better record in this than most towns. But it's certain that those who learn to drink don't usually get their

first nip at age 21.
Create Diversions
The liquor filters back. It's not a question of supply and demand. In all generations, there is a certain amount of demand. It becomes a question of supply. And as Mr. Russell says, "I don't know where they get it but they get it."

Perhaps if those adults who tend to set the direction for a town could look back for a moment on their own high school days, they would take seriously the advice of our anonymous Girl Number One who says that the drinking wouldn't go as far as it does if recreations were more numerous.

Of course that wouldn't end it. It doesn't end. If all the fruit-jars in the world were busted, there'd still be 16-year-olds holding out their hats for a jolt of something fierce.

If there is a perfect solution for this, it would probably be a great surprise to all the juvenile court justices all over the land.

But there is a way of comprehending a little better what the teenage set is up to, where they're going. That way is to have some respect for them and to treat their complicated brains for the very complicated brains they are.

On television last night, in "The Many Loves of Dobie Gillis," this prototype of the keen adolescent told a girl she couldn't have him because, "I belong to all women."

That's it exactly. The healthy teenager feels like there's an awful lot of himself. There is. He has to be given the kind of full facilities and ardent attention that will help him express his many sides. If that is done, there's just a chance he won't be repeatedly expressing the side that wants to get loaded.

Labor Bill
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a stalemate which led directly and almost immediately to the nomination of Adlai E. Stevenson.

Reuther is No. 2 man in AFL-CIO. The organization published this week a pamphlet on the record of the last session of Congress. With emphasis on labor legislation. This pamphlet gives a friendly plug to Kennedy, despite the Machinists. The pamphlet centers Big Labor's fire on what the union leaders regard as Big Labor's enemies. They are: President Eisenhower, his Cabinet, his White House staff and Vice President Richard M. Nixon. They were, Big Labor says, the chief lobbyists for the Landrum-Griffin bill.

That, perhaps, is a fact. The pamphlet also notes that the favorable Landrum-Griffin vote was in part in response to an avalanche of mail from angry citizens. It was an avalanche which Big Labor could not match, despite its 15 million members.

The division in the labor movement over assessment of blame for the Landrum-Griffin bill is likely greatly to reduce the influence of labor leaders at next year's Democratic national convention. They have had in the past a veto power in Democratic conventions.

They used it in 1952 on Alben W. Barkley. Barkley accused them of choosing programs and candidates to gain "greater control over the machinery and policies of the Democratic Party."

They ever get a whiff of the royal perfume but Dunn's pageant is traditionally a big one.

The first Miss America to visit here was Marian Ann McKnight, whose cincher for acclaim was a wet-tipped travesty on the techniques of Marilyn Monroe. She was followed by the stately Marilyn Van Derbur. The Jaycees had an acceptance from last year's Miss America, Mary Ann Mobley, but she took sick at just the wrong time.

Also invited here for the pageant will be North Carolina's own Judy Klipfel.

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