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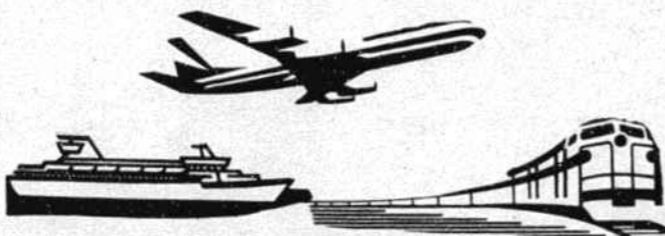
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SOME DOS AND DON'TS

Here's To Your Vacation

The modern American mind has evidently turned to mush. It needs instructions for every task and advice for every problem. Visit a bookstore or library and count the "how-to" and self-help publications that teach dog training, coffee-making, and "dressing for success," (whatever that means). How our grandparents managed without all this guidance I have no idea.

But I personally plan to profit from the new outcry for training manuals. In light of such a lucrative opportunity, I will put together a series of books giving pointers on all those endeavors I do best. All right, so it will be a short series! However, my books may be so popular I can retire on my earnings...just as soon as I've finished reading "Tips for Retirement," that is.

My first book will deal with vacationing. Haven't you been hungering for travel tips that will make your next jaunt trouble-free? Why should you figure it out for yourself, when the American way is to read what an expert advises and follow suit?

I qualify as a vacation expert because I've used all forms of transportation, traveled to many parts of America and the world, and have vacationed alone, with a husband, with a family and with a tour group. Surely, from all this experience I have gleaned some valuable directives to pass on to you puzzled, helpless would-be vacationers.

Here's an excerpt from my soon-to-be published tome on travel, an abbreviated list of dos and don'ts you should put into practice during your summer holiday:

If you're female, don't go alone on a cruise, unless you're very famous or under 30 and gorgeous.

Marjorie Megivern



There is nothing lonelier than cruising among happy, laughing families and infatuated twosomes. Trust me, you will not find an eligible man on board. The only one I met was an envelope salesman and exactly as interesting as you'd expect.

Don't set out to visit relatives with more than three changes of clothes. You will absolutely NOT have any thrilling nights out on the town and family members won't care what you're wearing. That velveteen jumpsuit and crepe de chine chemise will just add to the weight of the luggage.

Don't ever take more than two children on a car trip at the same time. This number is the maximum you can effectively entertain and feed and whose fights you can referee without total exhaustion. My family, including four little boys, once crossed the country together, and upon our return my husband jumped out of the car and announced, "I will never go on a trip in the car with this family again!" He never did.

Don't leave home without comfortable shoes, especially if you're traveling abroad. You will be amazed to discover how much walking you must do and how quickly those perky little pumps turn into torture machines. Men can disregard this notice.

In foreign lands, don't be too quick to adopt strange eating habits. In Mexico I was once served coffee with a packet of lemon juice and thought, "What an intriguing idea!" till I actually stirred in the juice and tasted it. Yep, it was horrible!

Don't ride a camel just so you can show your picture to admirers back home. It's a truly frightening and disgusting experience.

Do pack aspirin, Alka-Seltzer, plenty of tissues and a good paperback novel. You never know.

Do get recommendations from friends who have been where you're going. Get a list of their favorite restaurants and tourist attractions... then, go somewhere else.

Do take extra money for post cards. Once you get to that exotic hideaway, you'll want to create envy among the slaves back home by reminding them that you're sunning and swimming and sinning.

Do plan for at least two days of recuperation when you return. There is nothing as debilitating as a vacation!

Above all, DO take off and go somewhere, preferably with your significant other, as often as possible. There is nothing as soul-satisfying as a vacation!



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