

Chewing The Rag

With Lucius Blanchard, Jr.

HOW TO BE OBNOXIOUS
There's more to it than just saying "I'm very obnoxious." There's an art to it that few people have captured. Yet some of the most sought-after people we know are obnoxious. That's why they're sought after (usually by somebody with a gun or a well-balanced monkey wrench).

So for a few learned pointers on being obnoxious and subsequently being avoided by all the best people (and who doesn't want to be) lend a listen to Wilbur, aelinst supreme (before a except after c) who has something to say on the subject . . .

Talk loudly in hotel corridors long after midnight (after making certain that somebody is trying to sleep on that floor).

Shout good-night at least six times to a friend at the other end of the corridor. (All this is no good if there's a convention. In that case you'll have to try another method.)

At parties—when one of those people who insist on seeing that you have a good time, asks "Have you read any good books lately?" answer quickly in a sprightly manner before they have a chance to settle down comfortably "Oh, yes. I've read them all. Which ones do you want me to tell you about?"

This procedure, Wilbur says, usually brings satisfying results. He didn't want to hear about any books you'd read; he wanted to tell you about the last one he read. (You can be sure it would have been very boring anyway—so you didn't miss anything.) In no time at all he'll remember something he forgot to do and be off across the room in nothing flat, leaving you free to crawl behind the nearest potted plant and snitch another drink.

At the same party, (or if it isn't a very good party, go on to another one) laugh before the wit of the evening finishes his pet joke. (Or better still, wait until he finishes, smile patronizingly and say "That isn't the way I heard it. Now here's how it really goes . . .") This is guaranteed to make you unwelcome. Nobody likes to be corrected, especially on a joke.

A bridge game is an ideal place to practice obnoxious. (We're sure that isn't the way to spell it. In fact, we aren't even sure there is such a word.) There's no end to the possibilities at a bridge game, particularly if you don't play.

Ask continuous questions and direct them pointedly to everyone except the dummy (the dummy has time to answer; so ignore him completely). Say every now and then "It's a silly-looking game, isn't it? Now take poker . . ."

In a short time the players freeze up, lose interest in the game, and leave you sitting alone behind the fourth place at an empty table. This is tops in being obnoxious.

And in public there is still a world of chances to be obnoxious. For instance a special method Wilbur claims to have worked up has to do with asking ticket agents (the busy ones) about the fares to out-of-the-

way places—just to see how much he saves by not going to these places. There's no end to this; you can ask travel agencies about hotel rates in West Cactus Junction, about the price of beer in Deadend, Nebraska, whether it's Tulip Time in Tipperary. You see, it can go on and on. And if all else fails to make you satisfyingly obnoxious, then try writing things like this telling people how to be obnoxious.

Lookers at the current issue of The Saturday Evening Post are greeted on the front cover with a startling likeness of Harrell Johnson holding two ice cream cones, surrounded by a sea of multi-colored umbrellas, and looking perplexedly for the other members of his beach party.

The resemblance is remarkable. Somebody in Walker's place on Market Street first noticed it and began asking other people who the cover boy looked like. The answer always came unhesitatingly: "Harrell Johnson." The artist was Norman Rockwell.

It's a short trip from the ridiculous to the sublime, and so with this in mind, we recall a movie of some time ago wherein the star, a song writer, could compose his tunes only when he was sound asleep. So far as we can remember, George Gershwin was never in a movie, but probably more successfully than anyone else of our day, he blasted the vandals of melancholia with song after song. He gave the world music to remember him by . . . and a grateful people will not soon forget.

So this month a music-loving nation (The United States) is honoring the memory of George Gershwin, who respected no barriers in the fields of music, but dared to enter them all—opera, musical comedy, popular airs—each with enviable success.

We may be wrong, but Wilbur and I remember him by "Of Thee I Sing," "I Got Rhythm," "Rhapsody in Blue." He even wrote lullabies. Who can forget his "Summertime." You don't have to recall these numbers and countless others. They are still high among musical favorites and have every indication of staying there.

It was Wilbur who said "The world has too many aspiring Hitlers and far too few George Gershwins."

Cooperation Needed For Quality Cotton

Cotton farmers benefit directly from good ginning, but the ginner must obtain a reasonable profit for his services if he expects to continue an adequate service to his patrons, says J. C. Ferguson, Extension ginning specialist of State College.

Care in picking and handling cotton before it reaches the gin is just as important as care in the actual

CAROLINA'S TYPICAL FAMILY TAKES UP HOUSEKEEPING AT WORLD'S FAIR

Silas C. Browns of Snow Hill Having Time of Their Lives; Meet Kansas Family

North Carolina's typical family, the Sila C. Browns of Snow Hill, have set up house-keeping in the midst of the World's Fair, but because of a swirl of engagements have had little opportunity to stay in their house.

They were waiting for a joint flag-raising ceremony with the Fair chairman presiding, and the Kansas typical family, which after driving 1,500 miles to New York, got lost between the city and the Fair Grounds and didn't arrive until nearly lunch time. The ceremony was postponed.

The Kansas and North Carolina families came to an old-acquaintance standing within a short time during

ginning operation. The ginner can render his best service only when his patrons cooperate with him in bringing cotton to the gin that is reasonably clean and in proper condition for ginning.

Ferguson said the swing toward improved cotton varieties has resulted in more care of the seed at the gin. Various methods of handling seed have been devised, with the most common being the blow pipe vacuum system and the belt system underneath the gin stands.

A modern gin plant, the specialist pointed out, should include such features as a conditioner or drier, a pure seed handling system, adequate cleaning and extracting machinery, economical fans, separators and piping, and a good baling press.

In the 1939 ginning season, approximately 1,100 out of 11,884 gins in the United States operated driers, of which 22 were in North Carolina.

From reports furnished by ginner operators these driers, it was found that in North Carolina the average improvement made on damp or wet cottons amounted to \$4 a bale, while the fuel cost averaged less than 20 cents a bale.

There is still plenty of room for improvement in this State, Ferguson said, pointing out that from the many bales of rough cotton ginned last year, it is evident that some ginner operators are negligent in the care and operation of their plants.

BURGESS NEWS

Mrs. W. B. Clark, Mrs. Herman Winslow, Miss Elizabeth Clark, Miss Ruth Winslow, Lillian Williams and Rosa Nelle Clark visited Mrs. J. B. Basnight Friday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Burdier Banks, Mr. and Mrs. Simpson and Mrs. Berta Hobbs, of New Hope, were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Billie Whedbee Sunday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Irvin Whedbee spent the Fourth at Ocean View, Va. Mr. and Mrs. B. F. Wentz, of Portlock, Va., were guests of Mrs. A. J. Blow Sunday.

the luncheon in the magnificent Ford Motor Company Building.

Monday afternoon, both families in the only private cars permitted in the entire grounds, visited the North Carolina exhibit and later the elder North Carolinians and the Kansas family relaxed for a brief rest at the Kansas home while the youngsters teamed up for more sightseeing.

Strange as it may seem, the Browns' home at the World Fair is no more noisy than their home in Snow Hill.

A full program was in store Tuesday including a long distance call to Editor Jonathan Daniels of the News and Observer to tell him about the time they are having. That night they had dates for the American Jubilee Show.

Along on the third day of the North Carolina typical family's stay at the Fair, they are having the time of their lives. Everyone is going out of their way to do things for them and this has only begun.

CENTER HILL NEWS

Mrs. Dowdy and Mr. and Mrs. Howell, of Norfolk, Va., spent the Fourth with Mr. and Mrs. N. Bunch.

Miss Rona Peyton, of Grassy Creek, Ky., is visiting her aunt, Mrs. Robert Hollowell.

Rev. Frank Cale has returned from Crozet, Va., where he has been conducting revival services.

Mrs. Jane Williams, her daughter, Mrs. Martha Watkins and daughter, Miss Gracie, of Danville, Va., spent the week-end with Mrs. Williams' sister, Mrs. Ida Ellis.

Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Byrum, of near Cannons Ferry, visited Mr. and Mrs. Edward Byrum Sunday afternoon.

Mrs. J. S. Turner had as her guests Saturday evening her mother, Mrs. J. P. Byrum, Mrs. Willie Byrum and daughter, Shirley, Mrs. Edward Byrum and daughter, Doris Jean, Mrs. Nearest Jordan and daughters, Delsie and Frances, Mrs. Rennie Dail and daughter, Leora.

Mr. and Mrs. William Lane and daughter, Patricia, of Norfolk, Va., spent Sunday with his mother, Mrs. W. H. Lane.

Elbert Bunch is spending the week in Norfolk, Va., with his daughter, Mrs. Oscar Parker, and Mr. Parker.

Mr. and Mrs. Percy Nixon, of Rocky Hook, visited her father, C. H. Davis, Sunday evening.

Miss Lillian Turner spent last week in Elizabeth City with her sister, Mrs. Roland Winslow.

Mrs. Willie Lamb and son, Stacey, of Edenton, visited Mrs. J. S. Turner Wednesday.

James Cale, of Newport News, Va.,

spent Sunday with his brother, Rev. Frank Cale.

Rev. J. T. Stanford visited R. O. Furry Monday afternoon.

Miss Artlissa White has returned to Greenville, after a visit with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. T. White. Miss Elizabeth White has returned home after visiting friends in Greensboro.

Miss Camilla White, who is nursing in Rocky Mount, is the guest of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. T. White.

Sarah and James Jordan are visiting their grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. John Dail, of near Hertford.

Miss Lillian Privott, who spent last week with her aunt, Mrs. Cotter B. White, is now visiting her uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Wiggins, in Ahoskie.

Miss Betty Parker spent the Fourth with Miss Mary Esther Belch. Mr. and Mrs. Roland Winslow and daughter, Ruth, of Elizabeth City, spent the Fourth with Mrs. Winslow's mother, Mrs. J. M. Turner.

Mrs. J. P. Byrum, Mrs. J. M. Turner, Mrs. Rufus Smithson, Miss Gladys Parks visited Mrs. J. S. Turner Sunday afternoon.

Miss Louise Perry is visiting relatives and friends in Winston-Salem. Mrs. Cameron Boyce spent the Fourth with her brother, Stillman Leary, and Mrs. Leary, in Rocky Hook.

WOODVILLE NEWS

Miss Mildred Bogue has returned home after visiting Mrs. L. F. Winslow, in Hertford.

Miss Wilma Godfrey, of Moyock, was the guest of Miss Operzine Cooke last week.

Faye Raye Cartwright was the guest of Frances Anne Cooke last week.

Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Tolar have re-

turned home after visiting Mr. and Mrs. Odell West, of Fayetteville. Mrs. West and little daughter, Martha Faye, returned home with them for an extended visit.

Mrs. C. A. Cooke, Misses Operzine and Frances Ann Cooke are visiting relatives near Louisburg.

Miss Juanita White, accompanied by some friends, spent a day recently at Nags Head.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Hurdle and little daughter, Anne Elizabeth, have moved on the Hertford Highway. They moved from Elizabeth City.

Misses Beulah Bogue and Helen Davis have returned to their respective homes after visiting Mrs. L. F. Winslow, in Hertford.

Mr. and Mrs. Garland Humphries, of Moyock, were guests of Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Humphries over the week-end.

Improvement is noticed in the condition of Mrs. H. E. Bogue, who has been ill for some time. Mrs. R. L. Spivey, Jr., is with her this week.

MAY LOSE 300 POUNDS

Kansas City, Kan.—By feeding him gland extracts and a special diet, doctors hope to cut 300 pounds off the weight of Tom Grismick, 27, who now weighs 568 pounds. Grismick is said to be suffering from a gland ailment which causes him to gain excessively.

DO YOU OBSERVE OR MERELY SEE

An instructive, entertaining list of questions which will enable you to find out how observant you are. Don't miss this quiz in the July 21st issue of

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