

(More Society Column — Continued From Page One)

Roy Whitaker, stationed at the Naval Base at Norfolk, Va., spent the holidays with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Whitaker. Mrs. Whitaker and Mr. and Mrs. Billy Whitaker took him back to Norfolk on Monday night.

To Be A Perfect Guest Score Encore With These 10 Tips On Entertaining

NEW YORK — When a special occasion or vacation takes you "on tour" of friends or relatives, you may receive critical acclaim by being a "guest-who-is-not-a-guest." Knowing when to stay out of the spotlight—at a hotel or motel—and avoiding an extended run can be good ways to assure a return engagement. But no matter how long your stay, the following tips in ten scenes may help you turn in a performance that'll make you a hit with your hosts.

1. DON'T GET OUT OF CHARACTER. When you've been invited to a party, resist the temptation to help throw it by showing other guests where to find things or by offering them food and drink, unless your hosts have specifically asked you to lend a helping hand. You'll be usurping the hostess' place otherwise.

2. UPSTAGING IS TABOO. Remember that your hosts are the true stars of the show, and that it's up to you to play a supporting role that will disrupt the routine as little as possible. For instance, if you arrive by train, take a cab instead. A phone call sounds suspiciously like a hint; if your hosts could have picked you up, chances are they'd have been waiting at the station.

3. UNDERPLAYING YOUR ROLE MAY ALSO MAKE YOU A SCENE-STEALER. There's such a thing as being overly modest. At a dinner party, DON'T sit uncomfortably waiting until everyone at the table has been served. Instead, help bring that curtain up, serve yourself and start the action rolling! If your behavior is too formal, you'll make your hosts feel uncomfortable.

4. ENTER ON CUE. According to etiquette experts, it's possible to be too punctual, as well as too late. If you come in on

top of their lines—that is, when they're still rushing around getting ready for you—you'll just be underfoot. Fifteen minutes is "late enough" for a luncheon, dinner or card party, but there'll probably be some stumping and whistling from the audience if you keep them waiting much longer than that for dinner!

5. KNOW WHEN TO STAY BACKSTAGE. When you're weekend or staying longer, getting advance booking at a local hotel or motel helps give you and your hosts a chance to enjoy your visit, while providing privacy and a chance for everyone to live at his own pace. Plan to eat out at least some of the time, rather than making your hosts the captive audience at every meal of "the man who came to dinner." For a pleasant surprise twist in the plot, why not treat them to a meal out? Hotels and motels feature some of the finest dining in town, and chances are there'll be an excellent restaurant at the hotel where you stay.

6. DON'T MUFF YOUR LINES. If your host hauls out the card table, and your hostess suggests a movie instead, don't "ferree!" Be politely non-committal when they ask for your views. If they won't let you remain neutral, agree with the more forceful of the pair. Silence is golden, if "discussions" or just plain arguments erupt while you're on the scene.

7. MAKE A GRAND ENTRANCE — arrive bearing gifts! Candy, flowers or toys for the children are appropriate—and appreciated; so is a bottle of liquor usually. Whatever you give, make sure it's of high quality. It's far wiser, for example, to give a pound of fine candy than a two-pound "assortment."

8. THE SHOW MUST GO ON EVEN IF YOU MAKE A BLOOP. If you spill the soup or fracture an heirloom vase in the course of your visit, apologize immediately. One "I'm so sorry," and an offer to clean up the mess is sufficient. Replace a badly damaged object within two days. If you've shattered something irreplaceable, send flowers and a note the next day.

9. IMPROVING YOUR ACTING ABILITY may help you get rave reviews. Some general tips: take a long-winded or clammy guest out of the hostess' hands. Appreciate her husband's jokes. Not loudly, but promptly. Be on the look-out for do-it-yourself handiwork—a cabinet, a painting or an enameled table—and voice your admiration of it.

10. DON'T PLAN ON AN EXTENDED RUN unless your hosts definitely ask you to stay longer. Tact, common sense and a little extra-sensory perception are your best guides, but you can safely follow these rules-of-thumb: at an afternoon tea, "coffee" or cocktail party which doesn't include a buffet supper, leave at least an hour before the community dinner hour. If invited to lunch, plan on staying one-and-a-half to two hours at least. You should plan on three or three-and-a-half hours for dinner, but don't stay much longer unless you're the very close friend of a night-owl host.



Weekly Health Tip

By WILSON GRIFFIN

When giving medicine: Read the label and instructions beforehand. Never give medicine from an unlabeled bottle. Before measuring liquid medicine shake the bottle thoroughly each time. Don't give medicine in the dark; you may have picked up the wrong bottle.

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Bumper Crops Reduce Prices

The nation's storage bins are bulging with bumper crops of wheat, feed grains and soybeans. One of the results will be generally lower prices in 1968.

The national wheat crop was 10 per cent above 1966, North Carolina's was up 60 per cent. All fed grains, except barley, are up. The U. S. corn supply is just slightly below the record supply of 1960. North Carolina literally outdid itself in 1967 by producing a record 113 million bushels of corn, up a staggering 86 per cent over 1966.

State and national soybean crops will be records. Production is up 5 per cent nationally and 25 per cent in the state.

"Generally, we can expect prices for these commodities to be lower than we received a year ago," said Dr. T. E. Nichols Jr., extension economist at North Carolina State University.

"Somewhat higher prices than those currently being received can be expected later in the season," he added.

Wheat prices will probably average 12 to 15 per cent lower than the 1966 crop. North Caro-

lina prices are expected to average between \$1.45 and \$1.55 per bushel from now until July. A larger state crop and a smaller national crop are expected in 1968.

The feed grain carryover will increase despite a slight increase in domestic use. The reinstatement of the acreage diversion payments in 1968 feed grain program could remove 10 million acres from corn and grain sorghum production.

A seasonal price rise of 20 to 25 cents per bushel is expected in North Carolina. Smaller feed grain crops, state and national, are anticipated in 1968.

The large soybean crop and lower prices are boosting demand. Domestic and export use are expected to increase during 1968. Carryover, however, will increase to 133 - 150 million bushels by next September.

Prices in North Carolina should increase as much as 20 to 25 cents above harvest levels, making storage profitable.

The lower prices and increased acreage planted to wheat and cotton may reduce soybean plantings in 1968.

Livestock Prices Change Little

The new year may bear a sharp likeness to 1967 for beef and pork producers. A period of relatively stable prices is in prospect.

This is the way the situation shapes up:

—Fed cattle prices during January - March may be slightly above the average Chicago price of \$25 per hundred pounds for choice steers at the same period a year ago.

—Prices may weaken in April with little change for the 1967 pattern through the remainder of the year.

—Hog prices in the first half of 1968 are expected to average around the 1967 level of \$19.10 per hundred.

—If the spring pig crop expands as present conditions seem to indicate, hog prices in the latter half of 1968 could fall.

Dr. Donald A. West, North Carolina State University economist, explains that prices for barrows and gilts were down a sharp 28 per cent early in 1967 from the

Banks Approve Merger Plans

C. O. Robinson, president of the First & Citizens National Bank of Elizabeth City, and L. E. Hinnant, executive officer in charge of the Kings Mountain office of First Union National Bank of North Carolina, today jointly announced that directors of these two institutions have approved a

plan to merge, subject to the approval of the Comptroller of the Currency and stockholders of both institutions.

Total combined resources of the two institutions will be in excess of \$28 million.

First Union National Bank has 101 offices in 48 North Carolina communities and in excess of \$800 million in resources. First & Citizens National Bank has \$28 million in resources and one office in Elizabeth City.

same period of record high prices the year before. From a price of \$19.10 per hundred pounds early in the year, prices recovered slightly and reached \$22.60 by July then fell to an October level of \$17.80.

These prices are based on averages from eight midwestern markets.

Dr. West said North Carolina took production is expected to increase in the next three to five years with prices closely related to the national level.

On the beef side of the picture, prices averaged about \$22.20 per hundred pounds in 1967, the same as in 1966 and the highest since 1959. Calf prices were a little higher in 19667 than the 1966 average of \$26.

PRESBYTERIAN

Dr. Paul Ausley will use the sermon topic, "Faith Unknown" at Sunday morning worship services at First Presbyterian church. The Sacrament of Communion will be observed.

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