

How to Enjoy Yourself on the Day of Patriotism and Noise

Excerpted from *The New York Times*, July 4, 1893

"I don't know what to do this Fourth," said the young man with the brown hat and eyeglasses to his neighbor in the elevated train. The neighbor was an older man who stopped reading his newspaper, pulled off his spectacles, and said, reflectively:

Don't have more fun than you can handle.

Don't consider the hot weather a personal affront to yourself. Other persons are perspiring also.

Don't try to show everybody else how he ought to set off his firecrackers.

Don't expect your boy to fire his crackers in the nice tin pan you have arranged for him. He is doing the business, and he knows what gives him the most fun.

Don't play a firecracker joke on your wife or any other girl in a muslin frock. Women are such strange creatures that they might object.

Don't put on too many airs about being bored by your holiday. They will know you are dissembling.

Don't plan to have a nice, quiet day of it all. You will only be disappointed.

Don't swear at the punk.

Don't apply hot and rebellious liquors to your blood.

Don't eat too much lobster with your ice cream and lemon pie.

Don't make bathing suit jokes.

Don't hurry. You can do that any day.

Don't tell long stories about the fine lot of fireworks you had last year.

Don't abuse a policeman for obeying his orders.

Don't select the president of a fire insurance company as a cheerful holiday companion on July 4.

Don't expect your wife to enjoy herself exactly in the same way that you do. She also has an individual soul, and oftener than you think, knows just what she wants without instruction from you.



Vintage embossed postcard marked "Copyright 1908 P. Sander N.Y." Mailed Milwaukee, Wisconsin, July 5, 1909.

Don't expect to have as much fun as you used to have.
Don't behave with less general common sense than your
own small boy.

The young man leaned back and grinned. "All right," he
said. "I won't forget."



Vintage embossed postcard with shiny "gelatin"
finish marked "0684." Mailed Lewiston, Maine,
July 4, 1913.