

My mother wouldn't like it...

By CAROLINE PETRICH

Some of us may still hear our parents' admonishments for using the "F" word or for looking slovenly at the dinner table. But let's face facts, the stuffy manners of yesteryears, like not asking people's ages or not chewing gum in public, really don't apply to us collegiates.

Emily Post and Amy Vanderbilt probably cry at their heavenly places after watching our generation. Ms. Post tried to impress upon most of our mothers the "proper" way to act in public.

Ladies, don't chew gum because it makes you look like cows in the field.

Gentlemen, remember to tip your hat, even if it is only a bicycling helmet.

Nowadays, Congresswoman Millicent Fenwick, who happens to be in her 70s, smokes a pipe. I'm sure some women even chew tobacco. Most men don't wear hats, either. Hah! How d'ya like that one, Emily!?

Ms. Post, in "The New Emily Post Etiquette," published in 1922, but revised in 1975, does give some advice valuable to all of us. How to accept an invitation from the White House.

A most gracious guest of Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Reagan might be one of our own RCYB members; we'll call her "Nancy." Her acceptance might read something like this: Ms.

Nancy accepts with pleasure the kind invitation of President and Mrs. Ronald Reagan for dinner on May 1 at 8 p.m.

And Nancy, remember, "When you are invited to the White House, you must arrive several minutes at least before the hour specified. It is an unpardonable breach of etiquette not to be standing in the drawing room when the President makes his entry."

Proper attire? Of course, the occasion demands Black Tie. Don't wear red; you know how Al Haig gets when he sees red. Conversation? Well, it might be a good time to discuss socializing the United States, but Ron might choke if you bring up "American imperialism." He may think you're talking about an automobile.

However, the most vital issue Ron, Al and the good ole' boys need to know is arresting nuclear arms build-up. But please don't start screaming; it's very rude. Just show pictures of Hiroshima victims, which may prove very appetizing, in between the entree and the dessert.

But for more common appearances, Emily forgot to fill us in. Here are some unwritten rules for people who really care.

For example, button-up Levis look better broken in. This "broken in" state covers a

broad area. Faded button-ups with no patches may be comfortable for one but might be stiff for another who prefers holes and conspicuous patches.

Another unwritten rule concerns indulging in the "wicked" weed. While smoking a joint, in public, it is best to pass it from left to right, especially in these conservative times.

The ever-growing sexual freedom poses some interesting questions.

Should a woman sleep with a man on the first date? Some would say, why not? But what if, after you reveal your intimate side, he turns out to be a scuz-ball? Or he's married? Or he's gay? Or he's into group sex and you're not? Or he "whips it good?"

What's a tactful way to tell him to blow it out his... ear? "Go to Hell!" Nah, copping an attitude doesn't always work. Change your phone number. A possibility, but Ms. Bell might charge for that mild alteration. Ahah! Start acting like a lady; make him pay for all your meals, open the doors, guard you from vicious puddles. Scold him for not standing up when you walk in the room. Chances are he won't like these constrictive rules and will split.

I guess old-style manners have their place after all.



Photo by Bob Baker

THANKS DAHLINGS!

To all of you beautiful people who have guided me through this horrendous mess, my deepest gratitude. I'd be a quivering mass of hysteria right now without you.

Most especially:

Max DeRungs, graphics EDITOR; Marian Green and Emilie Moreau, copy editors and moral supporters; Annie Peterson, production manager (and "part-time" copy editor). And finally, to Hair Today, pardon my pounce. See ya in the funny papers, cp. P.S. Hi Rachel and Sara!

The Squire Shop

Valley River Center

SALE

\$25⁰⁰ OFF!

Leather Coats

Dress Slacks...\$9.88

\$5.00 Off! Famous maker jeans like Fresh Squeeze, OZ, Normandy, Brittania S.F. Riding Gear

Sweaters...\$12.88

Great Selection
For Christmas at **The Squire Shop**

Chatty's

SPECIAL

A full set of graceful, natural looking
SCULPTURED NAILS. You have
to see them to believe it! Nails that are
brittle, weak or split can become
permanent, strong and beautiful.

Reg \$35
Now only \$25

with this ad
First fill-in \$12.50

Call for an appointment
683-1943
313 Oakway Mall Annex

Thru
Nov. 30