

Games and Stunts for the Banquet

Odds or Evens. Mixer mass game. Give everyone in room 10 peanuts (about 180 peanuts to pound). Have them move about the holding out any number of peanuts in one hand; #1 calls out "odd or even"; #2, the one questioned, guesses. If the guess is "even" and there are an even number of peanuts in #1's hand, then #2 gets the peanuts. If the guess is wrong, then #2 must pay #1 the number of peanuts in #1's hand. Give prize to one who has the greatest number of peanuts at the end of a certain period of time.

Novelty Grand March. (When all guests have arrived and you are ready to go to the table.) Then an exhilarating simple grand march may be conducted to stimulate mass play spirit, and lively march music is used to kindle in all a desire to get in line and march along. All formal commands are omitted. In step or out, everybody either whistles, sings, or claps to the rhythm of the music. The grand march concludes with partners facing each other in a double circle. Then the stunts following may be introduced.

Stunts. These stunts require only simple skills and coordinations. They help to ~~break down reserve and formality.~~ Moving one pace to the right to bring new people face to face for a new stunt.

These stunts offer reasonable assurance of success, create a comic picture, and retain the double circle formation.

1. Nose and Ear. The nose is grasped with the right hand, the right ear with the left. When signal to change is given the nose is grasped with the left hand and the left ear with the right. The positions are taken alternately by those in each circle upon command of the leader.

2. Elk Sign and Violin. Those on the inner circle place the thumbs of the right and left hands in the right and left ears respectively. The fingers of each hand are spread to form the so-called "elk sign." Those on the outer circle pantomime the playing of a violin. The action is started by those on the inner circle. Any time they wish they start to play the violin as a signal for partners to become elks. These changes are made quickly and frequently causing considerable amusement and confusion.

3. The --- Toast. Before the toast is read, each person supplies a descriptive adjective or adverb. This is done without their having any knowledge of how it is to be used. The toast is then read by the chairman substituting the descriptive words in the blank spaces. The following form may be used as an indication of what may be used. It may be made any length: Good evening _____ Friends. Never before have I had before me such a _____ group of _____ Men and _____ women. Such _____ faces, such _____ dispositions, such _____ personalities! To look into your _____ eyes, and know that among you are to be found the _____, the _____, the _____, of America is a _____ thrill. This is a _____ occasion. You will never forget it, etc. etc.

4. Just for Fun. Do this quickly, allowing only a moment for thought. Write with a calm mind-no dinner for you until you've finished. Paper with numbers 1-2- with a dash after each number is provided for each person. The result reads "Refreshments are ready".

(1) If you ever saw a cow jump over the moon, write "N" in spaces 1, 4, 14 and 16. If not, write "R" in these spaces.

(2) If "X" comes before "H" in the alphabet, write "Z" in space 3. If it comes after "H" write "F".

(3) If 31,467 is more than 12 dozen, write "E" in spaces 2,5,9,15, and 17.

(4.) If you like candy better than mosquitoes, indicate with an "S" in spaces 6 and 12. If not, better consult an alienist at once. Without counting on your fingers, write