

Jack's Stunt Book



1924



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Well! Well!! Well!!!

Here is another collection of stunts that I take pleasure in submitting for your approval. They are readily adapted to the use of any organization of men, women or children and I sincerely trust that they will give you as much pleasure in their use as I have had from working them out or collecting them and adapting them for general use.

I am much indebted to the many splendid civic clubs of this country and to Dick McClure, Ed Davidson, Dr. William Carrington and a few of my good friends for their help and co-operation in my work.

JOHN M. KUMLER,
Editor and Author.



ATTENDANCE

Three

Listen, Folks

First Spasm

The idea behind this book is to insure the success of your good fellowship at any meeting or social function that may be held. These stunts and ideas can be adapted to any sort of a meeting from a lodge bridge club to a huge international convention and are equally fitting for men's or women's organizations.

Second Verse—Same Song

There is a reason for everything including this book. In each locality or group of friends there are several pet stunts. They may be few but they are always good. The difficult thing for a person to do when put in charge of entertainment is to think up what to do and how to do it. This is well taken care of in the following pages and collected here you will find little stunts from all parts of the world. These may be changed to suit your ingenuity.

All set! Let's go!

About Meeting Days

Advertising clubs have compiled interesting data regarding attendance which may be of value to you in planning your meetings.

Monday is a poor day because a man starts the week with the intention of sticking close to his business. Monday, too, is a heavy mail day in most of the businesses in the larger cities.

Tuesday is generally a fair day due to light mail.

Wednesday is the best day in the week to get a man out to either a noon luncheon or an evening affair and Friday is the second best day in the week.

Saturday is the poorest day of all because it is generally a very busy one or business closes at noon. Most men like their week ends undisturbed.

The cool bright days of spring or fall are the best weather to get people out. Heat is more of a detrimental factor than is cold. Rain and slush tend to keep attendance down while snow has little effect.

Music on an announcement will bring out 20 per cent more than if nothing is said about this form of entertainment. If the music is unusually good the pulling power may run as high as 50 per cent.

The announcement of two speakers will attract better than announcements of only one. Short talks attract better than long ones. Three speakers will not attract as well as one or two because it is a good indication that the meeting may be a prolonged one and this does not suit the average business man. If your meeting is a weekly, semi-monthly or month-

ly luncheon affair and evening dinner, you will have from 20 to 50 per cent better attendance if the luncheon fees for the month, quarterly or annuity are collected in advance with the regular dues.

Animal Book

THE ANIMAL BOOK STUNT is a nice, clean-cut little humor-introducing thing, and if you can write a rhyme or can call in a member who can help you, it will afford a lot of fun.

Get one of these little animal books that children have, which show pictures, and start out thus:

"A stands for Alligator,
Whose mouth is awful big,
He eats most anything,
A man, a cow or pig."

Now you get up and read this first rhyme and then you point to a certain man and say, "What animal does B stand for? Quick, or you are fined." He answers or not and you pass quickly to the next man for an animal starting with C, etc.

Now, as I have intimated, you and your rhyming friend have gotten together a few days previously and written some little rhymes of your own, pasting them in the book under the proper letter. So when you get to G, for example, and the man called upon says "G stands for Giraffe," your answer, "No, that will cost you ten cents, for the book says" (and you read this little rhyme you have written about the club member whose name begins with G). This gives

diversity. Be sure to keep the stopping point in your mind and watch for the peak of fun to stop on, even sometimes sacrifice something further you have planned simply because it is very good policy to stop while you are going good and take no chances of falling down later.

Spell It, Bill!

This is a good acquaintance promoter. This is a "spell down" on proper names which is done by appointing two leaders who will choose sides. Then make them stand at opposite walls and start spelling the names of the different members just as they used to do at school. Simply call the names of the members one at a time, and the speller must properly and promptly spell it or go back to his seat. Of course you must have the person whose name is being spelled step out so that all can see him. This introduces him to the club and after you have seen a man and spelled his name he will be pretty thoroughly impressed upon your memory.

They Even Draw Flies

Here is a little stunt, the big kick of which comes after the meeting is over. Have on hand a bunch of white cardboard, cut into pieces of 5 x 7 inches, pass them around, saying that you are offering (or some local artist is offering) a prize for the best drawing of an engine or automobile. Make everyone present draw something or pay a fine. Have them sign their names to the pictures and pass them around for inspection first, and then gather

Seven

them all in. After the meeting, ink them all in and take them to some friendly newspaper who, you will find, will be glad to make a lead of them and run a cut in the paper with a snappy story telling who the artists are. This is particularly good if there are a number of prominent men in your club, dignified men, men of financial standing and business ability for their drawings are very likely to be typical of the primary grades and of course when they make them they have no idea they will be used in this way.

This Will Bring Them

As the leader of your organization, send out the day before your meeting a little personal note to those members who are never or seldom present. On it you can state that you would like to see them on a matter of mutual interest or business following the meeting. You will find that this will invariably bring the poor attenders to the meeting. Of course, needless to say, they are not liable to fall for this stunt the second time.

The Most Desirable

This is a take off of Elbert Hubbard's famous essay on "Silence," which, as you remember, was a neat little booklet which contained the title on the cover and nothing but blank pages on the inside. You might get out such a little booklet for your organization with front cover with somewhat of the following: "Complete list of members whom we

Eight

are more anxious to have attend the Tuesday evening meeting than you." Of course, there will be no names on the inside.

Hang Him If He Doesn't Hang Around

If one of your members misses quite a few meetings, upon the first one that he attends introduce him to your organization as a visitor. Following this four members enter the room carrying a miniature gallows and a tall dummy made up to represent the offending member. Funeral dirge may be chanted as these men enter the room and a very impressive speech should be made to the culprit who is thereupon hanged in effigy. Following your meeting it might be well to have the real offender allowed to make a post mortem speech.

Not So Dead

The serious reply of a member to the Secretary's demand that he attend after missing three meetings was as follows: "I will be there if I am not dead." Not being present at the next meeting, the announcement of his death was solemnly made and brought forth flowers, condolence letters and calls and a real, live, fighting member for the following meeting.

Crown Him

Have members state why they were not present at the last meeting. Use a dunce cap and crown the best man as "Alibi Ike."

There May Be Truth Here

If any of your members are away on a business trip or visit, have them tried for smuggling and boot-legging at the first meeting they attend upon their return.

Prevent Tardiness

No organization likes to be late in starting its meetings. The following ideas will tend to get your members there on time.

Announce the late arrivals by ringing a cow bell.

Fine the last man a dollar or fine each man one cent for each minute that he is late.

You might require each tardy member to sing a little solo or do a stunt for being late.

He Looks So Natural, Too

This idea seems to have worked out in an amusing manner in one of the civic clubs. It serves the double purpose of getting the members in the room on time and of a program feature. The Secretary keeps his eyes on the door and reports the latest comer to the presiding officer. At the close of the menu he begins the program by calling the latest member before the chair. As neither the man or the club knows what is coming—the manner of humiliation being changed at every meeting—the membership is on edge. It is, of course, a prepared stunt, as all stunts to be successful, ought to be. The hope that anything of this sort can

be pulled off successfully without preparation and in many cases rehearsal, is fatal. The club in question gives the following example:

The latest member summoned before the chair, who pointedly observes that a late member is a "dead one." He also points out that it is customary to bury the dead. Whereupon he summons the burial squad. Four members come in with a wide board or table top, a sheet and an undertaker's door spray or a fake bunch of flowers made up of lettuce, cabbage, etc. The victim is wrapped round and round in the sheet and placed on the board. He is then carried to the center of the room, the setpiece reverently laid upon his chest and while the four men held the bier the presiding officer standing at its head solemnly reading burial service. In this case the service ran as follows:

"To the tossing water of (name of your organization) to the waves of vengeance of today's attendance committee, to the seas of his own procrastination, to the depths of the inevitable results of postponement, I commit this body of our late brother, John Jones."

At the close of the reading the board is tipped and the victim slides off into the sea (the floor) where he proceeds to disentangle himself as best he may.

Another example of this is:

Execution

In this the tardiest member is summoned to the chair as before. He is told that the club has no

use for him, the attendance committee even less and that it has been decided to get rid of him once and for all. The Chair then calls up the guard and two members march the victim to the end of the room where a soap box has been placed. He is turned around with his back to the box, facing the membership, and the Chair then calls for the firing squad. Six members come in armed with pop guns, squirt guns, cutlasses, bows and arrows, ancient muskets and weapons of like nature. One carried a revolver with blank cartridges. After the culprit has gazed upon his fate he is blindfolded and placed upon the box. A rope is then attached to it and at the words, "Ready, Aim, Fire!" the revolver is discharged and the box suddenly pulled away. The victim falls sprawling into the arms of his escort, is laid on the floor, the club doctor summoned, who either pronounces life extinct or demands that he be shot again, the club undertaker comes up with his high hat, gloves and paraphernalia and lays him out, and his squad then carries him back to his seat, where he removes his bandages and comes to life.

Running the Gauntlet

In this feature, after the usual summoning and talk the offender is sentenced to crawl on his hands and knees between two lines of members—the attendance team preferably—who swing on him with open palms as he goes through. The rapidity with which he makes the trip is ludicrous.

Twelve

Automobile Club Racing

If you belong to a national or international lodge, club or fraternity this stunt should prove as successful with you as it did with the Rotary Club of Newburgh, New York. This stunt is a dandy one to increase attendance and acquaintances, and is as follows:

Divide your club membership into groups of seven and select from each group a member who actually owns and drives a particular kind of car, the Hupmobile, Packard, Ford, etc., assigned to him. He is the driver and responsible for the other six. You will find if your club is a large one that you will have a great many different cars and it might do well to add a trailer to which the odd members are assigned in case your membership does not divide into sevens evenly. You next prepare a map of your state or district and put a star for each city or town in which you have a club or lodge. You then connect up these autos by red lines showing the main direct routes to them and between them. At each ten mile point an arrow is put. Each car in the race is represented by a number and you will need special markings for these numbers, depending upon the number of cars. Here is the point:

The attendance of each member at a meeting sends his car along ten miles so that if all seven attend the meeting, that car will go 70 miles on its journey. In order to stimulate inter-club attendance and the visiting of other clubs an addi-

Thirteen

tional ten miles is given for each meeting attended in addition to your own by any member of your club. It will not be long before some of these cars take the lead and fight to maintain it and the slower ones strive mightily to decrease their distance between the leaders and themselves. You will find that this race will help your attendance a great deal and will stimulate trips to other clubs and will give you valuable newspaper publicity to the extent of the various agencies in your city handling the cars in the lead co-operating with you in any way that their car may win. This, as you see, will take weeks and a substantial prize should be arranged for the winning car.

Stick or Be Stuck

Paint a large letter on a sign board and put it in your club room the letter to be representative of your organization, such as an R for Rotary. On this large letter write in or print the names of all of your members and then send out the following notice:

"There will be a big.....(the letter representing your organization) at the meeting next Tuesday. Your name will appear on this.... (letter) unless you are there to cover it up with the enclosed sticker. Let's do all we can to make this a 100 per cent meeting."

Reminding Them

Have a series of postal cards printed up for your organization much as the following:

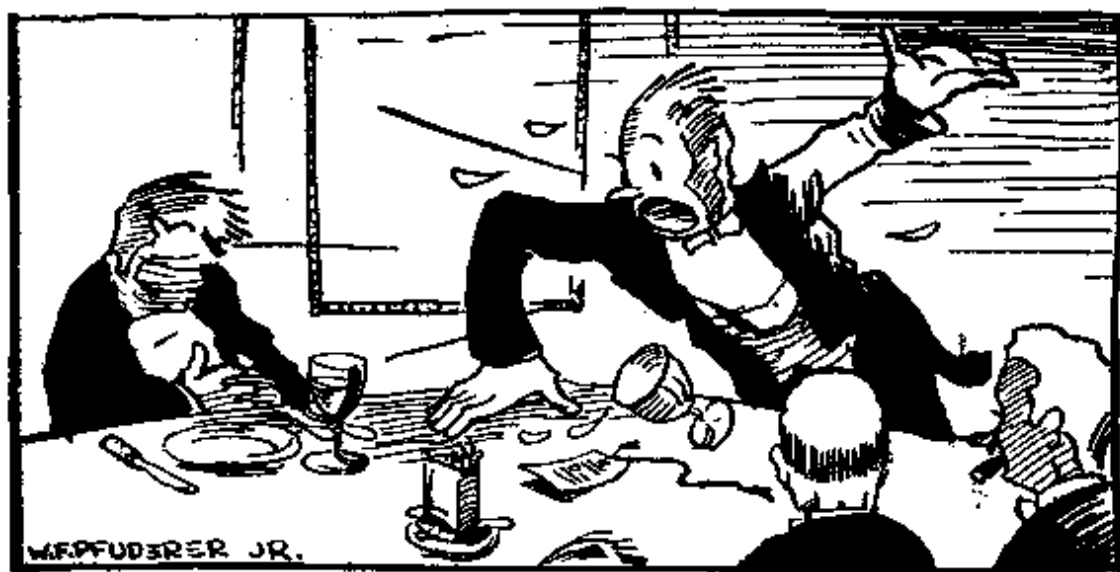
Fourteen

On a plain white card which is the first one to go to the member who is missing your meetings, just tell him that he is absent and that you miss him and that his attendance will help both himself and your organization.

If he misses the following meeting, send him card No. 2 which will have a green border printed around it and the words "Caution! We missed you again." Remind him on this card that you are enforcing your attendance by-laws and advise him to keep his record clean by writing or phoning you.

If he still persists in being absent send him the third card which has a red border and the words "Danger! Beware!" Upon this remind him emphatically that he has missed the third consecutive meeting and that your by-laws will force you to drop him from your organization if he does not take heed. Suggest that good excuses for his past absences are valid and will be received by you day or night, by telephone or mail.

If he has missed four consecutive meetings and your by-laws are such that he must be dropped, send him card No. 4 with a wide black border stating to him that he is "dead." Remind him that you notified him and pleaded with him and that you warned him to no avail and having missed four consecutive meetings he is automatically dropped from your rolls. The printing of these cards is inexpensive and results obtained by their use will justify their expense.



Luncheons and Dinners

Data for Entertainment Committees

For every member of your organization the entertainment committee should have a card made out and filled in much as the following. It will assist them a great deal in their plans:

1. Name in full.....
2. Business Address.....
Business Telephone.....
3. Home Address.....
Home Telephone.....
4. (Age) Date of Birth.....
Day or Week.....
5. Birthplace
How long have you lived in (Name of your city).....
.....
6. Are you married?..... Number of Children:
..... Boys..... Girls.....
7. Are you a member of the Chamber of Commerce?.....
.....Of what Other organizations, clubs, lodges,
etc?
.....
8. Do you read music?..... Do you play any instru-
ment and what.....
9. Do you sing?..... Bass or Tenor?.....
Will You?
10. If you are married does your wife sing?.....
Soprano or Contralto.....
11. What is your favorite song?.....
.....
12. Do you recite or have you any elocutionary or dramatic
training?
Have any members of your family?.....

13. Do you dance?.....Do you play outdoor sport?
..... What?
14. Do you own an auto?..... How many passen-
ger?
15. What kind of luncheon (foods) do you like best?
.....
Are there any foods you cannot or do not eat?.....
.....
16. What kind of (name of your organization) talks and
meetings do you like best?
17. Have you any suggestions to offer to the entertainment
committee?

Remarks:
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

Egg Throwing

Have one of your members making an address before your club on "Eggs" or as a juggler. You might have some member of your club do this made up as an imported professional juggler, his identity being unknown to your group. His first act will be the balancing of an egg on a pencil. He will demand complete silence from the audience, explaining that he has come on a long journey and is very nervous.

Nineteen

The silence is not apt to be forthcoming and after two or three genuine eggs have been broken in the attempt the juggler in a fit of anger seizes several eggs and throws them at the audience. You can imagine how they scramble to get out of the way. They will discover upon being struck by the "eggs" that the ones thrown are only shells of eggs or wooden eggs painted and you will have a splendid laugh at their expense.

Who Has Your Goat?

At one of your meetings you might call upon every member present to state in a few words what incident or period in their life's routine gets their goat. Here are some of the replies that you may expect:

Bald headed men generally find that it gets their goats to have to pay the full price of a hair cut.

The clergymen will probably tell you that it gets their goats the way you fellows play golf on Sundays.

The superintendent of the schools will probably tell you that your kids get his goat.

The Volstead Act

This is a stunt for January 16, at which time the Volstead act went into effect. During your meeting, dinner or party have a large 7x4 foot bottle, in which there is a man who can walk with only his feet showing enter the room. The label on this bottle is made in as near an imitation as possible of "Green River" or "Haig and Haig" bottle. It will appear at the entrance of your room followed by six pallbearers

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with red noses, hats on shoulders and the pianist playing the dead march. They parade around the room. Fifteen minutes or so later an eight-foot milk bottle appears in a bridal veil, followed by groom and associates and to the tune of the Wedding March.

This stunt is equally good in Canada, as on certain dates the various provinces of Canada have gone dry.

Just Like the Chinese

Some time instead of furnishing your organization with regular implements for eating, put Chinese chop sticks at their places, picking out difficult things to handle. Spaghetti and beans might be two of them on your menu. You might award a prize to the one most skillful in the manipulation of these instruments.

Humorous Debating

Occasionally ten or fifteen minutes can be spent in hilarious amusement by having certain members of your organization who always like to talk or debate such subjects as "Which Came First, the Hen or the Egg?" "If I Owned a Peacock and He Laid an Egg in Your Yard, Who Would the Egg Belong To?" ("He" wouldn't be apt to lay an egg.) "Resolved, That a Straw Hat Should Be Worn on a Weak End." "Which Drug Store Handles the Best Liquor in Town?" "That I Am More Dumb Than You Are."

Straw Hat Sale

This is a good stunt which can be used to raise funds for any particular purpose and is carried on as follows:

Go to some local hatter, preferably one belonging to your club, and have him sell you at the close of the straw hat season, a dozen or two straw hats as cheaply as he can or will. During the meeting you will collect all the members' straw hats present and take them up in front and unbeknown to them add this bunch of straw hats that you have purchased. Your auctioneer selected for this stunt will begin to auction off supposedly the members' hats, stating that you are now bidding on Tom Smith's hat. This is apt to make some of the members present excited, particularly as one of the first hats sold should be broken in two. The argument lies in fact that the man who bought the hat has a right to do anything he pleases with it and as he is in on this stunt and knows that the hat really does not belong to any of the excited members, he has considerable fun at their expense. Considerable money can be raised in this way particularly if the hats are not allowed to be auctioned off at less than \$1.00.

Your Daily Life

In clubs where you have business classifications this stunt should prove a very interesting one. You tell your members that you want them to work out a continued story of their daily life. The first man to arise is to state that he was awakened by an alarm clock bought from Mr. ———, the jeweler of your club. The jeweler then states that he arose from a bed bought from a furniture man, who in turn tells of putting on a suit of clothes from a tailor, and so on and so on through the day, each member carrying

the daily routine one step further through the assistance of materials purchased or which could be purchased from members of the club. This could be carried through the member going out in his automobile to buy a house in which the next one ate food purchased from your grocer. One would wonder about the undertaker. If it could be arranged to attend a funeral that the undertaker presided at, the life insurance member could pay the bill, the minister handle the services, etc., and you cannot forget the banker or attorney who administers the estate.

The Old White Elephant

Have every member bring something that has been a "White Elephant" or a white elephant on his hands in the form of merchandise or personal property from his office or business or his home. This can include anything that he has been unable to dispose of. It must be wrapped, tied and unmarked. After your meeting have these mysterious packages auctioned off. Proceeds can go toward your charity fund or a fund for sending your delegates to conventions, etc.

A Good Hand

Take a deck of playing cards and pass out a card to each member or guest as he enters the room. Instruct them that they must not show this card to anyone present, but that it should be kept on hand ready to be shown if so demanded. Name a penalty for the failure to obey these rules as getting no ice cream, or threatening to call upon them for a song or a stunt

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if they disobey. When you are all set have a loud voiced announcer ask all holders of cards to form themselves into groups of five, each group to make a perfect poker hand. To the group who succeeds in assembling themselves first as a perfect hand, a prize is given. Should several groups declare themselves winners or having formed their hands simultaneously, it is then a question of the best hand winning. A special prize should be offered to the group who succeeds in forming a royal flush.

Telephone Stunt

The chairman is the 'phoner and he calls these fellows at the table by numbers. There is one member who will collect a fine of 10 cents for every mistake made. You will have looked up all telephone numbers of 10 or 15 members previously, who you feel sure, will be present. Calling the 'phone number of one of the members he is to arise. Then you call another number and he also arises. Then you say to the latter, "What is the name and business of this man, Main ——? Answer quick or it will cost you 10 cents." The snappier you make this the better it is. If the man does not answer he is fined. This stunt promotes acquaintance better than any other that we know of. You can proceed this way for several calls, and then fool some fellow by making him guess the weight or age of the other fellow within, say, five pounds or five years, or else be fined. This gives variety. There are a great many stunts that your own native wit will prompt in the way of fool-

Twenty-four

ish or humorous questions that will get a laugh. For example, have some well-known bachelor ask the other man to give his wife's maiden name or such things as will suggest themselves to you, the main idea being not to carry the name and business stunt on too long as it will get tiresome.

Passing the Buck

This requires advanced preparations as several of your members are made a party to it. At a certain time the first conspirator arrives and addresses the chairman somewhat as follows: "Mr. Chairman, a clever little stunt has been prepared for me to present at this time for the amusement of our members and guests, but owing to the fact that I must meet the 7:15 train I am compelled to leave at once. I have asked Mr. (No. 2) to substitute for me. I am certain that he will do this stunt even better than I could and will delight you." No. 2 at this point arises and explains that because of some unforeseen circumstances he must (presenting a good excuse) have Mr. (No. 3) do the stunt, as he has agreed. This gentleman states that after having gone over the matter that he believes that they have misplaced confidence in his ability, and knowing that it requires the very best in order to present it properly he has asked Mr. ——— to do it. Having three or four men pass the buck in this manner is enough as it will become tiresome if it is done too many times. The last man selected has prepared a short address on the subject such as "Passing the Buck" or "Let George Do It," and this stunt will strengthen the point of his talk very forcibly.

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They'll Always Remember This Chap

At the initiation of new members try to fasten the man's business or profession on the minds of the club. For example:

Several Pennsylvania Clubs use the occasion of the reception of a new member as an opportunity of getting a little fun into the luncheon program. For example, on a certain day one of the purchasing agents of the Lackawanna Railroad was accepted for membership in a certain club. The new member was called before the presiding officer who told him that since the membership committee had passed upon his name he had received protests against his admission, which in justice to the club he felt that he ought to place before its members. The President then read the following telegrams purporting to have been sent by different members. Actual names of course are not given.

Pine Brook, Pa., Oct. —, 19—.

President, ——— Club:

Protest against Jones' election. Tried to sell him a box of glass last week and he busted it over my head. Will exhibit bump to Board of Governors if requested.

R. B. Smith,
Smith Glass Company.

——— Club of ———: October —, 19—.

Jones is a crab. He won't give any competitors' figures to a chap. If he gets in I get out.

Charles R. Dougherty,
Dougherty Electric Construction Co.

D. & H. Yards, October —, 19—.

President, ——— Club of ———:

Jones is not the man for ———. Tried to land him with lead pipe. Now sorry I missed him. Keep him out or every ——— selling things will be ruined.

M. F. Davidson,
Davidson Pipe Co.

Hotel Palace Bar, October —, 19—.

President, ——— Club:

I don't mean to be mean, but oh pshaw or pish and tush or mercy me! He hasn't got a decent letter file in his office and when I tried to show him one he kicked a hole through it. Not for me.

D. M. Roberts,
Roberts Brothers, Stationers.

———, Pa., Oct. —, 19—.

——— Club of ———:

Jones needs what I sell and he knows it, but he won't open his mouth about it. I am of the opinion that his bark is worse than his bite, because I don't believe he has any bite. If he will buy what I have, I will let him in and put them in.

E. Grant Lyman,
Dental Supplies.

128 North Main Avenue,
Tumbletown, Pa., Oct. —, 19—.

——— Club President:

No, Mr. President, Jones is a dead one. Ordinarily I like them dead, but at the time Government took

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over the Lackawanna I tried to sell this man Jones corporate crepe for the entire system and he didn't have sense enough to see the proposition.

E. L. Dimmick, Funeral Director.

The President then sentenced the candidate to make a purchase of each objector. The glass man sold him a box of broken glass, the electric man some old wire, the pipe man a piece of lead pipe, the stationer an old letter file, the dental man a set of teeth and the undertaker a piece of crepe. All were hung around his neck and he was marched around the room and back to the President.

Following this the President put the question of the candidate's admission up to the club. The vote was "No" with a roar. The President explained briefly the different things relating to the club and presented him with his ——— button.

Learn This Game

Get a blackboard, a big cardboard, or an illuminated baseball diamond as used by daily papers to report world series games. Borrow a bat, a mask, a chest protector, a baseball and a dozen caps. Put up your scoreboard so that all may see it readily. Pick two men as captains and let them choose up teams of five each, going "hand over hand" on the bat for first choice. Line the teams up opposite each other and place caps on their heads. Choose an umpire and place the mask and chest protector on him. Choose a pitcher for each team. The pitcher takes the ball and goes over and tags some member not in

Twenty-eight

the game. As soon as he does this the batter up names the man. If he cannot do so quickly he is declared out by the umpire and the next batter is up. Three out is side out. If the batter gives the first name he goes to first base; if he gives the last name he goes to second; if he gives his business he goes to third and if he can give location of his business he makes a home run. If he gets on base perhaps the next batter can advance him. As each batter comes up the pitcher seeks another man to try to fool the batter. This means that he picks up the least known people. Be sure to get a good umpire and coaches.

Give your shortest member a step ladder.

Breaking Them Up

In every organization there are groups or clans of fellows who always sit together. A good stunt for breaking these pairs up and getting them acquainted with the other fellows is by asking every other member as he enters the checkroom to retain his gloves. As he enters the meeting place he is instructed to put on his left glove, dropping the right glove into a basket for that purpose. After a sufficient number have arrived, have the members not wearing gloves come forward, pick out a glove, find the rightful owner and sit with him during the meeting. This stunt works better in an organization of 50 or less members.

We Take Off Our Hats

After your organization is assembled either at the

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table or in their respective seats for a meeting, gather up all the hats and put them in a pile at one end of the room. Then line the members up in a row with their eyes shut or blindfolded and lead them up to seek their hats which, of course, they cannot see. After picking out a hat each person should be placed in a line where all those who have preceded him are standing. With your entire organization in line have each man seek the rightful owner at a given signal. This provides a little fun and promotes acquaintances.

It Ain't Mine!

Page a member. Announce that his wife wants him to take care of the baby. Then have a colored child brought in.

A Larger Hat Is Needed

Fake a telegram to the President of the Club. "Am putting on a stupendous and colossal performance of 'Carmen' at the New York Hippodrome. Ask _____ (some amateur actor, a member of your club) what he would charge me to shoot the bull." (Signed) Lee Shubert.

Does It?

Have two members debate the subject: "Does Mortar Hold Bricks Together or Apart?" Have the loser furnish the silent boost for the following week.

Chew, Brother, Chew!

Pick six men by drawing lucky numbers. Erect two standards nine feet apart. Place a rod on these

Thirty

standards five feet high. Draw lines on the floor so that each man has a line of his own. Each man steps in his line and stands about five feet from the cross bar. A string is provided for each man. One end of the string has a weight attached and hangs from the crossbar, and the other end of the string is put in the contestant's mouth. At the word "Go" each man starts chewing his string. Three prizes are awarded. This contest can be elaborated on and is very exciting.

Young America

Engage five small negro boys and one larger boy. They all put on heavy boxing gloves and are placed in a ring. The last one to survive gets a purse. No time is kept. Tell the smaller ones that the larger one claims the rest will not last two minutes. They frame-up the larger one.

The Lost Note Book

Lost, Notebook! Have the Secretary read from a notebook, alleged to have been picked up among some other Club articles, references to expenditures for bootlegging, dodging income tax returns, etc. After reading the notebook he turns it over to one of the members who is fond of playing practical jokes on his fellows.

Below there follows a "sample" of such a lost notebook.

Items in notebook found outside ————— Trust Building last Tuesday:

Thirty-one

Feb. 3—Advertisements for Stenographer....	\$.50
Feb. 5—Violets for New Stenographer.....	.65
Feb. 8—Week's Salary for Stenographer....	15.00
Feb. 11—Roses for Stenographer.....	3.00
Feb. 15—Candy for Wife over Sunday.....	.60
Feb. 15—Week's Salary for Miss ———..	20.00
Feb. 19—Lunch with Miss ———.....	10.00
Feb. 22—Lillian's Salary	25.00
Feb. 25—Theatre and Supper with Lillian...	22.00
Feb. 26—Fur Coat for Wife.....	325.00
Feb. 26—Advertisement for Male Stenographer	.50

We Blush to State—

After a talk from an income tax expert, preferably the Collector of Internal Revenue himself, have one of your ministers seriously ask the speaker at the close of his address what some of the members' incomes are and if they are evading the law. Prearrange with the tax officer some "phony" answers. Below are some of the answers:

Butcher, straight income tax, \$5.20; tax on commissions to dog catcher, \$450.

Barber, straight income tax, \$3.98; tax on hush money, \$360.11.

Dairyman, straight income tax, \$5.00; tax on water rights, \$788.92.

Doctor, straight income tax, \$2.87; tax on commissions from bootlegging ring, \$6,666.66.

Fire Insurance Man, straight income tax, \$6.57; tax on commissions from successful fire sales, \$2,546.62.

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Druggist, straight income tax, \$0.23; tax on commissions from bootlegging ring, \$666.66.

Plumber, straight income tax, \$8.93; tax on rebates from men on overtime, \$7,589.56.

Coal Dealer, \$4.51; tax on purses as lightweight champion, \$5,999,876.01.

An Introduction

The next time you have some well known member of your organization, or someone well known to all the members, make an address for you, you might pull this little stunt. Have the introducing chairman wax eloquent in introducing the speaker. He can speak of the years of devotion to his profession, he can speak of the long years of friendship that they have had together, he can mention the great length of time he has looked forward to hearing this speaker and listening to his message and he can conclude his introduction by saying, "It is useless to mention this speaker's name. All of us know him, about his reputation or personality. His name, like few names indeed, has become a household word." Then turn to the speaker and ask in a hoarse whisper to be heard all over the place, "By the way, what did you say your name was?"

An Operation

Select someone to be the victim, secure either a medical man from your organization or import one who will appear wearing regular operating costume. A carefully selected candidate for this degree will be

brought in on the operating table. After a long discussion the doctor finally diagnoses the case. A tray of instruments are spread out on a nearby table and a veterinary is called in for consultation. Hidden under the sheet which covers the patient is a sack of white feathers representing Fear. A sack of corn representing the corn whiskey, ten feet of frankfurters representing egotism and ten yards of yellow crepe representing the yellow streak out of his back. Anything else that seems necessary to remove can be put under this sheet. After the surgeon has removed from the patient all the characteristics that a member of your organization should be without he should be announced as cured and in a position to be taken in your organization. It might be well to have a representative from Dun or Bradstreet and a minister called in to the consultation as their presence there is obvious.

From the Side Lines

The next time someone in your club gets up and names himself and his business and the firm which he is connected, ask him how long he has been with this firm. Upon his reply in a chorus have at least a dozen present shout, "That's a helluva long time!"

Speaking of Classifications

In many civic clubs I have visited and have belonged to, I have heard some very clever slogans relating to different businesses that were used by some of the members. These run as follows and may give

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you a line of them that will produce many even better for the classifications of your friends in various businesses:

We give the Earth with every plant.—Florist.

Our business is to help yours.—Advertising Agency.

If your clothes are not becoming to you, you should be coming to us.—Clothier.

A good sign is a sign signed.—Sign Painter.

I'm in a shady business.—Awning Manufacturer.

The early bird gets the worm.—Grocer.

I make good impressions.—Printer.

I'm in a hard game.—Concrete Contractor.

We make it safe for you to die.—Life Insurance.

I come after you go.—Funeral Director.

Let's cut it out.—Surgeon.

Native Sons

At one of your luncheons group your members according to their native states. This can be done by providing a table for each state or by placing the members in groups at one long table. Have the chairman call off the names of the states and have one of the members from each state arise and tell in a few words of its history and its glory. This may be impromptu but may be better if carefully prepared.

Reserved Tables

If, at your luncheons, you use small tables this is a good stunt in order to get acquainted. Have cards printed about 4x5 inches. On one side the words "Reserved" in large letters and down in the corner

Thirty-five

"See Other Side." These cards can be placed on a few tables or on all tables so that as the members come in their first thought is to run from one table to the next. When the reserved cards are finally picked up, as they will be, you can have some message on the back such as, "Are you getting everything out of this club that you should? If not, why not? Before taking this table, look around and try to find someone you do not know. Seek him out and get acquainted."

Greater Things

Appoint someone to make a short address on the great men of this country. Standing before your audience he will begin something like this: "Washington was a great man, Lincoln was a great man, Roosevelt was a great man," but here he will pause and pull a package from beneath his coat and say, "Here is a greater," and the object held aloft proves to be a nutmeg grater from the kitchen.

They Need 'Em

Present a wooden gavel weighing sixty or seventy pounds to the President and an equally preposterous pencil to the Secretary and a purse used for advertising some leather concern to the Treasurer.

So-Long and Howdy!

Attire incoming and outgoing Presidents in regalia symbolic of the passing of one regime and the beginning of a new one. Both parties are placed directly in front of the speaker's table and while being dressed

Thirty-six

in appropriate attire are lectured as to what had been endured during the tenure of office of one and what was not to be expected during the term of the other. The retiring President should be attired somewhat similar to Father Time with hour glass and scythe and the new President as a baby with cap, bib and bottle.

Hit 'Em, Boys!

Select two teams of six men each. Have two 4x4 boards with three heavy nails in separate circles for each contestant. At a signal the first man in each team drives his three nails straight in and relays the hammer to his next teammate. If a nail bends it must be withdrawn and redriven. Select cheer leader.

The Family Skeleton

Have one of your doctors furnish a skeleton. Place it on a platform and arrange it so that one of the members can answer questions of this skeleton without being seen. Use a megaphone and arrange a set of questions and answers compiled by the committee in charge for the day. They refer, of course, to the members.

A Bottle of Old Crow

Get an old whiskey bottle case and have a sign painted "Old Crow." Knock the bottom out of the case and put a live rooster under the case and set it in a conspicuous place at your meeting. Let some prominent member of your club announce that he is giving as a prize at this meeting a case of "Old Crow."

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Raffle the prize as usual, the winner taking the case from the table. When he lifts the case, of course, the rooster flies out and he will have the fun of catching him.

Just Like the Movies

Arrange six plates in a doorway of the luncheon room over a black cardboard, and have them numbered. A member who is a noted marksman stands at the opposite end of the room with his gun and blank cartridges. Another member stands back of the cardboard with a small tack hammer and breaks the plates as the marksman calls them. All goes well for a while and then all goes wrong. Instead of breaking the upper righthand plate the helper breaks the lower lefthand plate.

Fire the Committee

Have the Board of Directors get into a squabble in front of the club over the fact that they had elected to membership a man well recommended but who upon complete investigation it was found was a negro.

Welcoming the New One

A new member in any organization is apt to feel sort of "on the outside." The following plan is a good one in which to make him get acquainted with all the members. Have a small pasteboard tag made ruled off which will hold all the names of your members. When the new member is introduced or ad-

mitted to your organization he is presented with one of these tags and a roster with the request that he must have the signatures complete in ninety days. If this is properly impressed upon him, at the end of ninety days he will have his card completely filled with the signatures of the members of your organization and will, of course, by that time know all of them personally.

They Made a Hit

Secure two little colored boys, if possible—even better, a little colored boy and a white boy the same size. At some meeting of your organization have a ring set up with the mats, select seconds, etc., and properly dress these boys for a two or three-round bout. Use a gong and seconds, trainers, a referee, etc. The boys can be paid for their time by throwing money into the ring following their bout or it can be an act of charity in order to maintain their amateur standing. Be sure to get little fellows that will have lots of pep and have no hesitancy in mixing in.

Fine for a Hot Day

Every organizaion has some good fellows and some men who pride themselves on their fighting ability. If these men can be talked into staging a few minutes bout for the benefit of your organization, you can have a great deal of fun from their antics in this manner: Blindfold each boxer and buckle a belt about him. To the back of each belt tie a rope which the audience will hold. Then let them go. A third

Thirty-nine

man in the ring can have a boxing glove in his hand which he will constantly hit either boxer with. This infuriates them and causes them to strive all the harder to hit the other fellow whom he cannot see. The ropes held by the audience will prevent any real damage being done. This stunt can be further added to by buckling these fellows together with a four or five-foot rope. If the ropes held by the audience are kept taut the boxers cannot possibly reach each other as they will be held apart just barely out of each other's reach.

The Little Speed Wagon

Get the two largest members of your organization into a Kiddie Kar race. If the contestants range around 260 pounds and are above six feet, this race will make a mummy laugh.

Be Careful

Send out to several members of your organization, preferably of the type that might be inclined to "bite," a letter much as the following, written in a feminine hand on ladies' stationery:

Name of a nearby city.

Date_____.

Dear Mr. _____:

On coming from _____ to _____ last Thursday I had the good fortune to meet a mutual friend, Mr. (name of out-of-town acquaintance of the man addressed) and mentioned the different cities I planned to visit en route to (name of nearby city).

When I mentioned (your city) he at once said that he had a very good friend there and asked me to look him up. I am coming to (name of your city) with some friends on the 20th. We will arrive about 11:30 a. m. and I will register at (name of hotel at which you meet) as soon as I arrive, so you will have no trouble in locating me. Will be there only a short time as I am on my way to Chicago. I do hope you will be able to call, if only for a short time.

(Signed) Margary Johnson.

You may be sure that every fellow who gets one of these letters will be pretty sure to be around about the time the letter calls for inquiring of your hotel clerk (who should be posted) about this young lady. It will help your attendance if this is planned for your regular meeting day and will certainly provide a hearty laugh on a bunch of the staid, home-loving men. The bigger they are, the harder they fall.

He'll Have to Take 'Em

At times you have visiting your organization to make a speech or who has done a real service for you, some member or visitor who would be very embarrassed by or likely to refuse a gift if he were presented to him. A loving cup, piece of jewelry or some other gift is prepared for some person to be honored. It is engraved with the date of the occasion and the person's name. If the cup is to be presented some proper sentiment should be added to the name and date. Then at the proper time in this particular meeting, announce that certain persons present are

going to be called upon to show how much they know about your organization. Line up the officers of your organization and the committeemen and have someone announce that the visitor or the guest should be made to join in this class. Questions are asked which you know the visitor or person to be honored can answer but have everyone selected, other than this particular person, fall down on his answers. As they fail in their replies they will be required to be seated. This toe stubbing will eventually leave the honored person remaining with the result that it is up to him to answer the question, and as he is the only one who will have answered the question fully, he will have to take the prize, which has been won by himself in open competition. When he finds his name already engraved on the article he may rightfully suspect that it was a put-up job, but he will certainly appreciate the clever way in which it was put over on him.

Bury Farmer McDonald

At the next meeting of your organization sing two verses of "Old McDonald." Have someone posted to fire a blank cartridge at the end of the second verse. Everyone wants to know what it was and what the trouble is and then tell them that you have shot Farmer McDonald. It is even better to have someone come in dressed as a farmer during your second verse who will say that he is Farmer McDonald, whereupon have someone fire a blank cartridge at him. At any rate, the murder is committed. Then have a Dead March immediately and a funeral service

preached by someone who can carry the matter off in a nice style. This should certainly put an end to Farmer McDonald and his "Chick Chick here and a Chick Chick there."

He Talks Our Language

An organization that we know of recently announced that a notable from Spain would give an address to the club at their next meeting on a very interesting international subject. Upon being introduced by the chairman of this organization it was announced that he could speak only Spanish and would deliver his address in that language. One of the members of the organization who could understand Spanish was selected to act as interpreter. The speech was started in Spanish and translated every few minutes until the speaker warmed up to his subject, whereupon the translator had more and more trouble in interpreting the message, until he stumbles and flounders around in a most embarrassing manner. The speaker for the occasion turned to the interpreter and said in good English, "You are a very poor interpreter, to say the least." If this is properly carried out the climax will provide a good laugh to all of your organization. The real speech for the occasion can then follow.

I Saw Your Picture

This is a good stunt for a large organization, the larger the better this stunt should work. Get a picture of each member of your organization and have

prints made of each photograph—as many of each photograph as there are members in your club. Into as many envelopes as there are members put one picture of each member so that each envelope contains all the pictures of all the members. The aim, of course, being to supply each member of your organization with a print of all the other members. Instructions governing this contest are explained before the starting signal is given, at which time the envelopes are torn open and every member attempts to deliver personally to the correct member that member's picture. The prize goes to the member who disposes the greatest number of pictures within the time limit. If the contest could go on long enough the result would be that each member would have as many pictures of himself or herself as there are members present. A prize might be awarded to the person holding the greatest number of pictures of himself at the close of the contest.

Surprise Party

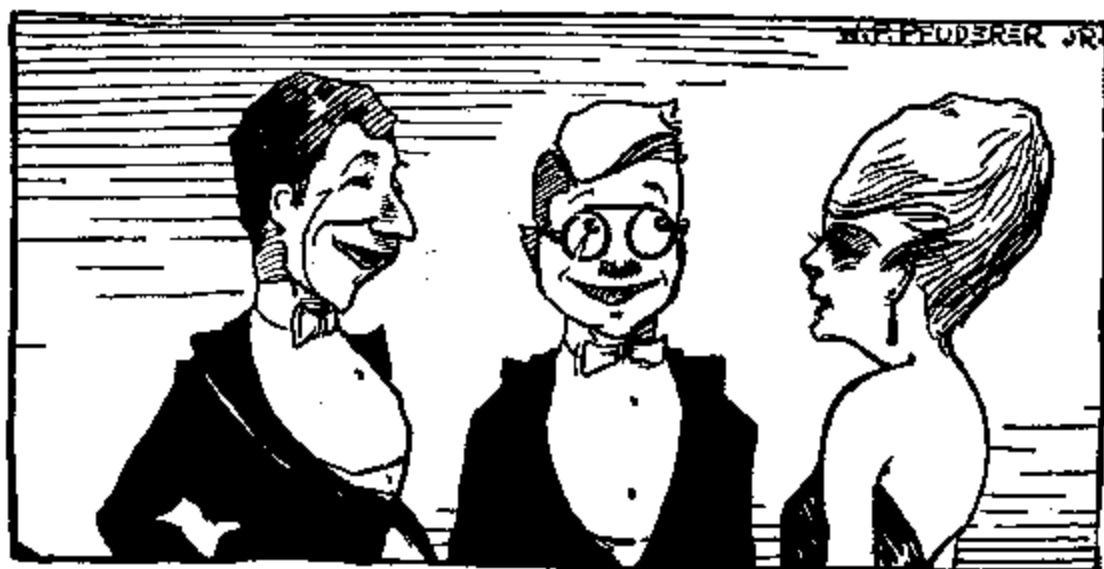
One noon at my own club they announced that they were going to have a special orchestra for half an hour during the noon luncheon and have a dance. The Secretary of the club said that some forethought had been given the affair and that the manager of a local theatre had secured a group of chorus girls in costume to be our partners during the dance. We were assembled in a body and marched in the next room to pick out our partners. Here we found a group of ladies assembled who were masked. This

Forty-four

looked a little suspicious to us as they were not in costume—in fact some of them looked mighty familiar. We found them to be the wives and friends of our club group and they certainly had the laugh on us—especially as some of the staid business men insisted on prancing in ahead of us in order to get first choice.

You Get the Ring

Select some member of your organization to which you wish to give this prize. A splendid speech praising the man and his work are given before your assemblage. Then the honored member is asked to step forward and receive the ring. Stepping up to the presiding officer to be presented he is formally presented with a ring from a loud tap on a gong.



LADIES' NIGHTS

Forty seven

Burial of Sweet Adeline

At one of your meetings you might have the Burial of Sweet Adeline, good reasons for which are the fact that the chief cause for her existence in the past was due to liquors that are not now in vogue. A regular sermon can be preached for her untimely death caused by Mr. Volstead and a ceremony for her burial carried out by the members of your organization.

A Strong Appeal

I was quite amused at attending a club meeting one night to find that several new members had been taken in. They were all seated down in front on a long bench. During the program one of the speakers delivered a very eloquent address on "The Needs of the Poor in Our City." At a certain point in his speech he called for contributions to assist in this worthy cause. None were made, whereupon he called for contributions of \$100 each, stating that all who were willing to give should arise. At this point a switch was closed which caused the five new members on the electrified bench to arise with greater haste than dignity, whereupon, before the matter could be settled the speaker thanked them heartily for their response of \$500 and retired. Many of the old members who were not in on this stunt thought that these men actually decided to give \$100 each, but rueful rubbing upon certain portions of the anatomy of the new members soon proved that they were the victims of a practical joke.

Forty-eight

Joke Telling

Have the best story teller of your organization on your program. He arises to tell some funny stories and has with him a small wooden box full of cards of various colors. White cards, he explains, are jokes for Sunday school teachers; blue cards for stenographers, green cards for old men and one vivid red card that, he explains, he cannot tell to the audience. Of course, on these cards it would be well to have several first class jokes worked out that the entire entertainment feature of this stunt will not be lost. By explaining this system the person doing so will get a good laugh.

No Bananas

During your meeting or gathering have three persons come into your assemblage bearing a large banana stalk containing no bananas. The crowd wonders what is about to come off and the three persons uniting their voices cry, "Yes, We Have No Bananas!"

Silent Oration

The speaker of the evening takes the platform or arises from his place and using a dummy makes a short speech, indicating all points of this speech with gestures by the dummy which he operates. If a ventriloquist is present this is even more entertaining.

Stolen Silverware

Here is a very good stunt for a dinner party which can be framed by two people as follows:

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These people can be seated side by side or across the table from one another. During the evening one of these persons will arise and say, "Ladies and gentlemen, I am having a very good time here but I object very much to be at the same table with a person who will steal our silverware. I have just seen _____ slip a spoon into his pocket and I demand that he be searched and the spoon be returned." Of course, a search is made and the spoon is found, whereupon the accused says that he is willing to forget the unfortunate circumstances if the assemblage is and will now do a few tricks, whereupon he takes the spoon that they have just found on him and before them all slips it into his pocket with the statement that if they will look into the pocket of the person that accused him of stealing it they will find the same spoon. This is done and the spoon is found just as stated. This turns a good laugh on the person making the original accusation and will provide a good deal of fun if both parties to this stunt can in a sincere and indignant manner hold their part in the sketch.

Pillow Jumping

For a small party or for a large one this is a good stunt. Four or five pillows are laid along the floor in a row about two feet apart. The object, as explained, is for a person blindfolded to jump down the row across each of these pillows without touching any of them. If a small party stages this stunt all should be blindfolded before it is started. If this stunt is pulled at a large party the victim should be

blindfolded after he is given instructions. Care must be taken to see that the blindfold will not possibly allow the jumper to see the pillows. When all is ready and the blindfolded jumper is placed at the head of the row and told to start jumping, the pillows are all removed. It is very funny indeed to watch the antics of the blindfolded person jumping along the floor to avoid something that is not there.

Smoking Contest for Men

At a set signal have the men all light cigarettes and start smoking them. The one smoking his to within one inch of his lips or the end winning the contest. To enliven the contest put two or three loaded cigarettes in the assortment used.

Waiters' Strike

This particular stunt has greater value at a large meeting or convention dinner. During the early part of the waiters' service an argument ensues between one of your guests and one of the waiters which grows to such proportions that many of the waiters gather around and the captain of the waiters becomes very disgruntled and takes his waiters and walks out of the room. Absolutely no one present should know of your plans for this stunt except yourself and the waiters. You immediately get up and say that this is indeed lamentable and that you must have service. Call for volunteers with all the appearance possible and you will find many present will volunteer to wait on the tables the rest of the meeting. Have them assemble in a body and start for the kitchen for the

food. As soon as they have gone, tell the crowd that it is a frame-up. The volunteers will run into the regular waiters returning from the kitchen with food and will get a big laugh upon their crest-fallen return to the dining room. I have seen this stunt worked out at a large convention meeting of young men where fifty volunteers were made the laughing stock of about 3,000 assembled guests.

Suggested International Menu

	Russian caviar	
Malta milk	Chinese chop suey	India relish
Jewfish	Irish stew	Chile sauce
Spanish onions		German fried potatoes
Italian vermouth	Brazil nuts	Hungarian goloshes
(Choice)	Holland gin or	Dutch cheese
Swede potatoes		French pastry
Greece	American cheese	Scotch
Swiss steak		English walnuts
Mexican jumping beans		Japanese ginrickshas
	Java	

Gathering Them In

Two members come forward on the stage and say, simultaneously, "We are the footlights," then take their places at the front of the stage. Two more follow, saying, "We are the curtains," and take their places back of the others. Then come two others, one of whom says, "I am the lamp," the other, "I am a morris chair." The leader says that the play they are to give includes a marriage ceremony and pro-

Fifty-two

ceeds to call for volunteers for the parts of mother, father, bride-to-be, groom-to-be, best man, bride's maids, flower girls, ushers, minister, witnesses. The leader adds there is to be a villain in the story, then calls for a volunteer, also a lawyer. He then states that he hopes the audience will enjoy the play, the title of which is "Gathering Nuts."

Search for the Quarter

The leader announces that he has given quarters to two different people, instructing them not to pass them on until the tenth person asks them. Every one is told to move about through the crowd, shake hands with the different guests and say, "If you have the quarter, will you give it to me?" The quarters are passed on so secretly that no one suspects who carries the money.

We Can Prove It

Have bald-headed member receive a bottle of hair tonic and have him appear at the next meeting with a fine wig of hair.

They Need a Playground

Every locality needs one or more playgrounds and if it is up to your organization to help put the proposition across there is no stronger method of approaching the subject than through the following:

If you will hold a social evening or Ladies' Night in the hotel or club, just the right setting for this

stunt will be assured. Just before the proposition is to be put up to the assembled guests you are interrupted by voices of a number of boys engaged in a controversy apparently following a disagreement while "shooting craps." The game has apparently been staged in an alley at the rear of your dining room or just outside on the street and the interruption is so planned that the voices will carry through the open windows of your dining room and cause considerable annoyance to the diners. The quarrel outside grows violent and finally there is a sound as of fighting. The game becomes so troublesome that members are preparing to go out and stop it. Before they can do so they are alarmed by revolver shots and the noise of hurrying feet and an unceremonious entrance through one of the windows by four tough looking ragamuffins. They are followed through the same entrance by the policeman. Members of your committee for the evening intercede and stop the wrangling of the boys and the policeman. They ask what the trouble is. The boys tell their questioners that they have been "shooting craps" in an alley because there is no place in town for the boys to go and they have to have a little fun of some kind some place. This is followed by several minutes of dialogue by the boys and the policeman which presents in a strong manner the boys' side of the case. This stunt can be made so realistic by being well rehearsed that it will be a long time before many of the banqueters realize that the affair actually is a stunt to arrange to stimulate interest in the affairs of the boys of the city.

Changing the Tune

Select a Volstead Quartet and have them sing that famous song entitled "How Dry I Am." Unknown to them, have someone in a balcony above them or from the piano behind them arise during this song with a sprinkling can and at the right moment sprinkle the quartet with water. This should tend to offset any impression regarding their dryness that may be given by the song they have been singing. This stunt may be worked even better by suspending above them a pan of water which, after a few lines of their song, can be tilted upon them by the use of a cord attached to it.

Lancing Tournament

Take four large waste baskets of ample size for a man to stand in. Place the baskets in a square twelve feet apart and put one man in each basket. Give each man an eight-foot pole padded on the business end. The object of this sport is to see who can remain on his feet the longest. This is a stunt full of action and there is many a laugh as the men tumble out of the baskets.

Under the Chestnut Tree

Have one of your members recite the poem, "The Village Blacksmith." As he arises to make his recitation there is a commotion at the door. A big burly man dressed the part of the blacksmith bursts into the room and advancing to the person who is about to recite the poem, seats himself in the speaker's chair.

Fifty-five

The speaker is a little indignant and accuses him of coming into the wrong room. There is a dialogue between these two men in which the big burly fellow claims that he has a perfect right to be there and that he is fully expected and that the people assembled at this time are waiting for him. Whereupon he is asked who he is and arising he states that he is the man that they are just about to hear of, "The Village Blacksmith."

Head Gear

Paper hats create an atmosphere of good fellowship at any sort of a meeting or dinner, but the effect of these is far exceeded if every one present is forced to wear an old hat belonging to his wife.

The Alarm Clock Prize

An alarm clock is set to ring in three, five or ten minutes. It is passed around the group, ladies only or sons only, and must be forfeited as quickly as the one to the right reaches for it. An inexpensive gift, something apropos of the meeting is awarded the person holding the clock at the time it rings. Of course, everyone will try to hold on to it as long as possible in the hope that he or she will be possessor at the time the clock begins to ring. The rule, however, is that as soon as the next person touches the clock it belongs to the latter. If the stunt is carried out at a table the clock must be kept above the table.

"Put and Take"

Make a large top, about two feet octagonal, like the usual "put and take" top, on a balance so that it

will spin. Two contestants begin to spin. "Put two, take one, take all" is marked on the top as usual. They stand in the ring in the open. At "put" a garment is put into the pot. At "take" they take from the pot a garment or two as the spin might be. One man should be large and the other small. Have both dressed for the occasion and the stunt may be an out-of-door meet or a ladies' night. One man finally retires behind a screen and reappears in a barrel.

Nobody Home

Have one of your members come to your regular meeting with two or three youngsters, a dog, a cat, a parrot, and with their husband or wife. The chairman of your organization demands indignantly what is the meaning of bringing all this collection of humans and animals into this private meeting? The answer is displayed on a large cardboard sign which you hold to view, reading "NOBODY HOME."

He's a Perfect Lady

At one of your Ladies' Nights have some bachelor in your organization appear with a lady guest. At the proper time you can report to the assemblage that Mr. ——— has a lady guest and ask him to introduce her as she is a stranger to those present. This bachelor will do so, announcing that she is his bride and that they have just returned from a nearby city where they were married. After things have settled down and the meal is again in progress, telegrams arrive by Western Union and Postal Telegraph messengers. These are addressed to the bachelor and ap-

parently come from some of his old "flames." By mistake, the president gets them and opens them, apologizing for doing so, but not until he has read several to the guests. The next two or three delivered should be snatched indignantly from the messengers by the bride, who becomes very indignant and attempts to leave the room. The bachelor in alarm seeks to detain her and in doing so pulls her hair, which proves to be a wig and beneath it a female impersonator who could be one of the young men in your organization or someone imported for this stunt.

A Dinner Stunt

This little stunt is for a dinner where the ladies are present. The men are allowed to eat only the soup course with their partners. After this they must all move two places to the right or to another of a list of ladies which has been furnished them. This procedure is carried out for each course. At the close of this dinner it might be well for a few of the ladies to express an opinion as to which course she enjoyed most. This is a splendid way to get acquainted. These reports given following the meal will cause a lot of good natured fun.

A Beauty Contest

Let the ladies act as judges to select the most beautiful man present, the men passing the judges in a row. The judges can, if they desire, stop any candidate and audibly discuss his fine points. The prize is a large fine cake which he is to share with the judges. Upon being given a sharp knife he is told to cut the

cake which he finds rather difficult to do as the cake is made from a cross section of a post which has been carefully frosted.

Auction Them Off

It is rather difficult to have a dinner dance or dance without having some men present who are unaccompanied. Why not auction them off? You can stand the men on a block and auction them off to the ladies and these men are to be at the beckoned call of their fair owner for the remainder of the evening. Some of the most successful ladies may have two or three privately owned individuals for the evening.

Let Wife Do It

Pick ten men whose wives are present and ask them to remove their collars, ties and collar buttons and piling them on the speaker's table. At a given signal the ten wives of these men will try to pick out their respective husbands' property. To the first who is most successful the prize should be given.

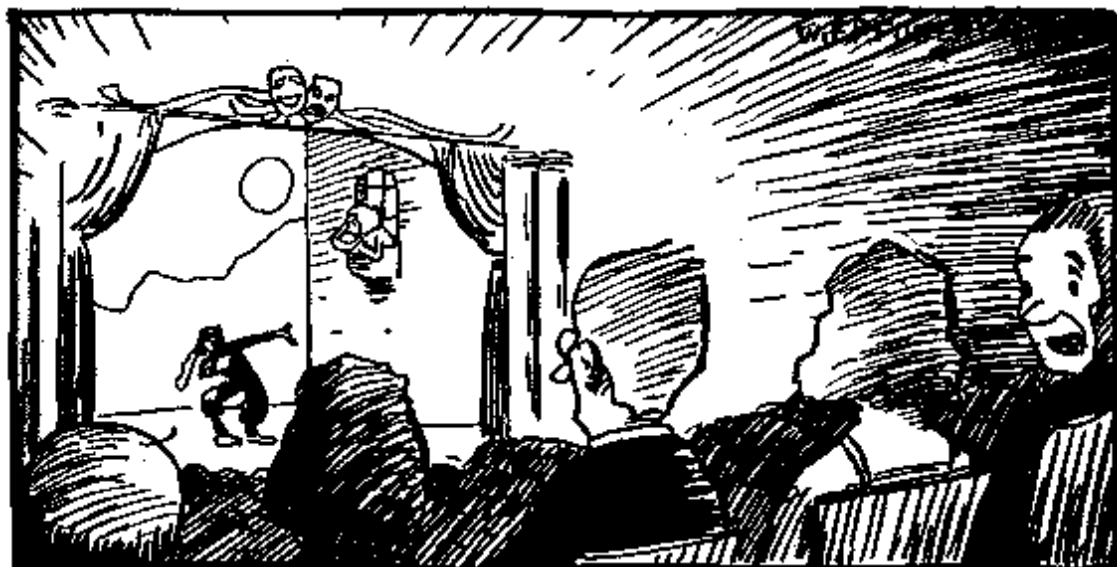
Selecting a Stunt Worker

This stunt is very good where a group consists of less than fifty-two people. Distribute a deck of playing cards to those present and the recipient of the ace of diamonds will get two portions of each course at dinner or some similar reward, but he who draws the ace of spades must provide one of the stunts of the evening. He is allowed ten or fifteen minutes for the preparations. If you will allow him to take a copy of

this book and confer with the chairman or two or three of those assembled he should be able to surprise and delight the crowd.

Have a Seat

Line up all the ladies and place a row of chairs with every other one facing in the opposite direction. That is, every other chair in the row faces east and every other chair in the row on the opposite side of it faces west. There are two less chairs in the row than there are ladies present. They march around the chairs to the accompaniment of the piano. At a signal or suddenly without notice the music stops and then it is up to every lady to get a seat. Of course, there will be two who will not and they are out of the contest. Two more chairs are removed from the row and the music starts again. Suddenly stops and the practice of securing a seat is repeated. The losers again drop out. Finally you will get down to the point where there are three persons for one chair. The person who gets this seat through the regular rules of the contest is declared the winner and a suitable prize is given.



SKETCHES

Sixty-one

Movies

After explaining a plan to put on a heavy play and a preamble which the ingenuity of the people (or club members) present could be worked in, explain that you have decided to give them an idea of the method used to arrange stage and actors in making a movie. Tell the audience that with the assistance of club members and ladies you hope to be able to stage a play that might be a comedy to some and maybe a tragedy to the committee.

Assign two of the committee to be scene shifters and two ladies to be curtain raisers. The scene shifters seeing that all are placed properly and correctly. Have the ladies roll up the curtain and ask for one more member to be the moon, explaining that it is a garden scene. Place him on a chair in the corner. Then pick your members for parts as pine trees (tall and thin), a tall lady for a weeping willow, a man as a sturdy oak (fat) and a lady as a clinging vine around the oak. Ladies also act as rose bushes. A pump represented by a lady, a bench by a man and a lady kneeling and forming a chair with her hands. Place an auburn haired lady on a chair up in the audience facing the stage as a spotlight. Use a couple of gray haired ladies as footlights.

Proceed with the show, explaining that Mary Pickford would come in (a lady) with her dog (a man on a cord), walk around the pump, get a drink for her dog and seat herself on the bench. Douglas Fairbanks (a man) comes in on horseback (straddle a broomstick) ties his horse to the oak tree and seats himself

under the willow. Valentino comes in his Ford (coaster wagon), flirts with Mary Pickford. Theda Bara comes in to vamp Valentino and the dog objects. You can run in Jack Pickford, Charlie Chaplin and Bill Hart, calling on the different members. Audience in roar all the time.

You can readily see the possibilities of the fun. The dog sneaks out and comes back with a can tied to the end of a long string tied to his trousers, comes through the audience on hands and feet. Some actors can portray their characters remarkably well, considering you will select dignified business men and women for the parts.

Let the Witches Dance!

Stage: On the right a paper cauldron made of three hoops and black cloth left flat on the floor with a string attached to the ceiling; left stage, a tomb made of white cartons with an entrance to the tomb. Scattered on the floor of the stage are vipers, cats and dogs made of stockings stuffed with paper. Lights out, with just a faint light on the stage.

Action: A good reader reads the words from Macbeth; three witches appear; the cauldron rises from the floor (aided by the string overhead); the red electric lights are turned on under the cauldron and the brew made. At the proper place the door of the tomb opens and a bright light in the tomb brings out clearly the imps in devil's costume with wooden tridents. Quick action on the stage, imps stir the cauldron, the rooster crows, indicating day's approach. Imps drag

a witch into the tomb, stage clear. From the back of the tomb rises a tissue paper witch filled with hydrogen balloons, which float over the audience. It takes a little time and patience to arrange the light effects.

The beauty of the whole stunt is that it is made out of cloth and tissue paper and inexpensive materials. It is best to tie a string on the bottom of the witch, otherwise it will go to the ceiling, and the string, trailing on the floor, like the drag rope of a balloon, can be kept at an even distance from the floor.

Cabaret Party

Secure the Elks Club or a large sized hall in your city for this stunt. You can even put a sign out in front of it temporarily calling it the "Green Mill Cafe." The place selected should have a dance floor and, if possible, a regular bar. This bar can be put in temporarily and attended by two of your members made up like German comedians. Of course, only soft drinks such as pop, gingerale, etc., are served, but such names as "Undertaker's Special," "Drops of Death," etc., can be applied. You can have paid talent for your cabaret performance and invite to be your guests any other organization in your city or in nearby cities. You should have many small tables and, of course, have the ladies present. Have a good orchestra and dancing and serve food as in a regular cabaret. Two members take the parts of proprietors—one is a German and the other is a Frenchman. You can very well guess how they would get along, especially at the present time. They will do no better during this evening's performance. Your corps of waiters should

have plenty of stunts to pull off on your guests and members. If anyone complains or criticizes the food it should be promptly taken away and given to the next table. House detectives find silver and other embarrassing items in the pockets of unsuspecting guests. To end up the evening you might have a fake fight staged between two apparently intoxicated guests or two such men who enter the room and demand a table. To further carry out the idea this fight should become noisy enough so that the local police will interfere. There will be plenty in the crowd who do not know that this is all a frame-up and they will not be feeling any too easy when in come some newsboys with the local morning paper and the headlines about your organization in a riot. This extra can be gotten out at a very small expense by merely lifting the front sheet and running a special sheet which can be made up days in advance.

A Difficult Operation

The stunt requires a sheet, a hand saw and a bright, white electric light. Four or more people are required in the caste.

Personnel.

1. Any member dressed as a doctor about to operate.
2. Some member's wife or sweetheart dressed as a nurse.
3. Any member to act as the patient.
4. About two more members to act as consulting physicians.

The idea is to perform a comic surgical operation

Sixty-five

by means of throwing shadows on the sheet. If no stage is available, the sheet should be hung about eight feet away from any convenient wall. Some kind of screen should be erected backward from each end of the sheet to the wall. This forms a temporary stage. Secure an extension cord for light, long enough to reach the nearest plug. Get a shiny pan as a reflector and then rig up the light and pan on the rear wall. The height of the light is important and will have to be determined by some member of the cast going out into the auditorium and giving directions as to the best height according to the clearness of the shadows thrown upon the sheet. All the acting is done between the light and the sheet, of course. The action is behind the sheet, the audience in front.

The patient is brought in on a stretcher and laid on a table. He is conscious and protesting violently. (Everything is, of course, in pantomime.) All he is able to move is his head, but he gesticulates with that vigorously. The doctor grabs his face and slams it down on the table, apparently. Simultaneously some assistant bangs on the floor with some heavy, blunt object. The doctor then signals the patient to stick out his tongue. He does so and the doctor throws up his hands in horror. The doctor leaves the stage and the nurse comes in. The patient still has his tongue out. The nurse sees it, misunderstands, sticks her tongue out at the patient and then slaps his face. The doctor comes on again. He puts one hand on the patient's face and takes hold of his tongue, supposedly, with the other. He begins to pull and the shadow on the sheet shows him pulling out a yard of tongue.

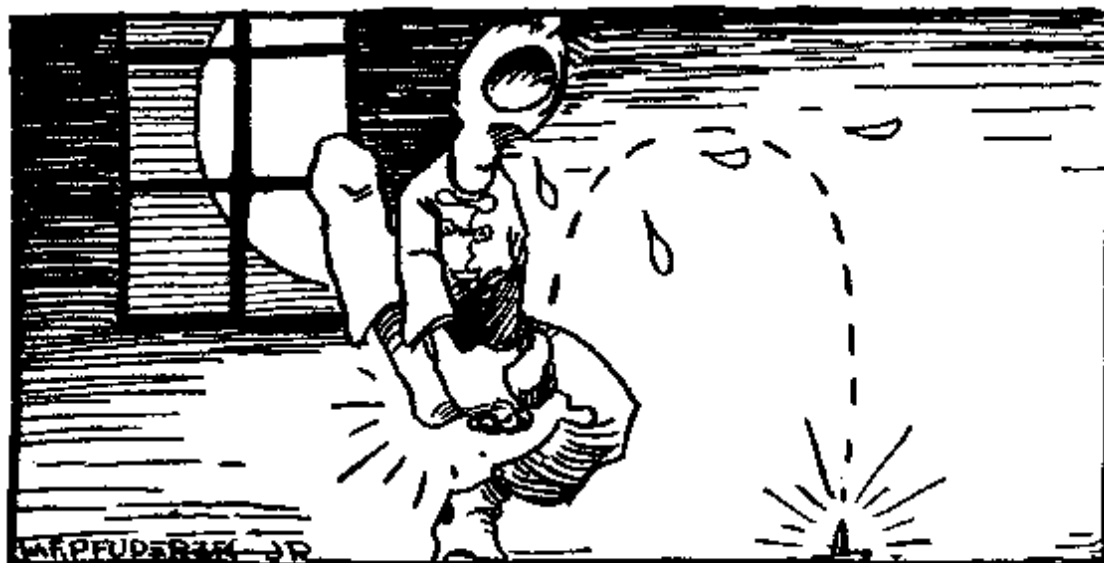
(This is done by the use of a piece of elastic banding, held at one end by the hand on the face and stretched out with the other.) Other preliminaries just as ridiculous as this can be worked out and thrown on the sheet. Finally the patient is given "ether."

The Carnival

Decorate your ball or meeting room to represent a city and arrange a number of booths facing each other, the aisle between to represent the main street. Electric lights can be strung on wires along the street. Appearance is added if the wires can be festooned with pennants or paper decorations, to give a carnival effect. The following articles can be sold at the various booths—sandwiches, cake, weinies, coffee, apples, smokes, balloons, paper hats, serpentine, noise makers, confetti, favors or many others which may add to the jollity of the affair. Only stage, or especially printed money is to be used as a medium of exchange which can only be secured from the cashier stationed at the door. The entrance fee should be \$1.00 per person, for which the cashier will give \$1,000 in carnival city money, or at the rate of \$100 per 10 cents. The price of all articles inside will correspond. For example, a 10-cent balloon will cost \$100. As soon as the \$1,000 is exhausted the person returns to the cashier and makes a further investment. It is expected that this money will change hands within the city in many ways. An old fashioned "Kangaroo Court" should be established before which offending members may be haled and fined. Undoubtedly there will be a "crap game" going on if the Kangaroo Police

Sixty-seven

are not too vigilant. Any member or his wife may set up a business of his own. Confidence games, beauty contests and games of chance will flourish. The big object is the accumulation of the carnival money, the person having the largest amount at the end of the evening's fun to be given a grand prize. This should be something of real value, such as a victrola, electric waffle iron, etc.



DANCES

Sixty-nine

The Broom Dance

During this dance the men form in a line on one side of the room and the ladies in a line on the other. There should be an extra man included in one of the lines, that is one man who does not have a partner on the floor, and he should in starting the dance pick up the broom lying in the middle of the floor and begin dancing between the lines. Suddenly the man in the center of the room throws the broom to one side and this is a signal for the two rows of dancers to rush across the room and grab a partner and commence dancing. This gives the man with the broom ample opportunity to select a live partner and some odd man to be left without a partner who will have to take Miss Broom as his partner as the lines are again formed on opposite sides of the room. Again the broom is thrown and the attempt is made to select a partner. This is quite a novelty feature for any dance.

Change Couples

A very clever method of starting a dance can be worked out as follows; Let one couple start off at the opening strains of the music and dance either the length of the hall or until a whistle is blown, at which time they immediately choose partners from the spectators and commence dancing together. This puts two couples on the floor. They select partners from the spectators which puts four couples on the floor. This stunt carried out in a few minutes has every one present dancing and is a good way of starting the evening's dance program.

You Might Get Your Wife

Attach a name to each balloon hidden in the flags and draperies. Balloons are set free and ladies are sought by the gentlemen whose names they draw. Flashlights are given to the ladies as souvenirs. Turn regular electric lights off and use flashlights for this dance.

Your Partner's Slippers

Collect one slipper from each lady and pile them in the center of the room. As the music for the dance starts have each man present pick out a slipper and begin to hunt for its owner. You might give a prize to the first couple on the floor, as the man is to dance, of course, with the lady whose slipper he has found. It might be a good idea to add a few odd slippers to the pile to which there is no owner present.



PICNICS

Seventy-three

Picnic Arrangements

The following points should be very carefully considered in the arranging of your picnic:

1. Selection of the place and the distance to it.
2. What time of the day do you desire to leave for the picnic?
3. Complete arrangements for getting the members to and from the picnic.
4. What are the advantages of the particular place chosen with provision for unexpected weather conditions?
5. Are you to prepare your picnic dinner and take it with you or can you arrange to have it provided on the grounds? This is rather important as it is not much of an outing for friend wife if she must go through the trouble and care of providing the dinner. It is much better to have it provided by a caterer.

Some Picnic Ideas

Below you will find a collection of ideas, some of which are very old and some of which are fairly young. These relate entirely to contests of various kinds for picnics.

The Egg Race—In which an egg is rolled or pushed a certain distance or perhaps carried on a spoon.

The Obstacle Race—This is very good and can be worked out with many ideas added to those we give. Run 15 yards, lay down, roll over five times, run 10 yards, crawl through a barrel. Run 10 yards further,

and turn a somersault. From this point run backwards all the way to the finishing line and the first one back will be declared the winner, providing he carries out all the rules of this contest in every detail.

Blindfold the contestants and have them run 50 yards or 100 yards or even further.

Blowing Up the Balloons—Get some large balloons and have the contestants line up in a row and at a signal start blowing up the balloons. The one to blow his or hers up first until it bursts to be declared the winner.

Obstacle Race—Have the contestants run fifty yards with their feet in a sack which they must hold up around their waists.

Apple Eating Contest—Eating apples suspended on a string with the contestants' hands behind their backs.

Surprise Race—A package is given each of the contestants who at a starting signal run across the field, open the package and find paper, matches, kindling, skillet, butter and eggs. They are to start the fire and fry the egg or scramble it and return to the judges.

Nail Driving Contest—Have six or eight ladies in a nail driving contest, driving the nails into wooden blocks.

Two Legged Race or Three Legged Race—Tie two or three contestants' legs together and have them run a race with similar teams.

Wheelbarrow Race—Have the contestants run along on their hands and someone holding up their legs.

A field day loving cup to the person who secures the largest number of points during the day or to the family who secures the largest number.

Golf tournaments, tennis tournaments, pool tournaments, billiards, bowling tournament, checker contest, chess contest, bridge contest, 100-yard dash, broad jump, silent contest for the ladies. In this contest the ladies line up in a row and the one who refrains from laughing or talking is the winner. Ball throwing contest, walking contest.

Flappers' Race

All young ladies at your picnic will be required to line up for this contest. At a given signal they start as follows:

They are first required to clean their faces with cold cream and a towel, run fifty feet to station No. 1 where they powder and rouge, whereupon they run fifty feet further to station No. 2 and pencil their eyebrows. From this point they run to station No. 3 and apply lipstick and return from this point to the starting line and salute the judges. The one who does the best job in the shortest length of time wins the prize.

Commuter's Race

This is a good picnic stunt but can be done equally as well indoors. At different places along the route chosen, place cups of coffee, sandwiches, various articles of food or dresses. At a given signal all con-

testants selected start going first to the sandwiches which they eat, from there to the coffee which they drink and from there to the cigarettes which they light, etc. The first one finished in this race is awarded a prize. If the ladies are in this race, powdering and rouging would be other steps in the race.

Fortune Telling

At many picnics fortune telling provides a good deal of interest for those present. Have a booth made in such a manner that the person having his fortune told puts his hands between some curtains and does not see the fortune teller. When the man has his fortune told you might have his wife slip in to tell his fortune unbeknown to him and if she can carefully disguise her voice she can provide a considerable number of surprises for him.

A Novelty Race

Put into separate packages different articles of wearing apparel. If this is a man's race put women's wearing apparel and if it to be a woman's race put men's wearing apparel. The contestants all line up with a package. They do not know what is in this package, but at a given signal start, run a certain distance, open the package and put on the apparel found in the package, return to the starting point. This is very funny as can be well imagined.

Novelty Swimming Race

Have the racers swim to a certain point where a raft, pier, boat or island is located, whereupon the

swimmers open packages and put on garments found in each package and swim back to a certain point. This should be a short race and a somewhat difficult one as a nightgown does not very well go over a wet swimming suit.

Free for All

One of the funniest entertainments I have ever attended was a boxing bout where three colored boys were blindfolded and turned loose in the ring together. This is indeed a circus to all those who witness it.

Wheelbarrow Polo

This is a clever stunt for picnics in particular. The contestants, numbering three or more on a side, sit in wheelbarrows propelled by a good husky individual. In their hands they have long mallets suitable for driving a rugby football some distance. Of course, there must be temporary goal posts erected and regular rules followed out. There are many "spills" and the game is most interesting to watch.

Tilting Match

This stunt, of course, can be used in canoes if held on the water. No doubt, you have seen this sport under such circumstances. It is equally as good on land. Eight or ten-foot poles well padded on the end are placed in the hands of two of the "riders" who ride astride husky individuals with plenty of weight and power. The object is for the one rider to unseat the other. Care must be used that the poles are padded so as to prevent any possible injury to either rider or man power truck horse on which he is being carried.



ODDS AND ENDS

And the Best Car Wins

We recently heard of this stunt staged by an American Legion Post:

They advertised that there would be an automobile race at the fair grounds (you can use a large vacant lot if you desire) with a prize of \$50.00 to the winning car. Anyone could enter the race providing he would offer his car for sale to anyone who would care to purchase it following the race for \$50.00. There were about six or eight cars entered and considerable fun was had as none of them would do more than 25 miles an hour. Such a race will attract a lot of witnesses and will provide a good deal of fun that is not commonly found at the ordinary type of auto racing.

A Treatise

This is a simple little stunt that will provide a good laugh. The title of a little two-page folder can be one of the following:

“Our Relations With the Bee.”

“My Personal Experience With Oil Stocks.”

“Why Some Married People Wish They Were Single.”

Other proper titles can be worked out. Inside the folder there is a single word, “STUNG.” It only takes a few minutes for this stunt and the expense is very slight.

A Prize Worth Having

Occasionally in an organization one will find a man who possesses such a large amount of worldly

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goods that it is indeed a difficult task to present him with a suitable prize. This is especially true if the organization is financially unable to cope with the situation. Here is an inexpensive gift that will be held in high esteem by the receiving and honored member as long as he lives. Have each one of your members write a friendly letter to this man in appreciation for what he has done for the city or your organization. Then have these letters collected and handsomely bound in leather, stamped in gold and presented to this man. It will be very much appreciated as it is a testimonial of regard that is beyond price.

He's Still Wondering

When I was just a youngster we had a party at which the following stunt was used with great success:

In one of the glasses on the table a small piece of sodium about half the size of a pea was put in a fellow's water glass and just barely submerged with kerosene. Sodium has a violent affinity for air or water and, consequently, must be kept in kerosene. The sodium and the kerosene are not noticed in the deep glass until one of the waiters steps up to pour water into the glass, whereupon a series of submerged explosions occurred, which proved to be quite a surprise.

Passing the Brick

When you take a new one in to your organization you might pull this little stunt. It is also a splendid stunt for new members of any club to get acquainted

with the older ones. Give one of the new members a package carefully done up which contains a brick, with instructions to deliver it at two o'clock in the morning to a designated new member at his address. At the same time deliver instructions to this new member to immediately at 2:30 a. m. deliver this package to a third designated new member and so on down the line. As the list is passed along each person receiving it and the package must sign his name and the time that it was received. You should inflict a penalty to anyone who does not adhere strictly to schedule.

Good Business

We once knew a business house that got out the following notice. This could be given to all the members of your organization by one of your business men. It is a two-page booklet, on the outside of which are the simple words, "How We Lost a Customer," and the name of the firm getting out this booklet. On the inside of the booklet is a black border around the page and in bold type the words "He Died."

Automobile Poker

This game is played like the regular card game but done in the following manner: The group of persons playing this game seat themselves along a line of traffic, preferably light traffic. In definite order they select the numbers from cars passing them, these numbers will make up their poker hand. For instance, No. 1 will take the first car with the numbers 33264. He has a pair of 3's. If 6, 7 or 8 numbers are on the

Eighty-two

cars that person getting that number has the additional advantage of selecting the best five cars or numbers for a poker hand from 6, 7 or 8 numbers on the license plate that he has been lucky enough to draw. No. 2 selects the next license number on a car and so on through the entire group. Bets on these numbers can be placed in the regular way following the appearance of each car or so-called hand. This makes a very interesting game of poker and I know of several groups of men who spend their entire afternoon playing "automobile poker."

Oh, How He Can Run!

This little stunt is one of the best that I have ever taken part in. You select three or four men to be in with you on this stunt and then you quietly approach some young chap whom you know to be full of pep and romance with the suggestion that he go with you some evening to call on a young lady whom you know who has recently been divorced. The date is made and you have warned him to keep his own counsel in the matter. Select the time rather late in the evening and preferably an empty house that there may be no hitch in the stunt. On wending your way to fulfill the proposed engagement with your victim you warn him that the former husband of the lady in question is very jealous of her attentions to other men and that caution must be made on approaching the abode of the young lady. So as quietly as possible you approach the house and step upon the porch. One of your friends who is in on the plot steps out from a

corner of the house with a gun in his hand filled with blank cartridges and in a loud and angry voice demands to know what you are doing there or if you are the gentleman who has broken up his home. Your victim will be in a very nervous state by this time and one blank cartridge fired by the irate "husband" whom he will not recognize, should start him on his way. Your other friends in on this stunt assist him in his speedy departure by following him on the run and occasionally firing a blank cartridge. The poor victim will have a very uncomfortable time for the next hour or two and if you are so fortunate as to find him within that time you will be amply repaid for your efforts in pulling this stunt at his expressions that he has been beautifully sold.

Some Interesting Stuff

Arrange with three or four members to introduce themselves as someone else and in a few words "take off" the members they represent. (Below are some examples) :

"My name is Dr....., address.....
I am not really a doctor, although, honestly I went through a good college and am actually capable of doing a first class job, if I had the time. In fact, I proved I was an honest-to-goodness medical man the first year after hanging up my shingle. Since then, however, I have had to spend 95 per cent of my time trying to collect bills contracted that year. The truth of the matter is I feel more like answering present to the name of (Town Collection) than my own.

Eighty-four

"Gentlemen, I am far from being a happy man. I was very unfortunate at the very beginning in picking this town to start off in. Everybody seems so disgustingly healthy here. Only last night at the annual Undertakers' Banquet we were discussing this very phase and a resolution was passed deploring this terrible state of affairs and beseeching the public at large to take cognizance of it and do something reckless every now and then and save us able-bodied men from work. I am truly thankful that I am a Homeopath, for without my sugar pills at times I don't know what I would do.

"Please bear in mind when you are sick, I am a careful man and will do all in my power for you at small cost. No matter if you are satisfied with your own physician, try me just once, you'll not regret it.

"Oh, death, where is thy sting."

Oh, Doc!

I am Dr. ———, D. D. S., G. D. F. (the initials meaning Durndest Gentleman Dental Farmer).

In order that my identity be not disputed, I have jotted the chief points of my career upon paper and shall have them recorded.

As soon as I cut my eye teeth, or they cut me, I took 32 degrees in dentistry, one for each tooth, and amassed a large fortune.

After years of practice I grew tired of looking at swollen jaws of people who seemed to have egg plants where a chew of tobacco should be. I longed to get

Eighty-five

away from the glamour and clamor of gold teeth; besides enough people had already tasted my thumb.

The last straw was the editor of our newspaper, a patient who had a mouth like a red brick colonial fireplace, his teeth needing many braces and wires and other things. When he breathed it sounded like the sobbing of an Aeolian Harp, when he sang it was like the dash of the surf upon the Longport seawall. When I finished him, I thought it a good job—charged him accordingly. Then I decided to give up dentistry.

Friend ——— told me, confidentially, that as a dentist, I was a good farmer; that set me to thinking. Why not spend my declining years on a farm? My previous training would enable me to rid the place of stumps. I could drive a well or post holes with that same delightful little buzzer, which you all know intimately. I could tell the age of horses—by a glance at their teeth. I had, as a farmer's equipment, a hoe, a rake, a drill, together with a rotten disposition. So I bought a farm—

Now, farming is not an asset, rather, it is a liability.

I went in for farming on a new and original process, which, for want of a better name, I have called "The ——— Alveolar Process." I can explain the process by giving you a few concrete examples.

(1) The only vegetables I raise are "Rhizones" or roots. I also raise carrots for ——— and "beets" for Manager of Collecting Agency, for they require no cultivation.

(2) I drill my worm-eaten apples and fill them with amalgam. Pies made from my apples are the

kind mother used to make, not these new fangled apply Pyorrhoea.

(3) Up to the time I devised my Alveolar Process on my farm, the big red rooster and the little brown hen had no teeth, they just had to bolt their food. I supplied all my chickens with a set of uppers and lowers. They can now masticate the seeds on which our Congressman sends to me gratis—no other food is required.

(4) The newest phase of my Alveolar Process is to develop a cow that will supply Child's Restaurants with bulgazon, or with whipped cream and malted milk. I bought a New Jersey cow at auction, last week, for a song—you never heard such a cow. She had a full set of milk teeth, all right, but thus far, gives no milk. She has given one thing, that is music lessons, with a deep, far-reaching bass voice. I am not despairing—although ———— says she's a bull. He ought to know. If she is a bull, she doesn't run true to her sex.

Now, farming is not easy—not at all easy. Last season I had to half sole my overalls four times with leather. Each day as soon as I had digested my dinner, on the lounge, I must wind up the Victrola, or put new rubber tubing on the Pianola—then—drive my car into town to buy potatoes and ice cream for supper. That I call a hard life, indeed.

I might add, as a diversion at ———— Avenue, I still have a few custom-made, hand-me-down teeth, guaranteed to fit any face or withstand our damp climate. I shall be glad to show them (by appointment

Eighty-seven

only) to any gentleman present, provided you do not object to hay seeds in my hair and cockle burrs in my fillings.

Have your most ardent temperance man draw a home brew outfit.

Give bald-headed men a wire hairbrush or a Turkish towel with which to comb his head.



DO NOTS

This Is What the Shoemaker Threw at His Wife

Don't have too much singing. If your organization has community singing every week there will come a meeting when they are not in the mood. If you force too much singing on them you may deal your club or lodge singing a bad psychological injury. If this happens, your organization has lost a great asset.

No matter what a member does, never reprimand him in open meeting. Use your gavel—if you haven't got one, by all means get one.

Don't permit any off color or suggestive stunt on your program. They may be funny, but they are bound to offend someone.

Don't ever have two speeches, on one program, of thirty minutes each. If either of the speakers exceed the limit there are graceful ways of leading him to a terminus. In one case we saw the chairman of the day apologize to the speaker and then say, "I notice some of our members are leaving by the side door. May I especially urge that all remain for the remaining numbers on the program, etc." As a matter of fact, not a person had left the room but the little camouflage speech did the desired thing.

Don't be prodical of your hospitality; that is, don't invite a neighboring unit or chapter to a meal at your expense unless you can afford it. Even if you can, it is seldom good policy. Circumstances might arise which would not permit them to reciprocate and estrangement is the result.

Don't ever give a program without advance preparations. If the meeting is an accidental one and the conditions are known to be impromptu, all well and good.

Don't be thin-skinned about declining the offer of amateur talent. "Jack" Smith may think his wife can sing, but he's probably in love with her or afraid of her. Be ready for these offers before they come and prepare yourself. You have no right, remember, to inflict anything on your membership just to save your own feelings. If Mrs. Smith is really good, accept by all means, but **KNOW POSITIVELY BEFORE YOU LET HER APPEAR.**

Performance by children are rarely interesting after the first minute or two. As performers, they frequently put sands in the wheels of the evening.

Don't serve too much food at your banquets. Don't have too many courses. Waste is often evident at such affairs.

Don't fail to have the house committee or some responsible person get in touch with the janitor to ascertain whether or not he will be on hand. If not, learn from him beforehand just where the window poles, electric fuses, heating regulators, etc., are. A stuffy room or a cold room or a room that is in any way uncomfortable will waste all of your time and money.

If you have invited guests or speakers, don't forget the courtesies due them.

Don't assess those members who do not care to attend. This little book will enable you to put on

such good programs on almost no funds, that you won't miss their money and you will ultimately get their attendance.

Don't make the mistake of inviting a man to speak to your organization because he is a "big" banker, or lawyer, or doctor. Be certain that above everything else he can talk intelligently and forcefully, not read.

Don't permit or call on members to thank a speaker for his talk. Such things often embarrass the main speaker and are mistaken courtesies. A letter will do just as well.

Don't allow any member or any individual a place on the program unless you know beforehand the gist of his remarks.

Don't invite the ladies and then ask them to contribute a share of the work, especially if it is the first time you are entertaining them.

Don't advertise a party as formal unless you are sure that over twenty-five per cent of the membership will come in formal dress.

Don't believe that much noise and applause is a sign of a successful evening.



ADVERTISING

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