

Let's have fun

JOLLY GAMES FOR YOUR CHRISTMAS PARTY.

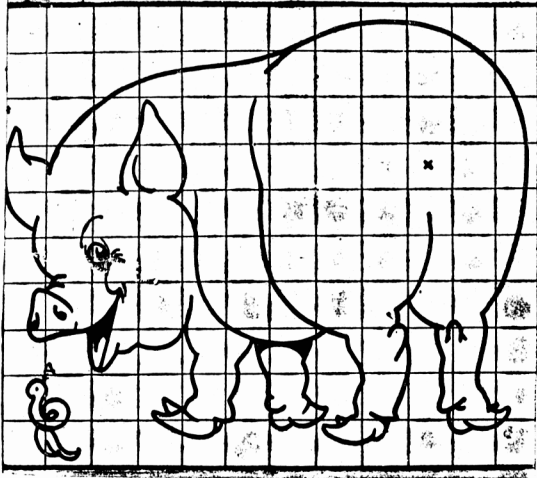
By ERN SHAW

Whilst it is true that everyone organizing a Christmas party is always on the lookout for new games, there are some old favourites which seem to be always popular.

One of these is "Fixing the Tail". Usually, the tail belongs to Neddy the Donkey, but I have found that Percy Parker also has a strong appeal to enable you to make a sketch of the pig I have made a small scale drawing.

You can obtain a sheet of paper or thin card from a local printer or art dealer. Ask for "Royal" size 20 by 25 in. The sketch can be made in either black ink or crayon.

Draw a rectangle and divide it by lightly drawn vertical lines into 20 squares as shown. Use these as a guide and refer to my model



Percy Parker

"Bring home the bacon" in the form of Percy the Porker. The tail should be pasted on thin card and a drawing pin stuck through the point A. Players of course should be blindfold when attempting to fix the tail correctly. It causes great fun.

EYES FRONT

This game is definitely one for a mixed party. First, all the boys go out of the room and each girl taking part covers her hair with a large handkerchief or scarf. A sheet is then held in front of the row of girls concealing all except the eyes.



Eyes front

One boy at a time is admitted. He has to try to identify the owner of the eyes, being allotted one point for each correct guess—one You should then be able to guess only being allowed for each pair of eyes. Having finished his turn, the boy stays in the room until all the boys taking part have been admitted. The score is recorded and then the girls have an opportunity of showing if they are cleverer than the boys. It is advisable for the disguised players to "shuffle" their positions before another player is admitted.

JUMBLED NAMES

Here is a very simple game

which will appeal to both young people and adults. Make a list of about 15 or 20 names of well known local firms. Then take these and jumble up the letters, of each.

For instance NNOOSIRB PONTIMK, WECOCADH would be difficult to recognize as Robinson Tompkins, and Chadwick. Number each card consecutively.

The players sit in a circle and the cards are passed round, when the M. C. calls "pass," having allowed half a minute for the name to be identified.

The players write the name on a small sheet of paper, and as usual, the maximum numbers of cards are passed round.

Every player should endeavour to keep his or her list a secret.

are placed on the floor in a line, and each player holds a walking stick. At the word go, each lemon is pushed along with the end of the stick. Hitting the lemon is not allowed.

Each player has twenty peas in a saucer, and these have to be transferred to a bowl in the centre of the table. The method employed is to place one end of the straw in the mouth, and the peas have to be lifted by sucking through the straw.

Should the player laugh or relax during the lift, the pea of course, will drop off. The player to transfer the 20 peas first wins.

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BALANCE YOUR BOOKS

Any number of players can take part in this game. They should stand behind each other (a boy and a girl alternately) round the room, and each given a book which should be placed on the head.

As the piano starts to play, the players walk slowly round the room in a circle. The M. C. at intervals gives orders: "Dip," as which the players kneel on one knee. "Rise," as they get up. At the word "turn," each player turns round. This order can be varied by making it "right turn" then "left turn." Any player touching the book with the hands or dropping it, falls out. The winner is the one who keeps the book on the head longest.



Balance your books

Shepherd's Pie

Best Single Dish

A shepherd's pie is a one-piece dish. It originates from the Balkans. The Balkan shepherds probably learned of the dish from a still older land because it is known that shepherds have lived among their flocks since the dim ages. They ate their meals far from their homes or huts and cooked them on the spot. There was only a crude fire and generally but one dish in which to cook the food.

Although it is primitive and simple, a shepherd's pie is a wholesome and delicious meal in one dish. In his kettle, the shepherd boils his rice and saves what he does not eat immediately. For a later meal, he takes a bit of lamb and with slices of onion, places this upon a skewer and browns the meat and onion over a bed of coals.

Then he greases the inside of his dish and covers the bottom with a half-inch layer of left-over rice. Over the rice he slices a tomato. If he has a green pepper, he slices it and adds it to the rest of the meat and tomatoes and peppers. And finally a top layer of rice.

Jumbo walked very quickly. It was almost a trot, and Mr. Monk had some difficulty in keeping the pace. "Not so fast!" he said. "There's plenty of time."

"It's those new boots you are wearing," said Jumbo. "I don't know anyone who can walk properly in new boots."

"Maybe you are right," retorted Mr. Monk. "but you don't expect me to go to a party in old boots, surely."

"I don't wear boots myself," said Jumbo. "so I don't know anything about it."

Mr. Monk thought his friend ought to be wearing a pair of boots on this occasion, but he didn't like to say so. He got Jumbo to carry the weekend case for the rest of the journey and this arrangement enabled them to move along more rapidly.

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Outdoor Yule Tree Since 1923

In 1923 a beautiful ever-green tree cut in the woods of Vermont, was sent to Washington and set up in Sherman square.

This tree was a gift from Middlebury College to the President of the United States. It was decorated and wired with hundreds of cooking electric lights, and on Christmas Eve President Coolidge switched on the lights of the First National Christmas tree.

The following year a beautiful living tree was planted in Sherman Plaza behind the White House and a permanent underground electric service installed so that each year the same living tree can be decorated and illuminated.

The national example was quickly followed by many states and communities. Now 21 states have installed illuminated trees across state and village grounds.

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PEA SUCKING

This is a similar game to chopsticks, except that in this game, peas and straws are used.

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SILHOUETTES

This jolly game requires a certain amount of preparation. Ask father or big brother to make a light frame about 20 x 20 in. with lathes and cover this with a sheet of white paper secured round the edges with gum or drawing pins.

A wooden strut at the back will make the frame stand erect. Then make a collection of 20 miscellaneous objects such as a key, fountain pen, tin opener, cork screw driver, spanner, etc. etc. These should be placed on a tray behind the screen.

The guests take up a position in the front, and the lights are extinguished except for a small lamp or electric torch which one person focuses at the back of the screen.

Another holds up each of the objects, one at a time in such a way that its shadow is thrown on to the white paper and a pencil should be used to sketch the outline.

The players have been supplied with a sheet of paper and a pencil to draw the outline of each object, and must not speak its name.

The winner is the player who guesses most correctly.

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Greeting Cards

First Used In Victorian Era

The custom of sending greeting cards is perhaps the youngest tradition, although the ideal was expressed by the Excalibur Deo of the angels.

Until authorities at the British Museum recently discovered a drawing depicting four scenes of Victorian Christmas cards, the first commercial Christmas card in 1843.

The 1842 creation was an elaborate affair. Drawn by W. M. Edgley, it included scenes of a dinner party—featuring the plum pudding, a group of carol singers, a crowd watching a Punch and Judy show, a panel of silk-hatted and dancing a Roger de Coverly—the that the poor must not be forgotten.

It is impossible to say whether or not Mr. Edgley was aware of Edgley's masterpiece, but Horsley had a friend, and thereby hangs a tale. Sir Henry Cole, a man with many friends, was confronted by the task of sending them a cheery holiday greeting. The quill pens in use at the time were so irritating, so Sir Henry spoke to Horsley about the matter. Horsley, a member of the Royal Academy in London, was agreeably impressed and turned out an appropriate design inscribed simply, "A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to You."

Edgley and Horsley made beginnings. According to research authorities the custom was taken up in America about 30 years later during the 1870's when Louis Prang, a Boston lithographer, printed a catalogue of Christmas cards.

No matter whether the greeting is the elaborate descendant of Edgley's drawing, or a simple good wish offered in friendship as worked out by Sir Henry and Horsley, or the glorious echo of the angels' enunciation, send that Christmas card to the boy in the services, and to his loved ones keeping faith at home.

Baffling Problem

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Stirring Things Up



When Mrs. Stork invited Mr. Monk to a Christmas party, he was rather surprised for Mrs. Stork was not in the habit of giving parties of any kind. She would go anywhere and join in any fun provided by her friends, but no one had ever heard of Mrs. Stork going to the trouble of throwing a party in her house.

"Come early, and bring a friend with you," said Mrs. Stork.

"Don't worry about me," said Jumbo. "any old spot will do for me. I've hit the hay many a time."

"All right, I'll think about that later," said Mrs. Stork. "Come inside, both of you."

"Fancy me dancing with a Spoonbill!" exclaimed Mr. Monk. "Well, you'll have to do your bit," said Mr. Stork. "We're going to stir things up."

"Don't forget to stir up the mince-meat and the Christmas pud-

ding," said Mr. Monk, as an afterthought.

"No and don't you teach me how to throw a party!" said Mrs. Stork, who seemed rather touchy.

Mr. Monk saw he was treading on sacred ground, so he just waved a paw and told Mrs. Stork she could certainly be expecting him

often done it."

"Yes, but what will the guests say?" inquired Mrs. Stork, looking distressed.

"Higger the guests," said Mr. Monk. "They are coming to make 'whoopies' and they will not notice a little thing like that."