

There's fun to be had, but variety is a prerequisite—good times the result.

Up-to-Date Dates

by Betty Davis

ARE you in a deep "date rut?" Do you and your date plan to do something different and then always end up by going to a dance or a show? Do your parties repeat the usual activities? Of course, you have an enjoyable time, but sometimes don't you just itch to do something different, something new and exciting, something for just plain fun?

Get your gang together out of doors for an afternoon or evening of ice skating, bob-sledding or skiing. If they say they don't have the skates, skis or sleds, or not even a sturdy cookie sheet or wash tub, gather around for a good old-fashioned game of fox and geese. Have fun like in the good old days. Go prepared for spills, not chills, by dressing sensibly in plenty of warm clothes. These outdoor sports stir up the circulation and provide a wonderful time, especially when followed by a delicious supper of oyster stew, if you like oysters, or a waffle wiggle, if you have plenty of waffle makers. Whether you have hamburgers, chili, scrambled eggs or spaghetti, have plenty of it and have it hot.

A clever hostess has loads of interesting ideas up both sleeves. There is a lot more to entertaining than merely inviting people, greeting them and feeding them. You're lucky if your guests are good at suggesting things to do and contribute to the fun. Drag out all those games you thought you were too grown-up to play at thirteen.

Men love to show their accuracy at darts, indoor horse-shoes or bean bag games. And if you have never played those good natured practical joke games like Itsy-Bitsy, Praise Allah or Letterfly, you'd better investigate their mysteries. Stunts which require coordination of strength or breathing are fun for a change. See the current issue of a woman's magazine and try the "Beauty Rest Mattress" test on your friends. "Hearts" or "slap" using two decks of cards is fun. Try bingo, complete with

a variety of ten-cent prizes for "the winners" and all-day suckers for those lucky fellows who win more than once.

There are several fundamental rules which will make your parties the kind for which everyone loves to have a bid: (1) Bring together congenial people; two people at swords' points can ruin an evening, (2) detach the attached couples, let everyone meet and learn to know everyone else, (3) keep everybody busy—the party spirit dies the moment boredom creeps in, (4) be informal; join in the fun with your guests; minimize the fact that you're hostess, (5) serve all the guests at one large table, if possible, then no one table can get too clubby, and (6) introduce your family to your friends.

The happiness in a home depends on the family spirit that inspires the atmosphere. If you are so unlucky as to have a gang that just won't loosen up and enjoy themselves, don't forget group singing around the piano. Surely one person in the group can pick out at least half of the notes and nothing puts

question. If the day is sunshiny, how about a long tramp in the country to the country? But beware! No high heels or narrow skirts if you wish to match his manly stride. Be sure to take your camera along on a ramble like this; you never know when you will have an opportunity for a good candid shot. Golf or swimming in season are old standbys but here's a scoop—bicycling in the full moonlight. Bike riding at five in the morning and then home or to the neighborhood cafe for breakfast is great sport too.

You have to prove your good behavior to be invited to a basketball, football or polo game. Don't give your feminine view point as to the colors used on the players uniforms, or primp, or ask silly questions. A few intelligent remarks and much observation of the game will suffice to make you a "good sport."

Bowling, though not a new sport, is enjoying a fast growing popularity. It is grand exercise, and the fundamental techniques aren't difficult to master. Table tennis is fun and thrilling too if you have played enough to offer a little competition.

On cold or rainy nights, Sundays especially, it's cozy to sit before an open fire and read aloud to one another. One couple suggested that it was fun for each to take a current magazine and read an article to himself and then stop and review it to the other. Which-ever method you choose, accompany it with plenty of nice fresh marshmallows to toast and delicious, munchy apples. Chinese check-



"The way to a man's heart . . ." is an old saying, but true.

people more at ease than tuning up the vocal cords. Make your home more than the place one goes from the garage. Invite your friends in, have fun, and make them want to come back again and again.

Many times though there are just you and your date with the nice long afternoon or evening to spend, and "what to do on a shoe string?" becomes the

ers and double solitaire are good games which require real powers of concentration.

You can sit through countless movies without becoming well acquainted with a person. But games, sports and books can go a long way in making fun for friends you like because you learn to know them and have interesting experiences with them.