

Bashful Is as Bashful Does

By W. E. Hill

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Games are a great help in assuaging bashfulness in a suitor—especially if the girl being courted (or about to be courted) is somewhat bashful herself. "Prisoners Base," "Parchesi," and "Pit" are all good, but if a girl is being called on by a minister—and ministers are exceedingly bashful, on account of their spirituality—a good, healthy, rollicking game of croquet is unequaled as a means of promoting a kindly feeling all around.

You'd be surprised at the number of young men who seem to get a fit of bashfulness once they have donned a bathing suit. Poor Edna, here, has walked 'round this blonde Viking several times and has even run into him and said "S'cuse it, please," with no result. She's just been wishing out loud she had some one to help bury her in the sand, but without success.



A bashful man is peculiarly sensitive to any mishap connected with a bathroom in a strange household. A too-sudden entry into a guest bathroom at the wrong time, say, when his hostess is taking a morning shower, will cause a bashful male guest to be dour and diffident for the rest of the day.



Lady insurance agents will pick on a bashful man every time. The trick is to get the prospective customer in a white heat of embarrassment during the first three minutes of the sales talk. After that the lady agent will be able to unload any amount of group or plain insurance with impunity.

One of the most pathetic sights we know of is the spectacle of a bashful and sheltered bachelor uncle, trying, against overwhelming odds, to keep above water in a slight argument with the younger generation. (Dorothy has just asked Uncle Ernie what his love life has been? Or, has he been too inhibited?)



This, unfortunately, is what usually happens when a very bashful young man imbibes too freely of cocktails for the purpose of breaking down his shyness.



A bashful suitor has to be handled pretty carefully, and a girl had best not lead up to the cupids and wedding cakes too quickly. Let her, rather, ask a few intelligent questions about his business, as a starter, thereby gaining his confidence and showing him that she is interested in his career. Donald, the young man on the porch swing, and Berenice, his girl friend, have been keeping company for some weeks now, but Donald is very bashful and reserved. Berenice is not rushing matters, however. She is talking brightly and entertainingly of whatever she knows Donald will be interested in. Donald is assistant to a fashionable embalmer, and doing very well. "Oh, Don," Berenice is asking, "did you have any nice corpses in the establishment today? Do tell me about them!"

"Gregory, if I were a big man like you, and a cute girlie like me came along, do you know what I'd do? I'd steal a sweet little kiss!" Rousing the brute beast in a bashful man is very difficult, as many a disheartened girl will tell you.