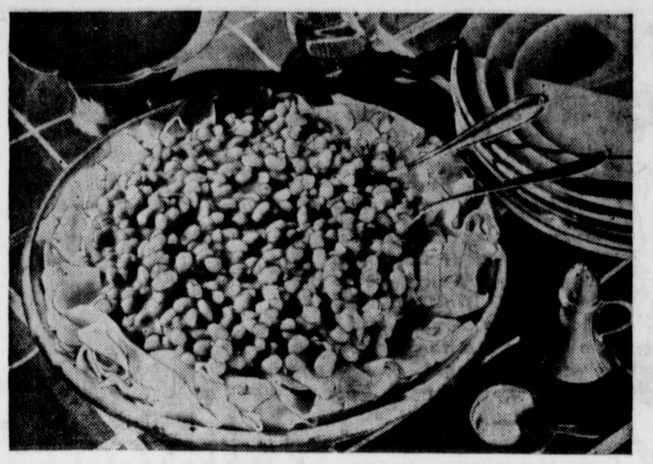
Household News

by Lynn Chambers



BAKED BEANS—AN AMERICAN TRADITION!
(See Recipe Below)

CHURCH SUPPER THOUGHTS

Cock a weather eye at the next social event on your list. 'Tis a church supper, you say? Mmmm . . . one of those delightful affairs that simply **wouldn't** be missed!

I know . . . one of my fondest memories is the home town church supper, always famous for its food, especially Parker House rolls and baked beans.

Perhaps you are one who thinks of beans as a plain or ordinary dish and, for that reason, hesitate to serve them at a dress-up affair. If you are, I think I can help you change your mind, for properly prepared baked beans are a delight which deserve a place in the top flight of fine cooking.

If you are rushed for time and can't bake your own beans, there are always the canned varieties at your grocer's. Their meal-in-a-minute possibilities shouldn't be overlooked. And then, too, they're a "feast for the least"——

To be really different, you may want to experiment with seasonings until you develop an individual flavor in the canned product. It's amazing the variety of "taste treats" you can achieve.

One of the flavors so many like in canned beans is curry. While the beans are heating slowly, a teaspoon of curry powder is sifted over the top and mixed gently through the beans. When thoroughly heated, a piece of butter is added and when that is absorbed, the beans are ready to serve.

An entirely different flavor is developed by adding a tablespoon of vinegar and several tablespoons of brown sugar to two cups of beans while heating thoroughly. Likewise, the piece of butter is added just before serving.

An adaptation of this latter "taste treat" is featured in this week's church supper menu suggestions. Here it is:

***Deviled Beans in Buttered Noodles.**
(See Picture at Top of Column)
2 No. 10 cans beans or 10 No. 2 cans
8 ounces of fat
1 pound chopped onions
2 14-ounce bottles catsup
¾ pound brown sugar
8 ounces horseradish
1 ounce salt
½ teaspoon pepper

Heat the fat. Add onion and cook until slightly browned. Add remaining ingredients and heat thoroughly. Serve in a bed of buttered noodles. Makes 50 servings.

* * *

Because cooking in quantities does present problems, it's best to plan a menu of foods that can be easily prepared and served. Guess we all agree on that. So, with this in mind, here are recipes that will complement your very important main dish:

THIS WEEK'S MENU

Supper for Fifty
***Deviled Beans in Buttered Noodles**
***Perfection Salad**
Hot Rolls or Boston Brown Bread
***Fruit Whip**
Coffee Tea Milk
***Recipes Given.**

***Perfection Salad.**

Soak 10 tablespoons of gelatin (five envelopes) in 2½ cups cold water for five minutes. Add 2½ cups mild vinegar, 10 tablespoons lemon juice, 10 cups boiling water, 2½ cups sugar, and five teaspoons salt. Stir until dissolved and set in a cool place. When mixture begins to stiffen, add five cups finely shredded cabbage, five cups diced celery, 10 finely chopped pimientos and 30 small sweet pickles, chopped fine. Pour mixture into shallow pans that have been rinsed with cold water. When "set," cut into squares and place each square in a lettuce cup and top with mayonnaise. You will need 5 or 6 large heads of lettuce for 50 servings.

***Fruit Whip.**

1 quart fruit pulp
1 quart sugar
4 egg whites
¼ cup lemon juice

Put fruit pulp, sugar and unbeaten egg whites into a mixing bowl and beat until stiff. Chill. Serves 50. (In this quantity, dessert whips should be made with a power beater or mixing machine).

* * *

When feeding a crowd, the marketing problem may present difficulties. You will need six dozen rolls (depending on the size) to serve 50. As to beverages, put these amounts on your list: three pounds of coffee, ⅓ pound of tea or three gallons of milk — each of these amounts will serve 50.

* * *

Supper over, what next? Entertainment, of course. Half the success of a party lies in the "after-dinner" program.

And why not a radio party? Arrange the stage to represent a broadcasting studio . . . with microphones, clocks and other radio paraphernalia.

The tables where guests are seated should represent the radio stations of the American Network . . . a table for each state of the Union. Each one should be marked by its call letters (MINN for Minnesota, MASS for Massachusetts, etc.) . . . and each one appropriately decorated—miniature orange grove for California, wheat field for North Dakota, maple sugar trees for Vermont, a large pot of **baked beans** for Massachusetts, apple orchard for Oregon, dairy scene for Wisconsin, plantation scene for Virginia, etc.

Guests are seated at the table representing their birthplace. (This will work wonders in mixing up your crowd).

If each group is small, several states may be combined into one station, such as Station NEG (New England group), or Station NWG (Northwest group).

A master of ceremonies, dressed to represent Uncle Sam, invites all stations to tune in for the "coast-to-coast" broadcast. The program may be as varied as the talent available. A full hour show, consisting of music by instrumentalists or an orchestra . . . singing by a quartet or soloists . . . a dramatic sketch . . . etc.

A novel addition to your program would be a Professor Quiz type. Ask for volunteers to answer the questions submitted by the audience.

A prize can be offered for the best answers.

Commercials and time signals should be interspersed throughout the program. These may be announcements of forthcoming meetings, services, etc.

(Released by Western Newspaper Union.)

LYNN SAYS:

When planning meals for large numbers

DO try to determine as nearly as possible the number of people to be served, as it is more economical to have no leftovers . . . this is, of course, if only one meal is to be served.

DO have a well-balanced menu. Too much variety will result in your guests heaping their plates with a conglomeration of food . . . they'll want to taste everything!

DO choose foods that won't spoil if they must stand for 15 minutes or even longer.

DO have committees who are responsible for collecting the linen, china and silverware, setting the table, preparing the different parts of the menu and waiting on the table.

DON'T forget to appoint a clean-up squad.

DON'T attempt to increase an ordinary recipe more than once. Proportions of ingredients change as recipes become large, and it's no simple matter for an amateur to guess at them. Unless you have recipes designed to serve large numbers, it's safer to make quick breads, cakes and cookies, according to standard family size recipes.

FIRST-AID to the AILING HOUSE

by Roger B. Whitman

(© Roger B. Whitman—WNU Service.)

Types of Heat.

QUESTION: Can you advise me as to the heating of a house that I plan to build? Is steam heat more efficient than gas or oil-fired air-conditioned heat? Can you tell me about how much more expensive gas is to operate than fuel oil? Is the maintenance cost about the same on each? Which system would you advise?

Answer: The efficiency of a heating system is not gauged by the type of heat, but by the quality and design of the equipment that is installed. Steam or air conditioned heat will keep the house warm, if the heating plant is sufficiently large. The air filtering and humidifying features in air conditioning systems are favored by many home owners. These features are desirable, providing, of course, the system is installed by a reliable firm having a thorough knowledge of this type of heating. Comparative costs depend entirely upon local gas rates and fuel oil costs. Your local gas company and oil burner man can help you on this better than I can. The maintenance cost may be slightly higher on oil fired units.

Cracked Plaster.

Question: The walls of my house are of unfinished plaster, and were recently decorated with casein paint. There is one particularly bad crack in the wall. How can it be repaired?

Answer: The crack is probably from settlement, and may grow worse should settlement continue. If so, you will be wasting time and material to do any patching until settlement is over. If you feel sure that the crack has reached its limit, you can repair it with patching plaster, to be had at a hardware store. Widen the narrow part of the crack with a knife to admit the patch, and for the entire length of the crack, make it wider at the lath than it is on the surface, so that in hardening, the patch will lock itself into place. Directions for using patching plaster are on the label of the box.

Cleaning Wood Floors.

Question: What can I apply to hardwood floors to remove marks, such as scratches and spots, as well as several layers of wax? The floors are almost new, and I do not want to have them scraped.

Answer: To remove scratches from shellacked floors, wipe with turpentine. Or, small scratches can be treated with a little denatured alcohol, put in with a soft camel's hair brush, and deep scratches with a little thin shellac. Varnished floors should be treated with varnish. You can clean the floors by wiping with liquid floor wax and plenty of clean cloths. Polish by applying good paste floor wax in thin coats, rubbing well. Floors that are badly scratched should be scraped, preferably with an electric sanding machine.

Papering Rough Walls.

Question: The walls throughout my house are textured plaster. Can this be smoothed to make a good surface for wallpaper?

Answer: Go over the walls with sandpaper wrapped around a block of wood to take down the highest points of the texturing. Then, using the same kind of plastic paint, that was originally used for the walls, fill the remaining roughnesses, using a brush or trowel. Final smoothing of the wall can be done with a trowel, or with a rubber squeegee, such as is used for washing plate glass windows.

Cleaning Silver.

Question: Salted nuts were left in two silver dishes, and have made black spots that no amount of polishing will remove. How can I clean them?

Answer: When silver has been spotted in that way, the only sure method of cleaning is to have the job done by a silversmith. Salt should not be allowed to remain in contact with silver.

Squeaky Spring.

Question: A bedspring has become loose, and every twist of the bed's occupant causes the spring to squeak. Can this be remedied?

Answer: Using a small camel's hair brush, try the effect of putting a little oil at every point where two or more pieces of metal come together. If this does not cure the trouble, the best answer is to get a new spring.

Putty.

Question: I have been making my own putty with white lead, whiting, and linseed oil. My hardware man says that I should use only whiting and linseed oil; no lead. Which mixture is better?

Answer: Ordinary putty contains no lead. The addition of about one-fifth as much white lead gives the putty greater hardness and permanence.

Cracking Plaster.

Question: Can you tell me how to prevent white plaster from cracking? Is it too thin a coat? Also, can you suggest a good method of covering if replastering is not desired?

Answer: Plaster cracks for several different reasons. If you do not wish to replaster, one good way to handle the difficulty is to hang a good wall-cloth on the wall. This wall-cloth can be had in wallpaper designs; it is good-looking, strong and washable, and is hung in the same way as used in hanging ordinary wallpaper.

NEW IDEAS for Home-makers

By Ruth Wyeth Spears

FEMININE headgear usually holds its shape best if it rests right side up on a stand that fits inside the crown, but this is not true of a man's hat. Its dashing lines may be preserved by placing it upside down in a holder. All of which is worth remembering when you are fixing up "his" closet or even when you are generously preparing to share a small corner of your own.

The man's hat box, shown here, is covered on the outside with maroon and blue cotton print and lined with blue chambray. The lid and the front of the box are hinged with adhesive tape before the covering is pasted on with stiff paste. The stand is made of cardboard, as shown in the sketch, and is covered to match the box. The maroon bias tape edging of the stand is cemented in place in a way that you may find useful in making many other things. The secret is in spreading the cement evenly on both surfaces, letting it dry, and then vulcanizing the two together with the heat of the pressing iron.

* * *

NOTE: Why not put away Winter things all nicely mended? It will be grand to get them out in perfect order next Fall. Mrs. Spears' Book 2 shows you how to do the most professional kinds of mending, as well as every day household mending. There is a simple, quickly made zipper bag for five garments in SEWING Book 6. Send order to:

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ASK ME ANOTHER ?

A Quiz With Answers Offering Information on Various Subjects

The Questions

1. Which science has been called the dismal science?
2. Whose inventions made the motion picture an accomplished fact?
3. What makes a fish so slippery?
4. What is the explanation of sun dogs?
5. In what naval battle did Cleopatra figure?
6. How far is a pitcher's box from home plate?
7. Who discovered radio waves?
8. In Oliver Wendell Holmes' famous poem, how long did the wonderful one horse shay run before it collapsed?
9. In ancient mythology Cerberus was what?

The Answers

1. Economics.
2. Thomas A. Edison.
3. Its body is covered with a mucus, constantly secreted by special glands, which minimizes the friction between its body and the water.
4. According to the U. S. weather bureau, this term, applied to a form of halo around the sun, is caused by the refraction of sunlight by myriads of tiny six-sided ice crystals floating in the upper atmosphere.
5. Actium.
6. Sixty feet five inches.
7. Heinrich Hertz.
8. One hundred years.
9. A dog which guarded the gates of Hades.

British Coastline

Together with Scotland, Wales, and North Ireland, England has a varied shoreline of more than 5,000 miles to watch against threatened invasion. Near-by independent Eire, across the Irish channel, with approximately 1,000 of additional miles of coastline, is also a big worry to Britons, although Eire has declared that its defense will be managed without direct British military aid.

TIPS to Gardeners

TRIM FLOWER GARDEN

THERE is much value in keeping the flower garden trimmed. Wise gardeners pick bouquets of favorite annuals like Marigold, Zinnia, Petunia, Sweet Peas and Snapdragon with systematic regularity, for the picking promotes continued blooming.

Periodic trimming is not best for such small, low-growing edging flowers as Alyssum. A complete cutting, however, will benefit this type of plant. This treatment may be applied to Ageratum, Linaria, Lobelia, and Nemesia as well as Alyssum.

Pinks, Cynoglossum, and Dwarf Bedding Rust Resistant Snapdragon are grown both for cutting and for garden beauty, but they too will profit by a thoroughgoing "haircut" such as that prescribed for the smaller, edging favorites.

It is advisable to pick the flowers of certain popular perennials when they are in their prime, to prevent their running to seed, and to promote the production of a second crop of blossoms in a single season. Delphinium, Sweet William, Coreopsis, Perennial Dianthus, and Pyrethrum should be handled in this manner.

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Enthusiasm is that secret and harmonious spirit which hovers over the production of genius, throwing the reader of a book, or the spectator of a statue, into the very ideal presence whence these works have really originated. A great work always leaves us in a state of musing.—Isaac D'Israeli.

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