

The Kitchen Cabinet

IF STRAWBERRIES be not in season, buy them not at a great price. It is neither art nor courtesy to invite your friends to "eat money," as the saying is. A guest should be led to think always that her meal tasted pleasantly, never that its cost was disguised.

PRACTICAL DESSERTS.

During the season of fruit, and for that matter, that is all the year round, fruit provides a dessert that is easy, usually inexpensive and decidedly wholesome. All fruit will not do in dessert making, so we like a variety of reasonably inexpensive dishes for everyday use.

There is a large variety of fritters and hot cakes that may be served with various sauces and are quickly and easily prepared. The fat kettle is carefully covered and set away and can be brought out to heat while the fritters are being prepared.

Apple Fritters.—Sift together one and a half cups of flour, two teaspoonsful of baking powder and half a teaspoonful of salt; beat an egg, add two-thirds of a cup of milk and mix all together, adding two sour apples cut in small pieces. Drop by spoonfuls in hot fat and fry a delicate brown. Roll in powdered sugar and serve with currant jelly sauce. The sauce is prepared by boiling together a cup of sugar and a third of a cup of water five minutes; add four tablespoonsful of currant jelly and when boiling hot the juice of a lemon; strain and serve. If a very nice sauce is desired, with a handful of candied cherries.

Baked Bananas (Porto Rice).—Put rather green bananas in the oven and bake until the skins burst; serve with butter.

Souffles are another form of dessert which may be varied in endless ways. When baking, a shallow pan should be used, as the weight of the mixture tends to break the cell walls. When the dish seems to be too shallow, line it with a band of buttered paper that stands up above the dish. Always set the pan into water to equalize the heat in baking.

Coffee Souffle.—Cook together three tablespoonsful each of butter and flour, then add a cup of black coffee. When thick add salt and a third of a cup of sugar; cool and add the beaten yolks of three eggs, and then add the beaten whites. Turn into buttered dish and bake until firm. Serve with whipped cream.

YOU may keep your feet from slipping. And your hands from evil deeds. But to guard your tongue from tripping. What interesting care it needs.

LEFT-OVER DISHES.

It takes thought and planning to use the bits of left-over meats acceptably. One may often buy in the market small amounts of meat, too small for any but individual portions, which may be used with other foods to provide a good meal.

A little chopped ham added to an omelet makes a pleasant change and the dish has more food value, an important item, when preparing the meal, to arrange for.

Cooked ham mixed with mashed potato, and after seasoning make into fat cakes. Brown in a little fat.

Mixed Liver.—To each cup of cold, mixed liver add one tablespoonful of chopped onion browned in butter, and season with salt and a little paprika. Turn into an agate frying pan with a little water. Sprinkle lightly with flour and add a quarter of a cup of vinegar. Simmer until well heated.

Sausage and Rice Cakes.—To one cup of cooked rice, warm or cold, add an unbeaten egg and two tablespoonsful of cold fried sausage. Form into fat cakes. If the mixture is too soft add a little more rice. Brown in butter or hot fat, being careful to have the fat very hot before adding the cakes. This amount will make half a dozen medium sized cakes.

Yankee Toast.—Poach a few eggs and brown the same number of pieces of toast in bacon fat. Crush a little of the bacon and sprinkle over each slice of toast and serve with an egg on top. Shred a leaf of lettuce very fine and garnish the top of each egg.

The meat from a shank of boiled ham may be chopped and mixed with boiled salad dressing. Pack in a jar and have a sandwich filling that will keep indefinitely.

RRORS like straws upon the surface flow; He who would search for pearls must dive below. —Dryden.

OMELETS.

To make a good omelet requires skill and deft handling. A good omelet is a work of art of which one may be justly proud. Eggs are reasonably plentiful now, and omelets of various kinds are in season.

Fruit Omelet.—To the yolk of one large egg beaten until very light, add

Genuine Maple Sugar Scarce. There are few people outside the maple sugar making districts, says a writer in the Country Gentleman, who really know what the genuine article tastes like. The superior flavor thus spoken of is probably due in a degree to the same causes that make strawberries eaten off the vine and cherries consumed on the tree so delectable. The writer quoted, however, puts some of the blame for the poor flavor of commercial maple sugar on the "wily wholesale dealer and mixer."

one tablespoonful of fruit juice; if orange is used, add a fourth of a teaspoonful of sugar; beat well together and fold in the beaten white. Cook very slowly in a well-greased omelet pan.

Caramel Omelet.—Take two eggs, separate the whites and yolks and beat well. To the beaten yolks add two tablespoonsful of caramel syrup. Beat until well mixed, add more sugar. If needed, a half teaspoonful of vanilla and one teaspoonful of lemon. Fold this into the beaten whites and cook in a greased pan.

Cheese Omelet.—Cook together a cup of milk and four tablespoonsful of cornstarch. Pour this when cool over the well beaten yolks of four eggs. Stir into this four tablespoonsful of bread crumbs and the same amount of cheese. Fold in the whites, which have been beaten stiff, and bake in a moderate oven fifteen minutes.

A ham omelet is prepared as for a plain one, and minced ham is sprinkled over the top just before folding it over.

A delicious sweet omelet is prepared with almonds and maple syrup. Into a hot buttered omelet pan turn a handful of blanched almonds, then pour over them a plain omelet, being careful not to have the heat strong enough to burn the nuts. Fold and pour around it a hot maple syrup. This makes a very nice dessert.

Tomato Omelet.—Make a plain omelet, and when ready to fold, pour over it half cup of thickened tomato, stewed down. Add a teaspoonful of butter and two of flour cooked together, season with salt and pepper and serve hot.

The family may wait for the omelet, but the omelet should never wait for the family. An omelet kept waiting has a most discouraged, down-at-the-mouth sort of an expression.

SOME of your hurts you have cured. And the sharpest you still have survived! But what torment of grief you endured! From evils which never arrived. —Emerson.

FROZEN DISHES.

There is such a latitude for variety in frozen dishes that the same dish need not appear often enough to be monotonous.

Burnt Almond Ice Cream.—Blanch and chop a cup of almonds, caramelize four tablespoonsful of sugar, and add the almonds. When cold pound to a powder. Add this mixture to ordinary ice cream with a tablespoonful of almond extract.

Cocoa Nut Ice Cream.—Mix a half cup of cocoa with a half cup of flour, a cup and a fourth of sugar and a half teaspoonful of salt; add two eggs slightly beaten. When well mixed add two cups of scalded milk, cook in a double boiler, stirring constantly. The eggs should not be added until the flour is well cooked. Then add a cup of walnuts, a little vanilla and two cups of cream. Freeze.

Maple syrup, hot, with chopped nuts, makes a plain ice cream seem quite stylish.

Plum pudding ice cream is plain ice cream to which a cup of dried and pounded plum pudding is added.

To make caramel ice cream add a cup of caramelized sugar to unsweetened or lightly sweetened ice cream.

Cocoa Cocoanut Cream.—Make the same as for cocoanut cream except omit the nuts and substitute a cup of freshly grated cocoanut instead. Add the juice and rind of one lemon.

Chocolate Mousse.—Melt three ounces of chocolate, add a cup and a half of sugar and one cup of this cream. Boil one minute. Mix a tablespoonful of granulated gelatine with a fourth of a cup of cold water; add to the boiling mixture, and when cool add a teaspoonful of vanilla, a little salt and the whp from three cups of cream. Pour into a mold and pack in equal parts of ice and salt. Let stand four hours.

For strawberry mousse substitute two cups of crushed strawberries instead of the thin cream and use a tablespoonful and a half of gelatine.

Nellie Maxwell.

Babies—Lean and Fat.

Weigh the baby every day. All you need is one of the automatic weighing machines of small size such as the old-fashioned housekeeper uses in the kitchen when doing up fruit, and an oblong basket with a flat surface. Any mechanic will find means of securely fastening this basket on top of the scales, and when you have painted the entire contrivance white, made a pink or blue nest of padded China silk for the inner side of the basket and trimmed its outer side with enormous bows of satin ribbon, you will have a charming-looking extra cradle into which to temporarily deposit baby while its ordinary cradle is being aired.

Plenty of Room.

"How dreadfully stout the general is getting."

"Yes, isn't it fortunate? Otherwise he wouldn't be able to wear all his medals." —Punch.

Long Hair and Short Pay.

Literary endeavors are not always rewarded so highly as some may think, according to this story from a German paper. A novelist of longer hair than pocketbook, recently met a friend on the street. "Hurray!" cried the author. "I have sold a novel." "Congratulations!" his friend said warmly. "And now you can get a hair-cut." "The writer's face fell." "No," he replied, "I should have to sell two novels for that." —Tohth's Companion.

IMPORTANT REQUISITES IN MANAGING A PEAR ORCHARD

Pruning and Training of Trees Essential to Attain Symmetrical, Evenly Balanced Heads and Maintenance of Sufficient Foliage to Protect Trees and Branches From the Sun.

(By G. B. BRACKETT.)

Pruning and training are important requisites in the successful management of a pear orchard. The objects to be attained are: (1) symmetrical, evenly balanced heads; (2) the admission of sunlight and free circulation of air into all parts of the tree tops; and (3) the maintenance of sufficient foliage to protect the trunks and branches from the intense heat of the sun's rays which would otherwise be likely to scald and injure both tree and fruit.

Pruning should begin as soon as the trees have been planted by cutting back the young trees at the time of planting to the height from the ground it is proposed to start the

form to the head and especially while the tree is young, the orchardist should keep clearly fixed in his mind the form of the tree as it is to be when old; for what may seem to be an open head when the tree is young may prove to be too dense and crowded when the tree is older. The branches should not be too close together for convenience in gathering the fruit.

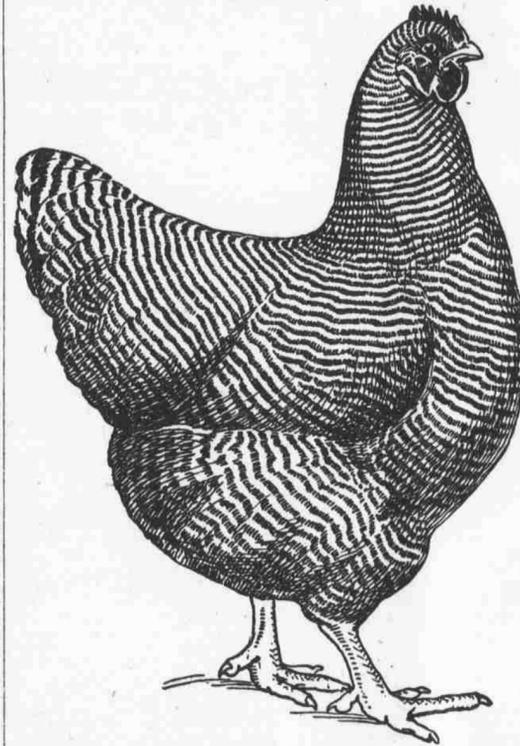
During late winter, or in early spring before the sap starts, each tree should be carefully looked over and all branches which are likely to interfere with adjoining ones should be cut out and the centers of dense growth thinned out; side branches which are making a stronger growth than the others should be checked by shortening in, so as to maintain an evenly balanced head. Some varieties have an upright habit of growth and some make a slender, straggling growth. All need attention each year. In cutting back the last year's growth the top bud should be left on the side of the branch facing the direction in which the growth needs to be diverted. By this method there will be no difficulty in shaping the tree into any desired form.

All pruning and training possible should be done while the trees are young and the growth of wood is tender. At such time the healing over is more rapid and complete, and the tree suffers less injury.

Old trees that have been neglected may be renewed by severe pruning, cutting back all the branches that are not in a healthy condition. This pruning will cause new, vigorous shoots to grow. The new growth will need to be cut back as occasion requires. By persistent pruning an entire new top may be formed in a few years.

The pyramidal form differs from the vase form in that the main leading shoot of the tree is allowed to maintain its upright growth and the side branches are shortened back so as to produce the shape of a pyramid. The intermediate form is probably the best for training the pear. The tree is allowed to grow more in accord with its natural habit, but it must be checked and modified more or less in its growth so as to conform to the ideas of the planter.

PLYMOUTH ROCKS FOR THE FARM



The general purpose breeds of poultry, such as the Plymouth Rocks, Wyandottes, Rhode Island Reds and Orpingtons, should be kept on the farm, rather than small-egg breeds or small mongrel stock. It should also be remembered that the dark-plumaged varieties do not, as a rule, look as well when dressed as poultry of other colors.

Usually more interest is taken with a flock of fowls that are of the same breed and color, and it is an established fact that such a flock produces a more uniform product, which is invariably secure to the owner higher prices than can be derived from the product of a mongrel flock.

As soon as the hatching season is over, all male birds should be marketed, they having no influence whatever on the number of eggs laid, and eggs produced by flocks composed of females only keep much better than eggs from hens that are allowed to run with males.

POULTRY KEPT IN AN ORCHARD

Excellent Combination, Says Prof. W. A. Lippincott of the Kansas Agricultural College.

Where orcharding is successful, there is an excellent chance for a good hand with poultry, says W. A. Lippincott, professor of poultry husbandry at the Kansas Agricultural college. The department recently acquired more land and now, in connection with raising chicks, it has placed fruit trees on the plot and will have a small orchard. The ground has been plowed and prepared thoroughly, and oats and cowpeas sown. The trees are being set out now. Apples and plums are used chiefly, but, for that matter, almost any fruit tree will do.

Chickens especially enjoy small shrubbery. It gives protection against marauders in the day, and it gives them, also, a clean, cool dusting place.

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SHREWD IDEA OF DIPLOMAT

Where Russian Officer of Embassy Proved More Than a Match for Abdul Hamid.

Diplomatists abroad tell how a distinguished member of the Russian corps diplomatique cleverly outwitted Abdul Hamid, the late Sultan of Turkey. The Russian displayed a curious ingenuity in introducing the business of his country in the guise of personal pleasure.

It appears that the Sultan had absolutely refused to grant an audience to any member of the diplomatic body at Constantinople and that during the period in question Abdul Hamid spent the greater part of his time in cock-fighting, an amusement whereof he was passionately fond.

The Russian heard that his imperial majesty stood in need of fresh birds to supply the place of those killed in fight, whereupon the white fowl of the banyard species, caused it to be trimmed and spurred to resemble a gamecock, and sent it in a richly decorated cage to the Sultan.

The ruse was successful, but the Sultan, at first delighted with the gift, soon sent for the diplomatist to explain, if he could, why his bird had shown no inclination to fight. The Russian went, examined the bird in the presence of Abdul Hamid, and with great astonishment and regret acknowledged that it was quite unable to cope with the royal gamecocks, which were undoubtedly of a superior breed.

A conference followed on the subject of gamecocks in general; and when this was finished the Muscovite succeeded in drawing the Sultan in a mood of conversation of a different character, and in time adroitly introduced the political matter he had so long awaited an opportunity to discuss. After a long interview he returned to his embassy triumphant over his colleagues.—Harper's Weekly.

GRAVE CAUSE FOR DISPUTE

Romanticists and Others Have Opportunity to Squabble Over This Happening.

The Winans will have upset the theory of the cynics that romance is dead in the world. Here is an innkeeper's daughter who receives a fortune of \$500,000 just for being kind to an old man. In all her dreams of the future she never thought of being able to present to the Prince Charming that would eventually come along such a princely dower. She went about her work delivering the milk and cream from her father's dairy, little thinking that the old gentleman, who year after year was her father's guest, was all along planning to make her a rich heiress as a reward for her kindness. The picture is idyllic. Unfortunately, some of the rightful heirs of the deceased multimillionaire fail to see the poetry of it and have already given notice of a contest. There is a son who has been cut off with a paltry \$200,000 and there are two grandchildren who have been entirely forgotten. In the case of the son the will is particularly significant, since the relative smallness of the amount can be traced to the father's disapproval of a marriage that was wholly romantic. The cynics may still claim that their contention is supported by the courts.

Lament Religious Apathy. In Japan all kinds of Christians are lamenting the religious stagnation that seems to have settled on the country, says a writer in America, a Roman Catholic paper. Of the 65,000 Catholics, 40,000 are descendants of the converts of the seventeenth century, and the Greek Catholics have only 20,000 followers. "After 40 years of evangelization there are only somewhere between 80,000 and 100,000 Protestants of all sects," says the writer, who adds that the Japanese are not irreligious, but "like other peoples they are suffering from the religious apathy and unconcern of the times. Just as in Europe and America, the modern Japanese adore the golden calf and, as elsewhere, are struggling for money and place, the natural result of the adoption of a materialistic civilization."

Dust in High Altitudes. In his just-completed work on the "Existence and Efforts of Aerial Dust on the Mont Blanc Glaciers," M. Valot, the proprietor of the observatories on the mountain, states that during his investigations in 1911, when he spent some weeks on the summit of Mont Blanc, he noticed many white butterflies and wasps, which did not seem at all affected by the high altitude. They had probably been blown upwards by strong air currents, and hovered over the glaciers in spite of the great cold, as if they were in the valley. M. Valot also states that there is a certain amount of dust in the high aerial regions which is continually falling upon the Alpine glaciers.

Must Do Without Almanac. It looks as if the Chinese public in the south will be in a fix this year for the want of the usual almanac, which is an indispensable requisite in every household in order to distinguish between lucky and unlucky days and the like. The little kobos are sold by the hundreds of thousands and the trade got them ready as usual. To meet the situation new covers were put on with the new dates, while the inside remained the same as if there had been no change. The sale of these is strictly interdicted and nothing has been provided to take their place.—Pekin Daily News.

Finance Has No Boundaries. Finance nowadays is limited by no national boundaries. American newspapers contain advertisements of a "City of Tokio (Japan) Loan" for the purchase of that city of electric tramways and electric lighting systems. The loan, amounting to about \$45,000,000, is apportioned between New York, London and Paris.

Put Ban on High Heels. A Minneapolis manufacturer recently forbade the wearing of high heels on the shoes by the young women in his establishment.

VENICE A CITY OF DREAMS

Many Charms for the Tourist in This Picturesque City of Italy.

To the wanderer in Italy, Venice has a peculiar attraction. Arrive there at sunset, or better still by moonlight, and you will fancy yourself transplanted to some city of dreams. With daylight this feeling may wear off to some extent, although there is never, at any time, as much bustle and stir in Venice as in other towns. Morning, noon or night, Venice has a fascination all her own. This is partly due to the fact that she is a city built on the water.

To explore Venice and to become intimately acquainted with her, a gondola is not a necessity, rather it is a luxury for sunset evenings and moonlight nights. It is a delightful experience, and not a difficult one, to find one's way about Venice on foot; quaint, old world corners are discovered, bits of ancient architecture, carved doorways and little bridges, with a feast of color here, there and everywhere. Apart from all the beauty of scenery, there is the entrancing interest evoked by her history and traditions.

Among the traditions we read that St. Theodore was the first patron saint of Venice, to be superseded later on by St. Mark. The wanderer in Venice becomes familiar with the Lion of St. Mark. More prominently than anywhere it is to be seen on one of the columns on the Piazzetta, whilst on the other is St. Theodore. These columns of beautiful red and gray granite are supposed to have come originally from Syria. They were erected by a Lombard engineer.—Christian Science Monitor.

The Negative. The Questioner—But, really, Mr. Smith, if, as you say, you knew I didn't love you, I don't see why you expected me to marry you?

The Rejected—Well, I know you're frightfully modern and cosmopolitan and all that sort of thing, don't you know; and so, of course, I thought I should come in on the "marriage de convenance" ramp.—The Sketch.

Important to Mothers. Examine carefully every bottle of CASTORIA, a safe and sure remedy for infants and children, and see that it bears the Signature of *Dr. J. C. Fletch* in Use For Over 30 Years. Children Cry for Fletcher's Castoria.

Manila to Play Tennis. The city of Manila is building ten tennis courts for the use of the public in the sunken gardens opposite the city hall. The courts will have the accompaniments of baths, lockers and reading rooms, which will be made by transforming the bastion near Victoria gate into an up-to-date club.

If You Are a Trifle Sensitive. About the size of your shoes, you can wear a size smaller by shaking Allen's Foot-Ease the antiseptic powder, into them. Just the thing for itching, Fungus and for Breaking in New Shoes. Gives instant relief to Corns and Bunions. Sample FREE. Address Allen S. Olmsted, LeRoy, N. Y.

Later the Better. Hubby—Understand me, madam, your extravagance will have to cease, sooner or later. Young Wife—Very well. We'll make it later.

The Paxton Toilet Co. of Boston, Mass., will send a large trial box of Paxtine Antiseptic, a delightful cleansing and germicidal toilet preparation, to any woman, free, upon request.

The Flat That Failed. Howell—How do you like your new home? Powell—It is a flat failure.