

To the Rescue

Mrs. Yarp is an extremely light sleeper. Moreover the night was hot. The fact that Yarp was fathoms deep in a noisy slumber, undisturbed by her restless wakefulness, was an added annoyance.

It was extremely unfeeling and brutal of him, to say the least, to be storing up freshness and energy for the morrow, while she most decidedly was doing nothing of the sort. Repressing a desire to smite him, Mrs. Yarp arose and got a drink of water. Then she wandered to the open front windows in the hope of finding a breeze.

Suddenly all the mists in her brain were dissipated in one illuminating flash. She had seen a light in the Barger's house across the way!

The Barger's had gone two weeks before to their summer home in Wisconsin and had carefully boarded up all the town-its windows and doors, leaving no caretaker.

It was a flickering light, and Mrs. Yarp could see it move through the second floor hall into a bedroom. Then it came out and evidently wandered downstairs. Again it discreetly and flickeringly came up.

Mrs. Yarp with two bounds reached the side of her slumbering husband and shook him violently. "Henry! Henry!" she cried.

"Lemme be!" murmured Henry. There was really nothing else for her to do, so she pulled his hair violently. Thereupon Yarp sat up with a gasp. "Have you gone crazy, Evalinda?" he inquired.

"There are burglars in the Barger's house!" Mrs. Yarp hissed at him. "Burglars!"

"Burglars at the Barger's?" Yarp repeated with alliterative relish. "It sounds like a vaudeville sketch."

Henry, interrupted his exasperated wife. "If you don't get up this minute and do something I—UH—Pretty sort of neighbors we'd be, wouldn't we, if we let them carry off all the Barger's things? Get up!"

Yarp obeyed and scrambled into some clothes. He regarded with rising excitement the light which was still flickering about.

"I'd better telephone the police station," he said. "Maybe we can catch them!"

"They must have broken in at the rear somewhere," said Mrs. Yarp as she feverishly put on a kimono and one black and one brown shoe. "Now, don't you go and get shot, Henry! Why can't you stand outside and shout at them?"

Yarp's reply to this was a combination of snort and howl. Already he was down the stairs and Mrs. Yarp was following.

The patrol wagon soon stopped a block away and the three policemen and Yarp conversed in a dark mass under the big oak tree in front. Leaving one man to guard the boarded up front of the Barger house the others made a sortie to the rear.

On the Yarp's front porch Mrs. Yarp clung to a post and strained her eyes in the semi-darkness. Back to the Barger's house Yarp and the two officers prowled carefully. They found that the boarding on the basement door had been removed. Yarp and one policeman stole inside, leaving the other on guard in the rear. Yarp's knowledge of the house was a help, though occasionally the policeman flashed his lantern. Up into the silent kitchen and the stuffy dining room they prowled. Apparently nothing had been disturbed.

"They must be beginning upstairs," whispered the officer.

Yarp's heart thumped as they crept up the stairs, pausing at every step. Once a board creaked. Yarp could hear his companion's heavy breathing.

They got to the top. There was no light visible.

Yarp did not dare whisper. The sudden awful thought that the intruders had discovered them coming and were waiting in ambush to pounce upon them paralyzed him. Perspiration was streaming from his brow. A shut air house on a hot night is extremely warm.

As they walked into the front bedroom something heavy hurtled at them, and the policeman and Yarp went down to a crash, while simultaneously shrieks arose. They could hear the racket below as the man on a ladder he was stumbled to their rescue. Mrs. Yarp across the street did her voice to the excitement. "Henry's killed! He's killed!" she wailed. The man in front was beating on the boarded door, there being nothing else for him to do.

When the second policeman reached the scene and turned on the light of his flashlight, he disclosed Yarp, policeman No. 1 and Barger himself giving imitation of the Lindbergh kidnapping. Cowering in a corner was Mrs. Barger. Barger and Yarp blinked at each other dazedly.

"Barger came to first. We ran in town today for some new furniture or the cottage," he said, "and after the theater we thought it would be cooler out here than in a downtown hotel. The gas was shut off for the summer, so we used candles. I heard you coming up just as we went to bed, and I thought you were burglars!"

Yarp staggered to the open front window. "Keep still, Evalinda, for goodness sake!" he called. "We've got to draw lots to see which of us gets arrested."

USE OF RICE AS VEGETABLE

Flavor May Be Constantly Varied by Cooking Cereal in Essence of Vegetables.

Wash the rice thoroughly, rubbing the grains between the hands and using many waters until all starchiness disappears. Then let the rice soak in cold water for at least 15 minutes—longer if possible. Cut three or four large carrots in long thin strips as for soup, and boil them in one quart of water until it is reduced to a pint. Then throw away the carrots and use the water, which will contain their essence, to cook the rice. Melt one tablespoonful butter in a double cooker, placing it, for the time being, directly over the fire and let the rice fry in it for a few minutes until it shows a tendency to brown stirring constantly. Then add the water in which the carrots were cooked, one teaspoonful of curry powder, and salt and cayenne pepper to suit the taste. Place the rice cooker in its proper vessel and let it cook until all the liquid is absorbed and the rice is well done. Test the rice by pressing a grain of it between the thumb and finger. If it crushes readily, it is sufficiently cooked.

The essence of any vegetable secured in the same way as that of the carrots described in this recipe, may be used for cooking rice as a vegetable and thus the flavor may be constantly varied.

ANTI-D RIP STRAINER

A tea or coffee strainer that will not drip has been invented by a Swiss craftsman. The device consists of a small metal cup with a spout that normally is somewhat higher than that of the coffee or tea pot.

The cup is attached to the pot by a strong wire clamp. Inside of the cup and shaped to fit it is the strainer proper of fine wire mesh. The device is attached to the pot by means of a strong wire clamp and when the coffee or tea is poured the drippings fall into the cup of the strainer.—Popular Mechanics.

BOTTLE COOLER

In ordinary bottle coolers no provision is made for covering the upper part of the bottle with ice.



and as a consequence the liquid first drawn out of the bottle is not as cool as it should be. A German inventor has conceived the idea of placing the ice over the top of the bottle, and as the cooler liquid falls owing to its greater weight, a circulation is set up which will cool the entire contents of the bottle. The cooler consists of a double-walled cylinder, the inner wall being arranged to fit onto the bottle. The ice is placed between the two walls of the cylinder. A rubber band on the inner wall presses against the bottle neck, so as to hold the bottle in the cooler when the latter is lifted by means of the handle.—Scientific American.

An Italian Summer Drink. Most refreshing in hot weather is the Italian drink granita, a half frozen mixture which will pour, but is not quite liquid. Any summer beverage made from fruit juice or any kind of punch may be turned into a granita by the process of freezing only until a snowy consistency is reached. The frosted sides of the freezer toward the middle of the liquid should be scraped several times during the freezing process. Claret granita is made by adding one bottle of claret to a pint of orangeade, and sherry granita by adding a bottle of sherry to one quart of rich lemonade.

Tomatoes and Spaghetti.

Put fat drippings in frying pan, cut three onions and put in drippings. Let them simmer until onions have become brown. Then drain off onions. Stew one can of tomatoes and one small package of spaghetti separately. Then put drippings in the stewed tomatoes, also two tablespoonfuls of flour, pouring over whole the spaghetti. The color should be lighter than the tomato shade. You will find this delicious. The flavor of onion runs all through. Beef drippings are the best to use.

Toasting Fork.

A new toasting fork is made of aluminum with a long enough handle to warrant the cook's not becoming burned by getting too close to the fire. This is the lightest sort of kitchen ware, and easily kept clean, needing no scouring but simply a washing in hot water.

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