

### A PLEA FOR GOOD PIE

IT IS A WHOLESOME FOOD IF IT IS PROPERLY MADE.

The crust should be of water-like thickness and crisp and flaky. Five Rules to be Observed in the Making of a Perfect Pie.

Although food theorists and food cooks have varying opinions as to the wholesomeness of certain foods, they are all agreed in denouncing pie. It is the one dish most ardently condemned, and yet the one dish most universally liked at least by Americans. Still, notwithstanding the bad reputation pie enjoys, it is a whole some dish if properly made.

In making it the average housewife rolls out a heavy, sodden crust, and then spreads it in a thick layer over the bottom and sides of a pie plate. She then gets to rub this crust with the white of egg and immediately puts in the filling of custard, fruit or white meat, whose juices will later soak into the crust, making it still more sodden. She then covers the pie, perhaps, with another layer of this thick paste and puts it in an oven that is not hot enough. The oven should be so hot that the pastry will brown before the butter in it has barely a chance to melt. The crust will then be crisp.

Another reason why pies are so universally disapproved is that they are nearly always made with real or half hard and half butter. Lard should never be used in a pie on any fact, in any dish. An eminent physiologist in a leading university says that "lard is the bane of American cookery and is fit for no stomach except a pig's." A tiny bit of lard in a batch of bread may be excusable, but even then butter is better.

All pie crust, of course, should be of water-like thickness. Not only are poorly made crusts harmless, but some popular fillings are exceedingly wholesome. What for instance could be better than a custard or a pumpkin filling? The latter is, as a rule, only a custard with eggs, with an addition of pumpkin and a few spices, which are added to digest.

Without doubt all pies should be eaten in moderate portions, especially by delicate persons, but this rule applies to any dish. Even cream is not good for persons under certain conditions, yet to one but a cream would dry it to a person in good health. Many food faddists expect, however, to use dairy products in moderation.

There are five rules to observe in the making of a perfect pie. First, roll the undermost with the white of an egg before putting in the filling to prevent it from soaking into the pastry. Second, bake it in the hottest oven, third, place it in the lower part of the oven at first against the bottom, later, removing it to the upper shelf. Fourth, always place crust in the refrigerator to become thoroughly chilled and hard before filling and baking. Fifth, pound the pastry well until it is rolled with a P. S. press.

Yummies could be written on the correct treatment of pastry. Any of the recipes of standard cookbooks will do, however, if a few details are carried out.

A whole loaf is an ideal arrangement for making cakes. A current household magazine suggests that the delicious maple loaf of old-fashioned tables might be fitted up for this purpose.

Second, even the crust is as important as the filling. Bakers' secrets tell that the best pie crust was made by a woman who was blind. She used to knead the dough with her feet, and she said that the best pie crust was made by a woman who was blind.

Third, as a rule are better adapted to a water than a lard crust, because of the butter which passes them the best for warm weather fare. Fruit pies, however, are good at all seasons, and there are few things more attractive than an apple and other fruit pies even in the hottest days. There are a few things good and best pies which are welcome at all seasons. When preparing a chicken or meat pie it is better to use a little baking powder to the regular rule for ordinary pie crust.

Add one cup of butter to every two cups of flour passing flour. Then chop together in a wooden bowl, with an ordinary and fashioned chopping knife, until the mixture is broken into small bits the size of peas. Add half a cup of cold water. Mix with a knife, then beat and turn and beat and then until the whole is smooth, but full of lightness. It is sounding and turning is better if done upon a marble board in a cool storeroom or cellar. Never touch the pastry with a spoon or the hand, but with a knife, then put it where it will become so cool and hard before rolling it out.

There are several variations to this rule which can do no harm. If baking powder is wanted, add a teaspoonful to this amount of flour and butter.—New York Tribune.

A Simple Truth. Repose—Well, to make a long story short—Editor—A good copy maker is necessary.—Cleveland Leader.

### PETER THE GREAT.

History shows That the Old Ruler of Russia Was a Monster.

Years ago, when a low standard of morals prevailed, the epithet "Great" was bestowed upon any monarch who won battles and enlarged the territory and resources of his kingdom. It mattered little then to the historian what might be a king's private character, provided he made his nation formidable by its brute strength and full treasury. Even if he was a bad man they eulogized him as a good ruler. Peter I. of Russia is called Peter the Great because he transformed a barbarous into a semi-barbarous nation. But no one can now read the following summary of his character without a feeling of disgust. Voltaire, in his "Philosophical Dictionary," says that "Peter was half hero and half tiger." Macaulay declares that "to the end of his life he lived in his palace like a dog in a sty, and when he was entertained by other sovereigns never failed to leave an equivocal proof that a savage had been there."

Peter, when the 21 was on him, literally earned everybody—from his wife to his own son—from the nearest peasant to the highest noble, sparing neither age nor sex. He would get up from the table and dog the host who was entertaining him. He would stand at the door of the square house and dog each senator that went in. "Lefort was an intimate and trusted friend, yet on slight provocation he was knocked down and brutally killed by his imperial master." But all this dogging was in the way of recreation. When Peter "went to business," it was a more serious matter. "Lefort, he said, it may seem, it is nevertheless well authenticated that one of his own slaves it is said more than one received the strokes of the whip on the back in the presence of the whole court."

In 1713 Alexis, his only son who had not been baptized, was for some reason of the great seriousness so that there occurred in the presence of the tsar, his father and in the end died either from the effect of the torture or by assassination. For sympathizing with Alexis the Empress Catherine, the Russian Empress, was severely whipped by soldiers. For the same reason the brother of his first wife, Maloxia, whom he had thrown into prison was tortured and then left in pieces on the street. Nothing occurred of Peter's more atrocious propensities than his personal and monstrous murder, which preceded the ward as Peter the Great.

### SUCCESS THROUGHOUTS

The post is closed and only come out to meet the rest of the day.

The man who has the eye changed the face of the world.

Who would say he is not made the best of the human nature, if our senses is because of a neglected idea of the great superiority of others who do things in the world.

As a rule to give names from introducing ideas, so that you can do that, but the man who can accept his own suggestions, and is not afraid to receive to build up his own something.

No matter what you are doing think that way. Don't let your thinking think everything up, you may even get a something that is a programme and go to it. Think. Think. Think.—Success.

### Mr. Noble's Promise Fulfilled.

In the early stages of his campaign the Rev. Mr. Noble promised for some time a change of venue, but the committee failed to get him to settle until last week, when he was after considerable advice, signed, in the hall of his father's residence, and he said:

"What does this mean, gentlemen?" asked the pastor.

"We" replied the schoolmen, with some hesitation, "the people here give the impression that you are coming to universal salvation."

"Gentlemen," answered the pastor, "I never in a promised that doctrine, but if ever should I promise to make the people of this town an exception." —Boston Herald.

### Women and Wine.

It seemed as if I could make a whole paper of you to read that last time. The waiter appealed to her for help.

"Have you any pins?" she asked.

The woman had none, but passed the paper on, and in a little while every passenger was feeling along concealed edges and turning back again. At last sixteen pins were produced. Fourteen of them were contributed by men.

"We never need them as much as the women, but somehow we carry them and they don't," said she of the water-brew. —York Post.

Nobody should write who is not firmly possessed of the idea that he has a mission for literature and is not willing to endure the penalties of art for the sake of serving an art. If a person who writes in that spirit makes a living he earns it. If he makes a fortune he deserves it. —New York Times.

A fivart sees farther than the giant when he has the giant's shoulder to mount.—Columbian.

### IN THE BASQUE COUNTRY.

The Peculiar Language and Odd Customs of the People.

Of the strange scenes and customs of the Basque country a traveler writes: "I was struck by the way the women walked and carried themselves. A fat old woman with a huge tray on her head walked along at a swinging pace, shouting her wares noisily at the top of her voice. I saw a woman carrying on her head most of all a large tray of fruit (its size can be imagined when I tell you that it was afterward her stall). On the top of this were a basket of washing and a big umbrella to be used to cover the stall. Then in her left hand she carried a supplementary tray, and by the other she led a little child which could just reach the mother's hand by holding its own up as high as it could stretch."

"I was waiting once at a little wayside inn in the village of Asain when I saw an old lady followed by two great fat white pigs. They all three waddled over to the village pump and then, drawing some water in a pail, the old lady proceeded to wash her cheeks. She cleaned them most assiduously, eyes, ears, hair, neck, hind quarters and feet.

"There is a dignity of carriage about all the women in this country. I fancied it might be due to the fact that formerly, before the Code Napoleon came into operation, the law obliged the firstborn, whether boy or girl, to inherit the patrimony and educate the head of the family, the husband taking the wife's name when the latter was a woman, thus giving the woman a perfect equality from her birth. The women are not less beautiful than the younger women.

"I quite dislike any other language is that of the Basques. Although when hearing the people talk a Spanish sound seems to be occasionally noticed, it is not really at all like Spanish. I was amused to find that 'so is' was in Basque, and when I asked what 'yes' was I thought at first the answer was 'na,' which would have been very curious, but it turned out to be 'na,' with the 'n' softly pronounced."

### Early Railroadings

In the pioneer days of railroading it was sometimes necessary for the freight conductor to run forward over the heads of the cars to shout orders to the engineer. Tramping it might be generally credited, though the fact had adopted the expedient of standing ahead of the locomotive, a fat old fellow who said he found a peculiar way of carrying it a loadstone.

### Seeing Double.

"You look" exclaimed Mrs. Lusk. "It makes me feel as if I had seen you some time in this condition."

"Of course," said Lusk. "You look exactly like you ought to."

"Indeed?"

"Yes, indeed, you certainly look exactly like you ought to be just now." —Philadelphia Press.

### Was He Attentive Now?

"The Tom Summers will be coming around to handle Tompkins' report the man who had been away from town for some time."

"That's what Farmer Tompkins says. They don't believe it, but they are waiting to see what Tompkins has to say." —Washington Star.

### The Fourth of It.

"The" said the farmer proudly "and that horse be our master's horse."

"The" answered the man who knew the horse a little better "and that horse be our master's horse."

### And He Was Not a Pure Type

And he was.—Philadelphia Record.

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