

Sister Mary's Kitchen

BY SISTER MARY, NEA Service Writer.

Dried apricots have a pleasantly tart flavor that is particularly appetizing in early spring. And there are so many ways of using them that it behooves the alert housewife to give them her keen attention.

Along with many other fruits, apricots have been studied by food chemists and have been found to be good sources of copper, that mineral which goes hand in hand with iron. This characteristic alone makes them a valuable addition to the family diet.

Carelessly handled dried apricots lose in flavor, appearance and volume, yet a few simple rules which any cook can understand make them a delicious, attractive and inexpensive fruit.

The first rule to keep in mind is to soak the fruit 12 hours or overnight in water to cover. Of course the apricots are washed through many waters before cooking.

The second rule is that very slow heat for a long period is the best means of restoring the fruit to its natural state of juiciness. At the same time the fruit becomes tender and its flavor is developed. Put the fruit in water to cover over a low fire and bring slowly to the boiling point. Do not let boil but keep just below the boiling point until tender.

The third rule is never to add sugar until the fruit is tender and ready to remove from the fire.

After dried apricots are stewed, they can be used in any way canned ones would be used. Deep dish apricot pie is very good made with dried apricots. Brown Betty is especially "tasty" made with this fruit. Bavarian cream uses dried apricots to excellent advantage, for the sifting removes the skins of the fruit. Apricot ice is refreshingly piquant and will be found particularly appetizing to serve after fish.

Apricot ice-box cake is equally

MONDAY'S MENU

- Breakfast: Grape juice, cereal, cream, eggs poached in milk on graham toast, milk, coffee.
Luncheon: Macaroni croquettes, celery and apple salad, rye bread, apricot dainty, oatmeal cookies, milk, tea.
Dinner: Filet of flounder in tomato sauce, potatoes in parsley butter, beet greens, salad of cottage cheese and apricots in green pepper rings, maple cup cakes, milk, coffee.

good for the family Sunday dinner or your next dessert-bridge party.

Apricot Ice Box Cake

One cup dried apricots, 2 tablespoons flour, 1/2 cup granulated sugar, 1-8 teaspoon salt, 1 egg, 1 cup milk, 2 teaspoons granulated gelatin, 2 tablespoons cold water, 1 tablespoon lemon juice, 1 cup whipping cream, 1/2 teaspoon vanilla.

Cook apricots and drain from juice. Rub through a coarse sieve. Mix and sift flour, sugar and salt. Add to egg well beaten and mix thoroughly. Add milk and cook over hot water until custard is thick and smooth. Soften gelatin in cold water for five minutes and add to hot custard. Stir until gelatin is dissolved and remove from heat. Add apricots and lemon juice and let stand until cool. Whip cream until stiff, add vanilla and fold into custard mixture. Line a mold or pan with waxed paper and cover with a layer of sponge cake cut about an inch thick. Add half the apricot mixture and cover with another layer of cake. Let stand in refrigerator overnight. When ready to serve cover with whipped cream.

An Ideal for Congress.

From Editor and Publisher. If the aspirations of the president and Congress are to be realized in the nine months' term of the Washington bi-centennial, namely, to rekindle the fires on the altars of liberty, tolerance and justice, it will be necessary for the leaders of public opinion to emphasize those qualities of heart and mind of Washington which made him transcendently the man of the hour in the days of the nation's birth.

Washington was essentially a religious man. He was a devoted churchman. He believed that the Almighty had a part in the affairs of men. He took an active part in the community life. He was one of the vestrymen, master of his Masonic lodge and in every way exemplified the sterling characteristics of the devout Christian gentleman.

"Let it simply be asked," he wrote, "where is the security for property, for reputation, for life, if the sense of religious desert the oaths, which are the instruments of investigation in the courts of justice?"

Emmeshed in the complexities of today's international civilization, we often regard the problems faced by Washington as comparatively simple. They were not to his nor his compatriots, lacking the superb machinery we now have for the gathering of information, and they demanded from Washington and from our own times the same fundamental human qualities and the same realization that human resources, unguided by Divine Providence, are inadequate to most important affairs.

MARKED PROTECTION

Washington - Senator Bingham, of Connecticut, has introduced a bill providing that all federal buildings be marked to serve as guides to aviators. If passed, such buildings all over the country would be so marked if the secretary of commerce considered this an essential aid to aviation.

"YOUR BATH'S READY, SIR"

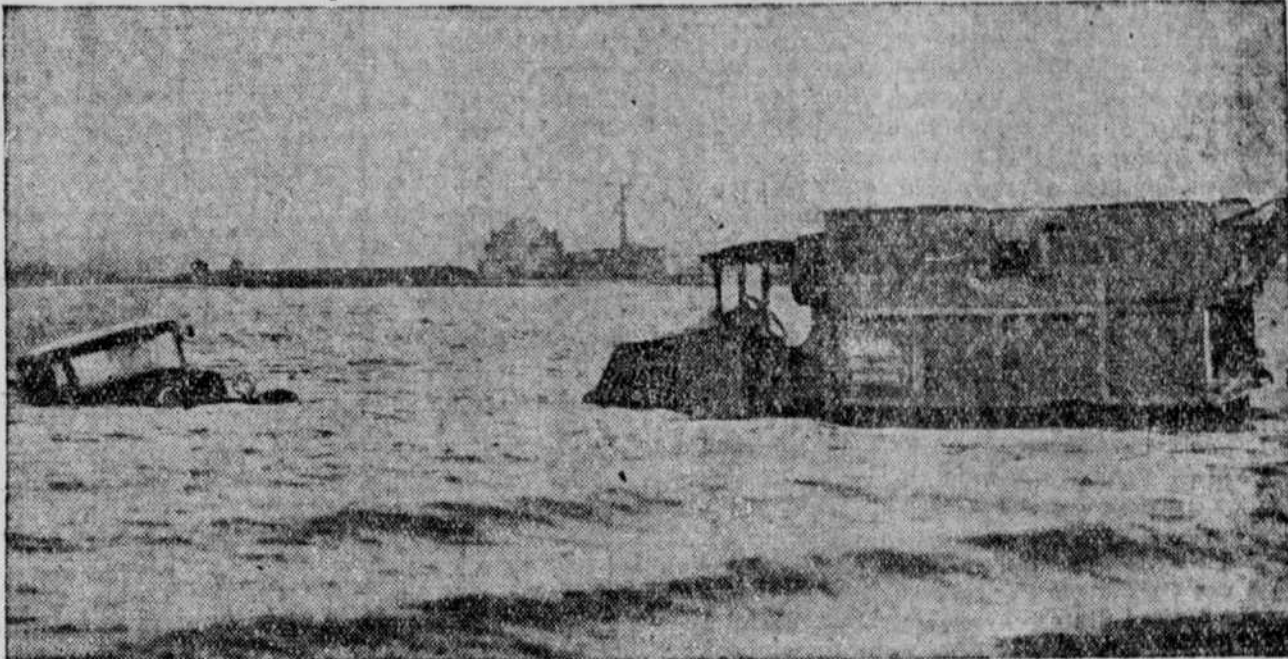
Liverpool - (UP) - A quarter of a million baths have been prepared by Peter James, bathroom steward, during 206 Atlantic round trips in the liner Baltic.

Out Our Way

By Williams



Now They're Both in the Same Boat



The navigating abilities of an automobile proved to be nil when it tried to strut its stuff in the soft sand and loam on Carson Beach, Boston. Due to a conspiracy of the sands and a high tide, the car found itself stuck and far from home. Not only that, but when the truck at the right of the picture came to render assistance, it, too, became mired. It looks as though they'll have to charter a tugboat after all to tow the car and truck back to their stamping ground on terra firma.

FAMILY DIPLOMACY.

I thought my wife knew everything about preparing food; but now I find she's treating it in manner rather crude.

Today I read an article. A woman writer wrote, then read it to the better half, 'To loose for fair her goat.'

For she had fixed our grapefruit raw. And then became unmoved. To learn it should be baked, before it ever should be served.

But you can bet I fixed it up. And frankly I confess, (Though never had I seen one baked) I liked them her way best. -Sam Page.

PLANS DRIVE TO BOOST STATE

Ten Year Plan of Development Outlined by Leaders

Raleigh, N. C. - (UP) - In the midst of depression the state of North Carolina is proceeding with a sound economic formula to improve present conditions and to lay foundations for future economic soundness and stability.

An organization composed of the state's leaders has been formed to further projects of the "Ten-Year plan for the economic development of rehabilitation of North Carolina."

North Carolina is one of the most diversified states in the country, economically and geographically. It is outstanding in both agriculture and industry with great textile mills all over the state and with its farmers raising the bulk of the world's tobacco crop.

In the immediate future, the Ten-Year corporation will be incorporated. Several committees already have been appointed to proceed with various projects to bring the Old North State to the front.

The ten-year plan was originated by Tyre C. Taylor, 32-year-old executive counsel to Governor O. Max Gardner. Taylor has been elected president of the corporation for promotion of the plan.

The Ten-Year plan has the following three main projects: Project A: A program for attracting

Slump Fails to Halt Swiss Auto Travel

Geneva - (UP) - The worldwide economic depression and especially that of Europe has in no way decreased the luxury of automobile touring in Switzerland.

Statistics just completed by the federal government show that during the first half of 1931, 55,691 foreign automobiles entered Switzerland in comparison with 48,931 for the corresponding six months of 1930.

It is also pointed out that this

British Empire Trade Parley

From Journal of Commerce.

London - With Prime Minister MacDonald's announcement here last week of the British government's delegates to the imperial economic conference at Ottawa in July, the deck is cleared for what undoubtedly will be the most important and the most difficult conference of the component parts of the British commonwealth of nations since this euphemistic title was substituted for that of the British empire. For the July meeting is expected finally to prove—the British dominions now being independent nations in everything but name—whether it is possible to substitute binding but voluntary economic allegiance for what once was an involuntary political tie.

All, certainly, is not going to be plain sailing. For instance, Walter Runciman, president of the Board of Trade, who will be a member of the British delegation, has confessed that the Beaverbrookian ideal of "empire free trade" is a wonderful but impracticable ideal, since the dominions have their own ideas regarding the working out of their respective fiscal policies. He added, however, that there is a large amount of good feeling in this country in regard to the idea of imperial preference and that the younger generations in the dominions are enthused with the idea of imperial economic unity.

Whether these two enthusiasms eventuate into actuality, however, will not be certain until the conference itself is concluded, and two recent developments here give ample indication of the difficulties ahead. First was the editorial in the London Times—which on imperial affairs usually is considered to speak with authority. The editorial advanced the thesis that there are likely to be two agreements reached at Ottawa. One will be the general arrangement including, presumably, all the dominions, India and Great Britain. The paper pointed out, however, that such an agreement would be limited by the extent to which the least willing dominion was prepared to go in accepting the principle of reciprocal tariff preferences.

The second sign post toward the difficulties at Ottawa encountered here on the road to Canada was the announcement that a company formed for the purchase and distribution of Russian soft woods in Great Britain and Ireland had completed their contract to buy 450,000 stands of timber from Russia this year at an approximate cost of \$4,500,000.

ing additional tourists and desirable permanent residents to North Carolina.

Project B: Industrial and agricultural research. Mobilizing all scientific facilities of the state in an effort to find new and commercially profitable uses for natural resources.

Project C: A country life program.

increase continued to be maintained even during July when the German financial crisis was greatest.

MAN THE PUMPS

New Orleans, located in a natural bowl with no outlet for rain water to flow by gravity to the Mississippi, has 16 pumps removing 60,000 cubic feet of storm water each every minute of the day.

ASBESTOS WAS THEFT CLUE

Wenatchee, Wash. - (UP) - Asbestos fiber found under fingerprints of Ted McClure, 29, led to his arrest

AIRSHIP NAMED PALO ALTO

Palo Alto, Cal. - (UP) - Palo Alto, home of Stanford university, wants its name adopted for the navy's new dirigible now under construction. A petition by the city, signed by 11 California chambers of Commerce and Governor James Rolph, Jr., will be sent to naval authorities, it is planned.

on a charge of safe robbery here. The safe of an auto freight depot was robbed of \$40 and McClure was suspected. It was lined with asbestos.

Lots of Fun.

Travelers (with hours to wait at small country stations): Any picture show here, or billiard hall or library?

Porter: No—nothing like that here.

Traveler: Well, how do you spend the evenings?

Porter: We go down to the store. They've got a new bacon slicer—it's wonderful.

OF INTEREST TO FARMERS

WHY HATCHERY CHICKS

Almost any hen can lay eggs in March and April, and when we get chicks from eggs laid by an unselected flock, we get chicks from the late maturing or otherwise poorer birds, as well as from the best. One of the biggest advantages in getting chicks from a high-grade hatchery is that we get eggs from flocks culled during the fall or early winter. Pullets that will mature and produce fall and early winter eggs are the kind we want. Otherwise we had better quit raising chickens and keeping hens. Of course, others besides hatchery operators could do the culling, but the average farm flock, the owner of which debates whether to buy chicks or hatch her own, rarely is culled. And even if some culling is done when the pullets are housed in the laying house, it is not done as thoroughly and intelligently as the hatchery operator and his skilled men do it. Hatchery chicks live better than those hatched at home. At least, more than 200 successful flock owners, representing a majority of the counties in Iowa, gave that as one of the chief advantages of hatchery chicks in letters written us in a contest about success in chick raising two years ago. And why shouldn't they? In spite of the much praised advantages of nature, a skillful, intelligent hatchery operator man more nearly furnish ideal conditions for incubation, with resulting strong chicks, than can the hen. Granted that the hen does the best she can, she usually is handicapped with a great variation in the temperature of her surroundings—frequently with early chicks everything from near zero to 80 degrees within the three weeks of incubation. Whether this has a serious or little effect depends on the location of the nest, the nesting material and how long the hen is off the nest. Broken eggs, lice, trouble with other hens, and other complications may lead to the production of puny, undersized, late-hatched chicks. Hatchery flocks are the best we have in freedom from bacillary white diarrhea. The hatchery operators have been leaders in testing and culling to reduce this disease. Probably there is not a high-grade hatchery in this section that has not dropped good flocks from its egg-furnishing list because this disease made the chicks "hard to raise." Well established hatcheries, through their intelligent combating of bacillary white diarrhea in their communities, have done more than all others in reducing losses on farms from this disease. They have taken the biggest uncertainty out of chick raising. An advantage of buying all or at least part hatchery chicks that is overlooked frequently by those who are debating whether to buy or raise their chicks, is the real advantage in having a large group of chicks of the same age. The saving in labor in caring for 250 or 500 chicks of one age of two ages, as compared with the same number as hatched and raised at home, typically scattered over a couple of months, means a daily difference of two to five hours of labor. And the hatchery chicks will produce a much more uniform flock of chicks and pullets. After all, it isn't a case of whether we can afford to buy hatchery chicks. Rather, the question is: If we can't afford to raise any more than the number we need to supply plenty of fried chicken and eggs for family use only?

HANDLING FRUIT

Any method of handling apples that hastens the ripening after the fruit is packed shortens the period of commercial value. Any treatment that checks the ripening prolongs the marketing period. The value of wrapping apples in paper has been tested in both seasons by the experiment station of a western college of agriculture and mechanic arts. The comparison was made with duplicate quantities of fruit that were grown and handled in the same way. One lot was wrapped, and with the other each apple was wrapped in unprinted newspaper. With some varieties like the Gano, Roman Stemm, Salome, Winesap and other hard, late ripening sorts the advantage of wrapping in paper was not very apparent. But with tender varieties like the Clemens, Jonathan and Wealthy a wrapper was a distinct advantage in extending the life of the fruit, preserving its natural brightness and lessening the amount of decay. A wrapper serves to reduce the bruising that may result from poor packing or from rough handling in transportation. It retards shriveling and adds to the value of the fruit by preserving its attractive appearance. The wrappers cost about 2 cents per thousand for newspaper 29 by 12 inches.

CONTROL OF LICE

The toll taken by lice is a heavy one. No herdman can watch the frenzied rubbing of an infected dairy cow without realizing the discomfort that is assuredly going to be reflected in the milk pail. Lice are most prevalent in dark, damp, dirty, badly ventilated stables. No treatment will be lasting in its effect until such conditions are improved. When the weather is mild, infested cattle may be washed with a solution of stavesacre or larkspur seed, made by boiling 4 ounces of the seeds in one quart of water for 30 minutes. A solution of coal-tar dip, made and used according to directions given by the manufacturer, is also effective. This treatment has to be repeated at intervals to kill lice hatched from nits. Powdered sabadilla, dusted on infested parts, is popular as a

PROTECTING UNBORN PIGS

The good results obtained from feeding legume hay to fall pigs also applies to pregnant brood sows. Instead of preventing rickets in the brood sows we want to give them the best opportunity to develop strong, vigorous litters of pigs. The lack of suitable and sufficient protection in the pregnant brood sow ration is frequently the cause of dead or weak pigs at farrowing time. It is a mighty discouraging sight to see a herd of brood sows through the winter expecting an average of 7 or 8 strong, healthy pigs and get less than an average of five pigs.

louse killer. It may be used alone or mixed with equal quantities of powdered tobacco and flowers of sulphur. Blanket the animal for a few hours after treatment, then thoroughly brush the skin, preferably outdoors. The operator should cover his nose and mouth with a double cheesecloth to prevent irritation when applying sabadilla powder. Other treatments that have been successfully used include a mixture of one part sodium fluoride and 5 parts of flour or 20 parts each of flowers of sulphur and sodium fluoride and 40 parts of finely powdered tobacco leaves or snuff. Raw linseed oil, rubbed in with a stiff brush, is also effective but it fouls the skin. Many dairymen clip the hair where the infection is the greatest; along the neck, the back, and the tail setting. Be very cautious in the use of such compounds as mercurial ointment in treating lice on dairy cattle, as it is extremely poisonous and may be licked off with disastrous results.

INCUBATOR TEMPERATURES

Those who continue to hatch their own baby chicks must necessarily be very much concerned about the proper temperature for running the incubator. Considerable work has been done on this temperature problem. Following are some of the conclusions reached as a result of several years of work with small incubators: 1. The optimum temperature for the incubation of hens' eggs was between 99 degrees and 103 degrees F. measured by standing thermometers in a hot air type incubator, with the center of the bulb one and one-half inches above the egg tray. 2. A temperature of 101 degrees F. throughout the period of incubation, measured with a standing thermometer, gave the best hatching results. 3. The optimum temperature for the incubation of white and brown eggs was the same. 4. White eggs usually pipped and hatched a few hours earlier than brown eggs at the same temperature. 5. Temperatures below the optimum tended to delay the hatching and gave a large number of undesirable chicks. 6. Temperature above the optimum brought the hatch off earlier, but gave a greater number of undesirable chicks than optimum or lower than optimum temperatures. 7. Standing thermometers with the middle of the bulb one and one-half inches above the egg tray and near to but not touching the cage gave the most dependable temperature for incubation.

MAKE THIS "ME" YOU

Me? I'm tired of talk and I'm going to act. How? Well—I've had the secret of farm prosperity with me all the time—the right index, my nose. It's really no secret at all. For years the government, this state and the schools have been preaching diversified farming—taking up homestead soil fertility and proper rotation of stocks and crops. I guess, like a lot of other folks, I heard about these things so often—that I sort of got used to them—and let it go at that. But—I've done a lot of thinking lately—and a lot of looking too. I've noticed that really prosperous farms take advantage of every means for more productive results. I've noticed, too, that good fence plays a mighty important part where money is being made. Actually, good fencing is as necessary to profitable farming as pigs and cows and chickens. And so—wonderful folks, I heard about these things so often—that I sort of got used to them—and let it go at that. But—I've done a lot of thinking lately—and a lot of looking too. 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