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Their Christmas Turkey.

By MILDRED BENT.

PATIENTLY enough the family had endured Frank Framely's fads until he became a vegetarian. An overindulgence in turkey at the Thanksgiving feast had been followed by fasting, repentance and the adoption of the vegetarian diet. Steaks gave place to salads and lamb to lentils, wherefore the spare pennies of the Framely youngsters were invested in ham sandwiches and smoked beef instead of cake and candy.

It had been bad enough when Framely had adopted the thorough mastication fad and the entire family had solemnly chewed its food to the loud click of the metronome. It had been worse when all hands slept in a tent in the back yard because Framely had a cold and feared consumption, but even with an approved vegetarian kitchen within half a mile it was difficult to give variety to the menu with only vegetables as a foundation.

The younger Framelys refused to regard nut ragouts as fit substitutes for their mother's savory stews, and the hospitable soul of Mrs. Framely was tried by the evasive excuses of those who were invited to dinner. The poor little woman considered it necessary to explain that they were now vegetarians, and an anticipatory smile faded from expectant faces as the owners thereof mentioned transparent previous engagements suddenly recalled.

Finally she pleaded with her husband for a turkey for Christmas, to his great horror.

"Just for one day?" he repeated after her. "My dear, would you plead with me to feed my innocent children on a diet of poisons for 'just one day'?" No. I have ordered a beautiful mock turkey from the vegetarian kitchen. They assure me that it tastes exactly like the bird, and it is molded into the same shape. The children will not know the difference if they shut their eyes."

"But they can't eat their dinner with their eyes shut," protested Mrs. Framely feebly. Her husband regarded her with mild sorrow.

"If only they might eat with their eyes truly open," he lamented, "open to the danger that lurks within the dead flesh they would stuff their stomachs with. Some day they will thank me for saving them from the evils and miseries of the flesh eaters."

Framely adroitly made his escape before his wife could find an answer to

Frank will like one of his mother's pies for Christmas, though I will admit that you do beat me on your crusts, my dear. Now give me an apron and I'll help you with the turkey."

Mrs. Framely the younger shrank from an explanation and, with the statement that things only needed to be warmed up, thrust the matter aside. When her husband came in from church with the children she slipped out to put things on the table. When the family came into the dining room she supposed, of course, that her husband had explained and so made no comment when the old lady set aside her thick vegetable soup with the comment that she never did like those new-fangled soups.

But when the turkey was brought in and set upon the table the old lady brightened up.

"I don't see how you get your turkey such an even brown all over," she said approvingly. "Mine always burns on the top. You know I like the second joint and some of the white meat. Frank."

For an instant Framely went a sickly white.

"There is no white or dark meat," he said faintly. "This is a mock turkey, a mixture of nuts and vegetables, you know. We have awakened to the error of our ways and eat no more carrion."

"Don't eat carrion," repeated his mother as she sliced a bit from the strange mixture. "You eat this sort of stuff instead?"

"The pure product of Mother Nature, of the green fields and the healthful sunshine," said her son solemnly.

"The last time I was here you were chewing your food like a cow chews its cud," remarked the old lady severely. "That was bad enough, but when you make a mock of Christmas with your mock turkey it makes me wish you were young enough to be taken across my knee again. Go get your hat. We're going to a restaurant for a real Christmas dinner."

"But, mother," began Framely, seeking to suppress with a glance the cheering of the children.

"Do you remember when you were a little boy about the age of little Frankie here?" demanded his mother. Framely nodded. "And do you remember how good a drumstick used to taste, with some glibet gravy and lots of stuffing and cranberry sauce?"

"Yes, mother," he assented limply.

"Then go get your hat. It's Frankie's birthday," she declared.

"Yes, mother," came for a second time, but now there was gladness in the voice, a hungry look in the eyes, and his wife knew that another fad had passed.

Old Christmas Superstitions.

An old German saying is that between 11 and 12 o'clock on Christmas eve water can be turned into wine.

The lamp or candle must not be allowed to burn itself out on Christmas

CITY LODGE DIRECTORY

- A. F. & A. M.**
McCook Lodge No. 135, A. F. & A. M., meets every first and third Tuesday of each month, at 8:30 p. m., in Masonic hall.
CHARLES L. FARNSTOCK, W. M.
LON CONE, Sec.
- E. S. M.**
Oceanoza Council No. 16, R. & S. M., meets on the second Saturday of each month, at 8:30 p. m., in Masonic hall.
RALPH A. HAGBERG, T. I. M.
SILVESTER CORDAL, Sec.
- R. A. M.**
King Cyrus Chapter No. 35, R. A. M., meets every first and third Thursday of each month, at 8:30 p. m., in Masonic hall.
JUSTIN A. WILCOX, H. P.
CLINTON B. SAWYER, Sec.
- KNIGHTS TEMPLAR**
St. John Commandery No. 16, K. T., meets on the second Thursday of each month, at 8:30 p. m., in Masonic hall.
EMERSON HANSON, E. C.
SAMUEL S. GARVEY, Sec.
- EASTERN STAR**
Eureka Chapter No. 86, O. E. S., meets the second and fourth Fridays of each month, at 8:30 p. m., in Masonic hall.
MRS. SARAH E. KAY, W. M.
W. E. HART, Sec.
- MODERN WOODMEN**
Noble Camp No. 653, M. W. A., meets every second and fourth Thursday of each month, at 8:30 p. m., in Ganschow's hall. Pay assessments at White House Grocery.
J. M. SMITH, Clerk. S. E. HOWELL, V. C.
- ROYAL NEIGHBORS**
Noble Camp No. 862, R. N. A., meets every second and fourth Thursday of each month, at 8:30 p. m., in Ganschow's hall.
MRS. MARY WALKER, Orator.
MRS. AUGUSTA ANTON, Rec.
- W. O. W.**
Meets second and fourth Thursdays at 8 o'clock, in Diamond's hall.
CHAS. F. MARKWAD, C. C.
W. C. MOTER, Clerk.
- WORKMEN**
McCook Lodge No. 61, A. O. U. W., meets every Monday, at 8:30 p. m., in Diamond's hall.
C. B. GRAY, Rec. WM. WOOTON, M. W.
I. M. SMITH, Financier.
- DEGREE OF HONOR**
McCook Lodge No. 3, D. of H., meets every second and fourth Fridays of each month, at 8:30 p. m., in Ganschow's hall.
MRS. LAURA OSBURN, C. of H.
MRS. MATTIE G. WELLES, Rec.
- LOCOMOTIVE ENGINEERS**
McCook Division No. 623, B. of L. E., meets every second and fourth Saturday of each month, at 2:30 p. m., in Morris hall.
WALTER STOKES, C. E.
W. D. BURNETT, F. A. E.
- LOCOMOTIVE FIREMEN AND ENGINEERS**
McCook Lodge No. 599, B. of L. F. & E., meets every Saturday, at 7:30 p. m., in Ganschow's hall.
I. D. PENNINGTON, M.
C. H. HUSTED, Sec.
- RAILWAY CONDUCTORS**
Harvey Division No. 95, O. R. C., meets the second and fourth Wednesday nights of each month at 8:30 p. m., in Morris hall at 304 Main Avenue.
A. G. KING, C. Con.
M. O. McCLEURE, Sec.
- RAILWAY TRAINMEN**
C. W. Bronson Lodge No. 487, B. of R. T., meets first and third Sundays at 2:30 p. m., and second and fourth Fridays at 7:30 p. m., each month, in Morris hall.
NEAL BEELER, M.
R. J. MOORE, Sec.

- RAILWAY CARMEN**
Young America Lodge No. 456, B. R. C. of A., meets on the first and third Thursdays of each month in Diamond's hall at 7:30 p. m.
JOHN HUNT, C. C.
- N. V. FRANKLIN, Rec. Sec.**
- MACHINISTS**
Red Willow Lodge No. 287, I. A. of M., meets every second and fourth Tuesday of the month, at 8:30 p. m., in Ganschow hall.
FRED LANDBERG, Pres.
M. L. SEARCH, Fin. Sec.
FLOYD BERRY, Cor. Sec.
- BOILERMAKERS**
McCook Lodge No. 407, B. of B. M. & L. S. B. of A., meets first and third Fridays of each month in Odd Fellows' hall.
- KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS**
McCook Lodge No. 42, K. of P., meets every Wednesday, at 8:30 p. m., in Masonic hall.
M. LAWRETTSON, C. C.
J. N. GAARDE, K. R. S.
- ODD FELLOWS**
McCook Lodge No. 137, I. O. O. F., meets every Monday, at 8:30 p. m., in Ganschow's hall.
W. H. ACKERMAN, N. G.
W. A. MIDDLETON, Sec.
- EAGLES**
McCook Aerie No. 1514, F. O. E., meets the second and fourth Fridays of each month, at 8:30 p. m., in Diamond's hall. Social meetings on the first and third Fridays.
R. S. LIGHT, W. Pres.
G. C. HECKMAN, W. Sec.
- KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**
McCook Council No. 1126, K. of C., meets the first and third Tuesdays of each month, at 8:30 p. m., in Diamond's hall.
FRANK REAL, G. K.
G. R. GALE, F. Sec.
- DAUGHTERS OF ISABELLA**
Court Granada No. 77, meets on the first and third Tuesdays of each month at 8 p. m., in the Morris hall.
ANNA HANNA, G. R.
JOSEPHINE MULLEN, F. S.
- LADY MACCABEES**
Valley Queen Hive No. 2, L. O. T. M., meets every first and third Thursday evenings of each month in Morris hall.
MRS. W. B. MILLS, Commander.
HARRIET E. WILLETTS, H. K.
- G. A. R.**
J. K. Barnes Post No. 207, G. A. R., meets on the first Saturday of each month at 2:30 p. m., in Ganschow's hall.
J. M. HENDERSON, Cmndr.
JACOB STEINMETZ, Adjt.
- RELIEF CORPS**
McCook Corps No. 98, W. R. C., meets every second and fourth Saturday of each month, at 2:30 p. m., in Ganschow hall.
ABELLA McCLEIN, Pres.
SUSIE VANDERHOOF, Sec.
- I. O. P. G. A. R.**
McCook Circle No. 33, L. of G. A. R., meets on the first and third Fridays of each month at 2:30 p. m. in Diamond's hall.
JESSIE WAITE, Pres.
MATTIE KNIPPLE, Sec.
- P. E. O.**
Chapter X, P. E. O., meets the second and fourth Saturdays of each month, at 2:30 p. m., at the homes of the various members.
MRS. G. H. THOMAS, Pres.
MRS. C. H. MEKKER, Cor. Sec.

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this outbreak, and toward afternoon the mock turkey made its appearance. It resembled a gigantic candy favor in shape and color. The tinting of the outside had been rudely done and by no means suggested the crackling skin of the barnyard king bursting from the pressure of the rich juices within. Sadly Mrs. Framely shook her head as she shoved the bird into the icebox along with the rest of the packages which the wagon had brought and busied herself with converting some meatless "mince meat" into pies.

Christmas day dawned somberly enough in the Framely household. Frank junior had thrown his carrot outfit to the floor and had been sent from the table in disgrace, and Nellie had invited a second outburst by tearfully pleading permission to go to her grandmother's, where they would have a "real" Christmas dinner. Grandmother was on the maternal side, and Mrs. Colford's intolerance of her son-in-law's fads was an ever ready subject for acrimonious discussion.

To cap the climax, the elder Mrs. Framely arrived unannounced during the forenoon.

"I was lonesome," she explained as she followed her daughter-in-law into the parlor. "so I just packed up some mince pies and some jellies I'd made and brought them along. I guess

eve or there will be a death in the family within the year.

A Magyar superstition is that any one who eats nuts without honey on Christmas will lose his teeth. Another is that a pillow turned at midnight will bring dreams of a future lover.

It is unlucky to trip on Christmas day.

The Sicilian children place penny-royal in the beds Christmas eve because they believe it always flowers at the exact hour of Christ's birth.

All children born at midnight on Dec. 31 will become great and famous.

Christmas Diplomacy.

Lady—My husband won't wear those shirts I bought him for Christmas. I didn't think he would. And now I'd like to exchange them.

Clerk—For what, madam?

Lady—Well, you might let me look at some lace handkerchiefs and some silver hatpins.—Puck.

His Popularity Explained.

"I don't see what makes that young friend of mine so very popular," said Willie Washington. "He is in demand for any number of Christmas parties."

"That is very easily explained," answered Miss Cayenne. "He is so near the door that he is usually mistaken for mistletoe."

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