

DELICIOUS CHRISTMAS CAKES.

(By Various Contributors to the Woman's World.)

Prune Spice Cake.
Remove the pits from 1 1/2 cups of prunes and cut the prunes into small pieces. Add 1/2 cup of seedless raisins, 1/4 cup of molasses and cook gently 25 minutes. Cool before using. Cream 1/2 cup of butter with 1/2 cup of sugar, add two well beaten eggs, 1/4 cup of milk and the molasses mixture. Mix well, add 1 1/2 cups of flour sifted with 1 teaspoon of baking powder, a pinch of salt, 1/2 teaspoon each of cloves and cinnamon and 1/4 teaspoon nutmeg. Beat well and bake in a buttered, floured pan in a moderate oven.

A Fine Fruit Cake.
Cream together 1/2 cup of drippings or vegetable fat, 1/2 cup of butter and one cup of sugar, then gradually add 4 well beaten eggs. Now add 1 cup of molasses, 1 pound of cleaned currants, 1 pound of seeded candied citron peel, 4 tablespoons of chopped nut meats, 1/2 cup of fruit juice, four cups of flour mixed and sifted with three teaspoons of baking powder, 1/4 teaspoon of salt, 2 teaspoons of powdered ginger, 1 teaspoon each of powdered cloves and cinnamon, and 1 teaspoon of grated nutmeg. Mix well, turn into a greased and papered cake tin and bake in a moderately hot oven for three hours.

Nut Cake.
Cream 1 cup of sugar with 1/2 cup of butter. Add 1 cup of milk, 2 well beaten eggs, 2 cups of flour sifted with 2 level teaspoons of baking powder and a pinch of salt. Beat well and add 1 teaspoon vanilla extract, 1/2 cup of chopped nuts, flour, and mix well. Bake in layers or in a loaf pan and ice with maple flavored icing.

Jelly Roll.
Sift together 1 cup of flour with 1 cup of sugar, 1 1/2 teaspoons of baking powder and a pinch of salt. Add 3 well beaten eggs, 1/2 cup of hot water, and 1 teaspoon of lemon extract. Beat well

and pour into a well greased pan. Bake in a moderate oven, turn out on a clean cloth and trim off the crusty edges. Spread with any fruit jelly which has been beaten with a fork, and roll up. Wrap in the cloth until cold and dust with powdered sugar. The cake must be rolled while still hot, otherwise it will break.

Chocolate Spice Cake.
Cream 1/2 cup of brown sugar with 1-3 cup of butter. Add 1 well beaten egg, 1/2 cup of sour milk, in which 1/2 teaspoon of soda has been dissolved, 1/2 teaspoon of cinnamon, 1/4 teaspoon each of cloves and grated nutmeg, 1 tablespoon of grated chocolate and 1 1/2 cups of flour sifted with 1/2 teaspoon of baking powder and a pinch of salt. Beat well. One-half cup of seedless raisins, flour, may be added if desired. Bake in layers or loaf and ice with plain icing.

Tea Cake.
Cream 1 cup of sugar with 1/2 cup of butter. Add 2 well beaten eggs, 2-3 cups of flour, 1/2 teaspoon of cinnamon, 1/2 teaspoon of grated nutmeg, 2 cups of flour, a pinch of salt and 1 teaspoon of baking soda dissolved in 1 tablespoonful of warm water. Beat well, add 1 cup of chopped, floured raisins and bake in a greased pan. Ice with vanilla icing.

Egless, Butterless, Milkless Cake.
Mix and boil the following together three minutes:
One cup brown sugar, 1 cup water, 1/2 cup lard or drippings, 1-3 cups raisins, 1 cup currants, 1/2 cup chopped citron.

When cool add 1 teaspoon soda dissolved in 1 tablespoon hot water. Two cups flour sifted with 1/2 teaspoon each of cloves, cinnamon, nutmeg and baking powder, and 1 cup broken nut meats. Mix well and bake in paper lined bread pan one hour in a slow oven.

TO SWEETEN THE GIFT.

From the Minneapolis Journal.
A suitable message send with a Christmas present often worries the sender. The timeworn phrases, "Wishing you a Merry Christmas from," etc., lack individuality and effectiveness. Yet a clever quotation enhances a gift. An appropriate card to send with books might contain this from Stevenson:

"This little paper traveler goes forth to your door charged with tender greetings. Pray you, take him in. He comes from a house where you are well beloved."

Or one may fancy these lines from Tennyson:

"I thought to myself I would offer this book to you. This and my love together."

Those who make their own gifts could use the following:

"Alone I did it.—Shakespeare.
That sanguine inexperience loves to make.—Cowper.

"With a gift to a husband and wife might go:
The gift doth stretch itself as 'tis received, and is enough for both.—Shakespeare.

"With jewelry:
Dumb jewels often in their silent kind More quick than words do move a woman's mind.—Shakespeare.

"This ring, O my beloved, for a sign,
For me on your slim finger wear, As a perpetual caress,
To tell you of my tenderness.—Adapted from Stevenson.

"With any kind of gift:
Consider not the gift of the lover, but the lover of the gift.—Thomas a Kempis.
Wear this for me—one out of suits with fortune,
That could give more, but that her hand lacks means.—Shakespeare.

"I send with deep regards of heart and head,
Sweet maid, for friendship formed, this gift to thee, —Shakespeare.
Good wishes go with this,
And love, packed in a kiss.—Baldwin.

"I send thee here a remembrance of all
That my heart to thy heart doth recall.—Frere.

Two Weeks Christmas.
From the World Outlook.

Filipino children do not think that they are over supplied with Christmas, although they have two, December 25 and January 6, the latter day having been retained from the old Spanish calendar when the United States took over the islands. Practically, Christmas now lasts through from one date to the other, 14 days. If to these days the Filipino children could somehow add the St. Nicholas day of early December, which the Dutch children celebrated, they certainly would be well fixed. However, two weeks of Christmas is as much as any well mannered child can reasonably ask for, and certainly as much as parents can stand.

Filipino children usually have no stockings to hang up, but they place their shoes on the window sill for the same purpose. On Christmas eve a boy and a girl, costumed to represent Joseph and Mary, respectively, go about the streets of their town or village, seeking shelter. Following the touching drama, reminiscent of Joseph and Mary's entrance into Bethlehem, the scenes of the Christmas story are reenacted in all the churches. Every one attends these pageants. Frequently the crippled and ailing come crowding into the churches on their hands and knees. The remainder of the night is given up to feasting.

On Christmas day, small bands of boys and girls, representing the shepherds of Bethlehem, travel as troubadours about the towns, searching for the Christ Child and singing Christmas songs. They are gayly attired in bright colored clothing, bespangled and glittering with ornaments. They sing before the doors of residences and business houses to the accompaniment of tambourines and stringed instruments, and do not hesitate to hold out their hands for a Christmas gift when they shout "Merry Christmas!" (Merry Christmas.) Their performance is worthy of a gift for it represents weeks of training with the music master before the holidays.

Leave the Lights Burning.
From the Washington Herald.

"When you leave your apartment or house unoccupied at night, always keep the electric lights burning, because the hooded criminal becomes a coward when caught under the electric light."
This is the message Inspector Joseph A. Furot, chief of detectives of New York police department, sends to the women of the country.

Continuing the inspector said: "A flat worker seldom if ever, enters an apartment in which he sees an electric light burning, so it will prove a profitable investment for the housewife to follow this suggestion."

"The rapid development of electricity has proved to be the burglar's nemesis. It holds more terrors for him than the householders' guns. He will take a chance for his liberty by engaging in a struggle in the dark, but he will avoid being discovered in a light flooded room where his features are exposed to view. Through the aid of identification bureaus being seen means almost certain conviction."

Before going on the stage and always after the performance, Mme. Guilbert, the actress, drinks a cup of tea. She is said to drink as high as 10 cups of tea every day.

FILL THE COOKY JAR.

(Copyright, 1915, by the McClure Newspaper Syndicate.)
Have you a cookie jar? If you haven't, have you not at least a very handsome one for certain cookie jars of your youth?

Although the filled cookie jar has somewhat gone out of fashion, it has a useful place in any pantry. From its cool depths small cakes for any occasion can be extracted. For the afternoon cup of tea, or the unexpected and hungry guest who is refreshed with a glass of milk or a cup of chocolate—and some cookies—to eat with fruit or ice cream for dessert, and for the forbidden but delightful between meal nibble, the cookie jar can be called on.

Hickory Nut Macaroons.
Mix one cup of nut meats, chopped fine, with one cup of sugar, one-half cup of flour and one egg. Drop on buttered tins and bake in quick oven.

Cocoanut Drop Cakes.
Cream together one cupful of light brown sugar and a half cupful of butter; then add one cupful of sour milk and one teaspoonful each of cinnamon and cloves sifted with one level teaspoonful of soda and two cupfuls flour. Mix thoroughly and then stir in a half cupful of shredded cocoanut. Drop by dessertspoonfuls on a greased pan and bake in a moderate oven. If the cakes are not stiff enough to keep their shape, add more flour.

Walnut Wafers.
One cupful of flour, one cupful of sugar, one-fourth cupful of butter, one cup of walnut meats, one egg and a pinch of salt. Chop the nuts fine, beat the butter and sugar to a cream, add the well beaten egg, the flour and stir in the nuts. Drop in spoonfuls on buttered tins and flatten a little. Bake in a moderate oven.

Pecan Cookies.
Beat the yolks of two eggs until thick and lemon colored. Add one cupful of brown sugar gradually, while beating constantly. Then add one cupful of chopped pecan meat nuts, sprinkled with one-eighth teaspoonful of salt, the whites of two eggs, beaten until stiff, and six tablespoonfuls of flour. Drop from tip of spoon on buttered sheet, one and one-half inches apart. Spread and bake in a moderate oven.

Little Orphan Annie.
INScribed.
With All Faith and Affection.

To all the little children—The happy ones, and the sad ones;
The sober and the silent ones; the boisterous and glad ones;
The good ones—Yes the good ones, too; and all the lovely bad ones.

Little Orphan Annie's come to our house to stay,
An' wash the cups an' saucers up, an' constantly the crumbs away,
An' shoo the chickens off the porch, an' dust the hearth, an' sweep,
An' make the fire, an' bake the bread, an' an' an' can her board-an' keep;
An' all us other children, when the supper-things is done,
We set around the kitchen fire an' has the mostest fun.
A-list'nin' to the witch-tales 'at Annie tells about,
An' the Gobble-uns 'at gits you
Ef you
Don't
Watch
Out!

Wunst they wuz a little boy wouldn't say his prayers,—
An' when he went to bed at night, away upstairs,
His Mammy heard him holler, an' his Daddy heard him bawl,
An' when the turst 'at kivers down, he hezzn't there at all!
An' they seeked him in the rafter-room, an' cubbyhole, an' press,
An' seeked him in the chimney-hole of ever'where, I guess;
But all they ever found was flist his pants an' roundabout,—
An' the Gobble-uns 'll git you
Ef you
Don't
Watch
Out!

An' one time a little girl 'ud allus laugh an' grip,
An' make fun of ever'one, an' all her blood-an-kin;
An' wunst, when they was "company," an' ole folks wuz there,
She mocked 'em an' shocked 'em, an' said she didn't care!
An' thist as she kicked her heels, an' turn't to run an' hide,
They wuz two great big Black Things a-standin' by her side,
An' they snatched her through the ceiling 'fore she knowed what she's about!
An' the Gobble-uns 'll git you
Ef you
Don't
Watch
Out!

An' little Orphan Annie says, when the blaze is blue,
An' the lamp-wick sputters, an' the wind goes woo-oo,
An' you hear the crickets quit, an' the moon is gray,
An' the lightning bugs in dew is all squenced away,—
You an' your parants, an' yer teachers, folks an' dear,
An' churlish them 'at loves you, an' dry the orphan's tear,
An' the pore an' needy ones 'at cluster about,
An' the Gobble-uns 'll git you
Ef you
Don't
Watch
Out!

An' James Whitcomb Riley.

WANTED—DEAD OR ALIVE!



RAIL DISPUTE MAY NOT REACH COURT

Road and Brotherhood Heads May Reach Agreement That Permanently Settles Friction.

Chicago, Dec. 18.—Hale Holden, president of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy railroad, who was chairman of the committee of the railroad executives which met President Wilson and the brotherhood officials in Washington last summer, when a railroad strike was threatened, confined today the report that informal conferences had been held by railroad representatives with brotherhood officials concerning a settlement out of court of the controversy between the railroads and their employes.

W. G. Lee, president of the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen, also announced at Evansville, Ind., last night that negotiations are under way between leaders of the four brotherhoods and operating officials of several railroads looking to a settlement of the entire controversy before January 1, when the Adamson law is to go into effect. Mr. Lee and Mr. Holden said, however, that the discussions had progressed so far even as to suggest a basis for a permanent settlement.

"I don't feel that I can say much more than that the conferences have been held between the brotherhood men and the railroad officers," Mr. Holden said. "The meetings have been of a purely informal nature and to date there has been no suggestion of an ultimate adjustment."

FOOT OF SNOW FALLS WITHIN TWO HOURS

New York Buried Under Fleecy Mantle—Thousands of Workers Engaged.

New York, Dec. 18.—The first real snowstorm of the winter will cost New York city about \$500,000. A foot of snow fell yesterday between 5 a. m. and 7 p. m. and the street cleaning department will be busy for two or three days carting it away. The fall was the greatest here in any day since December 26-27, 1890, when 14 inches fell in 24 hours.

Traffic is still blocked today owing to the shortage of men to clear the streets. Only 6,000 emergency men are enrolled and one half of these answered the call for work last night. These laborers were assisted by between 2,000 and 3,000 students of local colleges who went to work at 11 p. m. and received 30 cents an hour.

The storm in this vicinity caused comparatively little trouble to the steam railroads and the telegraph and telephone companies.

BIG SNOW IN BOSTON.

Boston, Mass., Dec. 16.—Eight and one-half inches of snow were on the ground at daybreak when a storm that had raged all night abated. Except for the usual tax on transportation service, the snow caused no great inconvenience.

GAS SHORTAGE CLOSES WHEELING FACTORIES

Wheeling, W. Va., Dec. 16.—Fifteen thousand workmen are idle here today as a result of the shortage of natural gas, which has forced almost every factory in the Wheeling district dependent upon gas for fuel to close.

GERMAN RAIDER ON ROUTE TO LIVERPOOL

Teuton Craft Believed to Be About 1,500 Miles West of Bordeaux.

New York, Dec. 18.—The French line steamer Chicago, which arrived here today nearly 48 hours overdue from Bordeaux, passed about 150 miles from the point which a wireless message posted on board indicated was the position of the German commerce raider reported in the Atlantic, according to passengers.

The bulletin was put up December 6 and to the surprise of the passengers was torn down five minutes later. The Chicago then detoured and the change of course, together with the heavy snow storm yesterday, accounted for the delay.

The bulletin gave the raider's position as approximately 1,500 miles west of Bordeaux and in the Liverpool-New York steamer route.

VESSEL AGROUND OFF SANDY HOOK

Rescue Crews Are Sent Out to Aid an Unknown Craft Pounding to Pieces on Jersey Coast.

Sandy Hook, N. J., Dec. 18.—A report received here today from the keeper of the Little Beach life saving station says an unidentified steamship is ashore about two miles east south-east from the station and that a United States revenue cutter has been notified.

EIGHT IOWA MILITIA BOYS HURT IN WRECK

Members of Battery A. En Route Home From Border, Are Severely Injured.

Grapeland, Tex., Dec. 18.—The derailment of three sleeping cars on a mixed troop train carrying A battery, Iowa field artillery from the border to the home station near here this morning, resulted in severe injuries for two trainmen, while eight troopers were bruised. A defective rail was said to have caused the accident. The injured were taken to Palestine.

A and C batteries were traveling in two sections with Captain Brandt, of A battery, the ranking officer, B battery, with headquarters and part of the hospital detachment, under Captain Compton and Captain Oakes, adjutant of the battalion, was to leave Houston at 11 a. m.

The three batteries, numbering 513 men, are to be mustered out at Davenport, Muscatine and Clinton, Ia. They have been stationed at Brownsville since July.

The others injured were: Private Vernon Dobson, slight cerebral contusions; Private Jim B. Smith, laceration about the eyes; Private Charles Smithers, right eye injured; Private John Dorsey, head cut; Private Humphries, eye hurt.
All belonged to battery A.

BLAZE WIPES OUT LLEWELLYN PLANT

Iron Works Which John J. McNamara Once Dynamited Again Wrecked By Blast.

Los Angeles, Cal., Dec. 18.—Fire early today nearly wiped out the plant of the Llewellyn Iron works, causing damage estimated at more than \$500,000. Several explosions were reported to have occurred and the police were investigating to determine if they were incidental to the fire or if the plant had been dynamited.

John J. McNamara, formerly secretary-treasurer of the International Union of Bridge and Structural Iron Workers is now serving a sentence in San Quentin, Cal., for the dynamiting of this plant in 1912, to which he confessed.

The blaze spread to the Lacy iron works across the street, but was brought under control.

The fire was said by the police to have started in the same part of the establishment as that which was wrecked by the bomb explosion in 1910. By the time the fire department arrived the major portion of the plant was in flames, which cast a glow over the entire business section of the city.

Fifty men were in the plant. The fire started apparently in the office building, but spread with such rapidity that the men had difficulty in escaping. When the fire department equipment arrived the entire plant, occupying two full squares, was in flames.

The roof of the office quarters fell in a few minutes after the fire equipment was in action and Redondo street, on which the plant fronts, was half filled and in places blocked by wreckage.

Concern was expressed by officers of the Llewellyn Iron works as to the possible destruction of many blue prints and records of costs and other office material which they said were valued at more than \$1,000,000.

The extent of the loss will be known when the ruins cool. Some of the blue prints were known to have been left out of the vaults.

It was at the front entrance of the building, where the fire was discovered today that there occurred a bomb explosion Christmas morning, 1910, during the labor disturbances in the latter half of that year.

Little damage was done by the explosion at that time.

COMPULSORY HEALTH INSURANCE OPPOSED

W. G. Curtis Marshalls Array of Arguments Against State Plan.

New York, Dec. 18.—Compulsory health insurance for wage earners, legislation for which has been proposed, was strongly disapproved by W. G. Curtis, of Detroit, Mich., president of a casualty insurance company, in an address before the 10th annual convention of the Association of Life Insurance Surriers here today. Mr. Curtis summarized his objections to compulsory health insurance by saying it would produce these results:

—A tax of \$5 to effect a saving of \$1.

—2,340,000 of the 33,500,000 wage earners because of age or physical condition.

—Provide employment for 250,000 politicians.

—Create a fund of \$150,000,000 that would be controlled or exclusively administered politically.

—Permit a small percentage of physicians to control most of the industrial medical practice.

—Establish socialism, paternalism and class distinction.

WILL SEND PEACE NOTES THEN WAIT HINT FROM ALLIES

President Wilson Decides Not to Risk His Standing By Making Advance Comment on Subject.

HEARING SEEMS ASSURED

Belief Prevails in Washington That Entente Will Hear Teutonic Terms Before Turning Them Down.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 18.—The opinion is growing in Washington that regardless of any action by President Wilson, the entente will not flatly reject the German peace proposal, but will at least indicate it is willing to talk peace on certain terms.

Furthermore, cables from Berlin saying Germany is prepared to offer liberal terms, suggest the idea that the central powers are really desirous of a peace parley.

The German embassy has given it some informally that Germany will not reject a proposition from the entente for the limiting of armaments. From this, it is inferred, Germany realizes she must be prepared to back up her pledges by stronger guarantees than words.

Meets Law's Demands.
This is the most important factor in the situation. It has to be considered in connection with the demand of Bonar Law for guarantees for the future.

While there is wide division of opinion here as to whether anything will come of the German peace proposal, the belief is growing that the peace leaves is working in all the warring countries. One authority said today: "Whatever comes of this immediate proposition it may be set down that this marks the actual beginning of peace negotiations. I believe Europe has entered the road to peace, though it is doubtless a good many months off."

Concession Important.
The authorized statement at the German embassy that consideration of at least partial disarmament would be one of the things taken up at a conference attracted the widest attention among government officials and diplomats. It was accounted doubly interesting because Germany had repeatedly refused such suggestions, even to the point, it was said, of threatening to withdraw from the conference if the subject, which had the support of the United States, England, France and Russia, were pressed.

To Make No Comment.
The White House this morning was without further information on the peace situation. The president's attitude is that the United States should send the notes without comment, but should hold itself in readiness to say or do anything which seems feasible in the light of developments. One authority summed up the case today by saying:

"We don't want to say anything that will bring us a slap in the face. We are simply going to wait until we learn whether we will get slapped if we urge a peace conference or express a wish for a peace parley in any way."

Bernstorff Sees Lansing.
Count von Bernstorff, the German ambassador conferred with Secretary Lansing today, seeking information of the attitude of the United States toward the peace proposals of the central powers to discuss the general subject of peace from this government's viewpoint and to give any information Mr. Lansing might desire on the attitude of the German government. Ambassador Bernstorff after a 10-minute visit with Secretary Lansing, said:

"We did not discuss peace terms in any way. I have not received any formal terms and the American government knows nothing of them. No peace terms have been proposed. All Germany has suggested is that the belligerents get together and talk. If that proposal is accepted definite terms naturally will be discussed, but till then it will not be proper to mention them. My visit to the secretary was purely for discussion."

No Comment on Policy.
The ambassador indicated that the actual policy for the holding of a conference and the question of whether it should be by direct negotiations or through intermediaries were questions entirely dependent on the willingness of the entente allies to discuss the situation at all. He indicated also that he had not discussed the American action in sending on the Teutonic notes without comment, as that was purely a matter for this country to decide for itself.

Secretary Lansing said early this morning the peace notes probably would go forward before night. One uniform American translation will be sent to all the governments where the United States represents the central allies and the original texts will be forwarded later, probably by mail.

LOCAL SNOWS FORECAST FOR THE COMING WEEK

Washington, Dec. 16.—Forecasts for the week beginning Sunday were announced by the weather bureau today as follows:

Plains states and upper and middle Mississippi valleys: Fair until Wednesday or Thursday, when local snows are probable in northern and rains or snows in southern portions. Temperature below seasonal average first part of week, followed by warmer during the middle of the week and colder on Thursday.

FAIL TO AGREE.

Washington, Dec. 16.—The Senate committee on commerce today failed to reach an agreement on the flood control bill to appropriate \$45,000,000 for the Mississippi and Sacramento rivers. The bill passed the House last May. Advocates want the bill passed unamended, but opposition developed from senators who proposed a general flood control measure instead. The committee will resume consideration of the bill Tuesday.

Pressing one end of a pedal with the foot admits cold water to a new washstand, pressing the other end allows hot water to flow and pressing the entire pedal mixes the two so that moderately warm water is obtained.