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MISCELLANEOUS

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SHORT STORY

Ben's Not Like That

By GERTRUDE WINDERS

"YOU'RE a wonder, Anne." However, Ben Harmon was smiling not at her but at the blue print she'd worked on, far into the night. Ben drew wacky sketches of houses he dreamed up and Anne made the blue prints that sold people his ideas, revised.

Anne said eagerly, "I've cut out some of the windows. You forgot that the Brantons want a lot of wall space for pictures." She waited for more praise. And waited.

Ben scooped up the blue print. "I gave a good deal of time to putting those windows exactly where they ought to be," he muttered, "but since you mention it, Mrs. Branton did say something about hanging Branton's latest atrocities. Hanging's too good for them . . . So long, beautiful."

3-Minute Fiction

Before Ben went to the Navy they were almost engaged. She was the one who had been uncertain. She was uncertain no longer. The plastic T square in her fingers shook. "Nothing I say or do seems to please him anymore," she whispered. "What is the matter with Ben?" The voice of the new receptionist in the outer office floated to her in mocking answer, "Oh Ben, you're wonderful!"

Anne stiffened, listening for Ben's answer. She could hear only the deep rumble of his voice.

Anne could imagine how Marvella looked as she said it, eyes fluttering, wide silly smile. Anne smoothed her brown page boy bob. Marvella was a synthetic blond. Surely Ben wouldn't—

"Mrs. Branton is on the university board," Ben was saying. "If she likes this house we'll have a good chance at the university's new chapel."

"I'VE another idea about the cottage." He spread a crumpled sketch on her drawing board. "We'll build the house in the hill. That gives an old-world broken roof line with the slope for background."

Anne, studying the sketch, felt her heart sink. His notion was impossible.

"It would be beautiful," murmured Anne, "but wouldn't every room be on a different level?" She must be tactful.

"That's part of the charm!"

"It means stepping up and down, and Mrs. Branton is old—"

"Nonsense. She just sits and knits while he paints."

"It'll be wonderful," put in Marvella.

Ben's voice was sharp. "You're all wet on this, Anne.

"The cottage will be wet, you mean, poked under the hill that way." Her temper was rising. "You know we decided last week that the only place for the house was on

When she said, "How wonderful, how clever of you to think of that," he beamed at her.

top of the hill. That cuts out the hill problem and the house gets a breeze. You have a level stretch—"

"Okay," shouted Ben, "but I'll wager Branton won't think so."

The door banged on him.

She'd lost him. A fog of misery closed over her. She tried to tell herself that if she couldn't have Ben on an honest basis, she didn't want him. That didn't help. It wasn't true. She wished she'd lied and gushed.

He phoned her. "Branton is crazy about my idea."

"Artists are always crazy," she retorted, blinking back tears.

Ben's step behind her was a surprise. She hadn't expected him to come back to the office that night.

"Congratulations," she said, without turning her head, and felt two hands firm on her shoulders.

"For what?" asked Ben softly. "For being a dope? Anne, what would I do without you?"

"Didn't Branton—" Anne began, dazed.

Ben turned her around and grinned down at her. "Mrs. Branton picked the house on top of the hill," he explained. "She said, 'My husband hasn't a practical bone in his head.' Will you say that about me some day? We make a swell team, honey. What do you say?"

Anne didn't say anything for Ben's lips, warm and firm, were on hers.

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Louisiana Lillies

Production of lily bulbs in Louisiana is fast becoming an important industry. Between 300,000 and two million Louisiana-grown bulbs were sold each year between 1940 and 1946 for commercial cut flowers.

Vending Machine Sales

Today about 20 per cent of all cigarette sales are made by vending machines, and the same is true of candy bars. An even larger proportion of soft drinks is dispensed automatically.

HOUSEHOLD MEMOS... by Lynn Chambers

Casseroles Please, Satisfy Appetites During Cold Weather

WOMEN LIKE casseroles for dinner and supper menus because they're taste-tempting and satisfying to the family. At the same time, a well-planned casserole contains high nutritive value and stays within hard-pressed food budgets.

If you're short on time when preparing a meal, it's easy to whip together a casserole. Then, too, because a casserole contains so many other foods and frequently includes vegetables, there's little to worry about for the remainder of the meal.

Even if the casserole contains no vegetables, you can serve those in a salad which takes no time to toss together. Fresh or canned fruits, and cookies from the old stone crock will do beautifully for dessert.

• • •

PORK LEFT over from a roast will work nicely in this biscuit roll. You may serve gravy left from the

A pound of pork makes a tasty dish when combined with flavorful apples in this biscuit roll. This main dish is quickly mixed and easily baked for a cold weather supper.

roast over it or substitute tomato sauce.

Pork Biscuit Roll
(Serves 4)

2 cups sifted flour
3 teaspoons baking powder
1 teaspoon salt
1 teaspoon salt
4 tablespoons fat meat drippings
⅔ cup milk (about)
3 tablespoons melted fat
1 cup ground cooked pork
1 egg
2 tablespoons minced onion
½ teaspoon salt
5 or 6 apples

Sift together flour, baking powder and salt. Cut in fat; add milk to make a soft dough. Roll dough into rectangular sheet length of dish, ½ inch thick. Brush with melted fat. Combine meat, egg, onion and salt. Spread mixture over dough. Roll as for jelly roll. Place roll cut side down in a 10-inch heat-resistant glass dish. Cut apples in halves and arrange along sides of roll. Bake in a hot oven (400°F.) for 30 minutes. Cut in thick slices and serve with extra gravy or tomato sauce.

• • •

HEARTY CHEESE and noodles are combined to make this next casserole. Wedges of ripe tomato baked on top add color as well as interest.

Red-Top Olive Casserole
(Serves 5 - 6)

½ cup ripe olives
2 cups noodles (4 ounces)
2 tablespoons butter or substitute
2 tablespoons flour
1½ cups milk
½ teaspoon salt
Black pepper to taste
⅔ cup grated American cheese
2 tomatoes

Cut olives from pits into large pieces. Cook noodles until tender in boiling, salted water. Drain and place in baking dish. Melt butter and blend in flour. Add milk and thickened. Remove from heat; stir in cheese and olives. Pour over noodles. Cut tomatoes into 6 wedges and press skin side up on top of noodles. Bake in a moderate (350°F.) oven about 25 to 30 minutes.

If you've decided on the individual cheese and meat pies, here's the recipe which will give you 8 pie shells, 3¾ inches in diameter and 1 inch deep. It's a good idea to make these first so they can chill while you make the mixture for the pies.

LYNN SAYS:

Here's Help in Planning Quickly Prepared Meals

Prepare meat loaf and casserole dishes the evening before; refrigerate until baking time which will take 20 to 30 minutes.

If you mix muffin or cake batters ahead of time, store in cake pans or glass jars and cover tightly. Refrigerate.

Have salad ingredients washed and chilled ahead of time. Then they just need tossing before the dressing.

Even pies are easy to make if you keep pudding mix in a glass jar and pie crust which takes little time to roll and bake. Top with meringue or whipped cream for a tasty dessert.

Cook potatoes the night before to save time. These may be brushed with melted fat or drippings and broiled with ham, chops or patties.

Quickly cooked meats include cube steaks, lamb patties, ham slices, lamb chops, frankfurters, tuna fish or salmon, frozen fish steaks, canned hash, or cold meats.

LYNN CHAMBERS' MENU

*Cheese-Meat Pies
Tossed Green Salad Hot Rolls
Apricots Beverage Cookies
*Recipe Given

Pastry
(For Cheese-Meat Pies)

2½ cups sifted flour
1 teaspoon salt
¾ cup shortening
5 or 6 tablespoons cold water

Sift together flour and salt. Cut in shortening with two knives or pastry blender until pieces are the size of a small pea. Sprinkle 1 tablespoon of water over a small portion of the flour mixture, lightly pressing moistened particles together with a fork. Put this dough to the side of the mixing bowl. Repeat until all flour is moistened, being careful to add water each time to an undampened spot. Lightly form into a ball, wrap in waxed paper and chill ½ hour.

Cheese-Meat Pies
(Makes 8)

Pastry
½ cup finely chopped onion
⅔ cup finely chopped green pepper
2 tablespoons butter
1 pound chuck beef, ground
1 teaspoon salt
¼ teaspoon pepper
1¼ cups condensed tomato soup
3 cups cooked fine noodles
½ pound American cheese, grated

Line 8 individual pie pans with pastry. Cook onion and green pepper until tender and lightly browned. Add ground meat, salt and pepper and mix well. Stir in tomato soup and noodles. Blend well. Add cheese, saving ½ cup for top of pies. Fill pastry-lined pie pans with cheese-meat mixture. Sprinkle 1 tablespoon of cheese on top of each pie. Bake in a moderate (350°F.) oven for 45 minutes. Serve hot in pie pans, or, let cool in pans for 15 minutes and then lift from pans with aid of spatula.

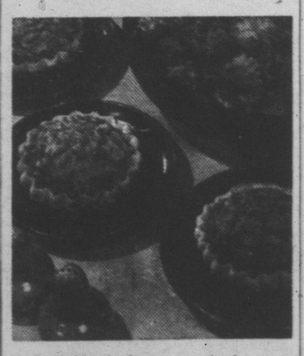
• • •

You'll get a hearty, man-sized meal from both of these casseroles and at great economy:

Lima Bean Casserole
(Serves 10)

2 cups dried lima beans
1 pound pork, cubed
2 tablespoons flour
1½ teaspoons salt
½ teaspoon paprika
⅛ teaspoon mace
1⅔ cup chopped onions
2½ cups canned tomatoes

Soak lima beans overnight. Drain. Add water to cover and simmer, covered, until tender. Dip meat in flour mixed with seasonings. Brown in hot fat. Add onions and cook until golden. Alternate lima beans and meat in a greased casserole. Add tomatoes. Bake in a moderate (350°F) oven for 1½ hours. Add bean liquor if mixture tends to dry too much.



Individual cheese-meat pies are a sure-fire answer to the menu planning problem. These pies combine the high quality proteins of cheese and meat to make a low-cost main dish.

Corn-Hamburger Casserole
(Serves 8)

1 pound ground beef
2 tablespoons fat
¼ cup chopped onion
1 can condensed tomato soup
1½ cups water
4 ounces noodles, cooked
Salt and pepper
2½ cups canned corn
¼ cup chopped ripe olives
1 cup grated American cheese

Brown meat in hot fat; add onion and cook until tender. Add soup, water and noodles. Cook until noodles are tender. Season to taste, then add corn, olives and cheese. Bake in a casserole in a moderate oven for 45 minutes.

Released by WNU Features

Sauces may be made in advance and refrigerated until heating time. Or, use canned soups for sauces. There are cream of mushroom, tomato, cream of chicken and cream of celery which are all good.

Puddings and gelatin salads and molds may easily be made in advance to save time preparing a meal.

Refrigerator biscuit and cookie doughs are handy to have when you're rushed for a meal. Cookies can bake while you're eating the main course.

Baked potatoes are ready in no time if you do it this way: bake ahead of time, cut in halves and scoop out the potato. Mash, season and add milk and butter. Refill shells and refrigerate. They need only heating then!

Sift dry ingredients for muffins, biscuits, meat pies, etc. to save last minute preparation time.

Dried beef is easily creamed with canned soup to which a pinch of curry powder is added. Serve on hot rice which is easily prepared from the quick-cooking type.

THE BIBLE SPEAKS

International Uniform Sunday School Lessons

By DR. KENNETH J. FOREMAN

SCRIPTURE: Mark 1:14-15, 21-45; Luke 4:16-30.
DEVOTIONAL READING: Luke 4:40—5:3.

Teaching Religion

Lesson for February 6, 1949

SOME PEOPLE, strange to say, don't believe in Sunday schools. Most North American Protestants do, because Jesus did. The word may not be found in the New Testament, but the thing is there. If Jesus did not believe that religion could be taught, then he was guilty of wasting much of his time, for he worked at teaching in season and out of season. He was a product of the Sunday School, in a sense. During his childhood he would go to the synagogue school weekdays and especially on Sabbaths; we know that by the time he was grown it was his "custom" to attend synagogue service.

Dr. Foreman

And in every Jewish community the synagogue was the place where for two hundred years and more, children and youth and older people had been taught the Word of God.

If Christians today are faithful to Christ's example, we also will keep at the job of teaching our religion to every child within our reach.

• • •

Body and Soul

READERS of the gospels will note that when Jesus went home from the synagogue on the Sabbath, his day's work was not done. He would spend hours, sometimes till far into the night, healing people brought to him for cure. Jesus ministered to mind and soul. Jesus was interested in personalities, whole people, not half-people. Our minds have to be fed, but we live in bodies, and bodies have no little to do with personalities. Jesus was not content with teaching sick people; he made sick people well. So the church today, if it is faithful to Christ's principles, will consider people as complete personalities.

• • •

The Common People

WE FIND that Jesus did not insist on university audiences. Indeed, he never spoke to a university audience. His teaching was always in the midst of groups of very plain people. There were great universities in those days, but it was not necessary for any one to be a graduate of one of them in order to enter Jesus' school, or to understand what he taught. He taught the plain people plainly.

In all our teaching we try to use the pupil's language and to put our Christian ideas in the thoughts that the pupils can understand.

At the best seminaries, young ministers-to-be are carefully taught how to put the great Christian doctrines in ways that the simplest people can understand. Teaching over people's heads is not teaching them at all.

• • •

God and Education

JESUS did not try to teach people carpentry, or arithmetic, or geography. No doubt he could have done so. But he had something more important on his mind, something which he alone could teach. He taught religion, or in other words he taught the truth about God, and about man, and about right relations between God and man. So the teaching church, whether in the Sunday school or in the books written by its scholars or in its schools and colleges, when it follows Christ's example, is always teaching religion first and foremost. We do not believe that religion is a secondary issue, something you can "take or leave."

• • •

Religion on Two Feet

JESUS did more than talk. He lived. His whole life and character were saying more loudly and plainly what his words said.

So the Christian church today, when it is faithful to Christ, must translate into actual living the faith she teaches in Sunday school lessons, in catechisms and books and sermons.

What we do, as Christians, speaks louder than what we say. Every Sunday school teacher needs to remember that what is said on Sunday is important, but what the teacher does on Monday is more impressive by far. The reason why Jesus was more effective than John the Baptist was that John, after all, was a Voice, while Jesus was a Friend. Are you who teach others about God simply a Voice? A phonograph could do as well.

(Copyright by the International Council of Religious Education on behalf of 40 Protestant denominations. Released by WNU Features.)

About the Bible

A Mohammedan trader, it is said, who could not read a word of English, nevertheless kept an English Bible beside him at all times. "When I meet a trader who is unknown to me," he explained, "I put the Bible into his way and watch him; if he opens it and reads, I know I can trust him; if he throws it aside with a sneer or a curse, I will have nothing to do with him."
—Christian Victory.

SEWING CIRCLE PATTERNS

House Dress for Larger Sizes Princess Style Simple Sewing

Practical Frock

HERE'S a neat, practical house frock to start your day with a smile. Cut on slimming lines, it is gayly trimmed with bold ric rac, a narrow sash ties in back. The two handy pockets are optional.

• • •

Pattern No. 8194 is for sizes 36, 38, 40, 42, 44, 46, 48, 50 and 52. Size 38, 4⅝ yards of 35 or 39-inch; 3½ yards trimming.

Keyhole Neck

EASY sewing for the beginner—a simple yet very smart princess dress that goes together like a charm. Insets at the waist gives a nipped in feeling, the keyhole neck is accented with shoestring bows.

• • •

Pattern No. 1760 comes in sizes 12, 14, 16, 18 and 20. Size 14, 3½ yards of 39-inch.

Send an additional quarter for your copy of the Spring and Summer FASHION. It's filled with ideas for your spring sewing plans. Free pattern printed inside the book.

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Household Hints

Marbleized or grained patterns or mosaic designs are a good choice for kitchen linoleum since they are easier to keep looking clean than a plain color.

—•—

To clean pearl handled knives, rub vigorously with fine salt and then wipe well with a chamois to restore the luster.

—•—

You can remove lint from dark woolen clothing by going over it with a rubber sponge dampened in water then wrung out so it's almost dry.

—•—

A homemaker should know the variations in type and quality in order to make wise purchases of cotton sheets. Top grade sheets are marked by numerals which denote the number of threads per square inch. Whether percale or muslin, the higher the number of threads, the higher the rating in durability and longevity. Fabric experts recommend silky smooth percales for luxury sheets, but say when thrift is the major consideration, buy muslin for durability and longer wear.

—•—

In baking with brown sugar all lumps should be removed from the sugar before measuring. This may be done with a rolling pin. The sugar should then be packed tightly into the measuring cup.

—•—

If fresh asparagus is peeled before cooking, the peelings plus the ends of the asparagus that are cut off may be used to make a cream soup.

—•—

Straw shopping bags will last longer if given an occasional coat of white varnish.

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