Household

Muffins, Buns and Biscuits.

English Muffins.—One-half ounce of yeast, two cups and a half of flour, a teaspoon of sugar, a half teaspoon of salt, a cup of lukewarm water. Braid the sugar with the yeast, add two tablespoons of lukewarm water and let stand for ten minutes or until foamy. Add to it the cup of lukewarm water and mix with the dried and sifted flour in a bowl. Cover up and let it rise all night or at least for four hours. After it is well risen break down and beat with the hand and let it rise again for one hour. A little more flour may be added if necessary, but the dough should be soft. Form into thin round cakes and bake on the griddle after rubbing them with flour.

The baking of these is a nice task which one can learn only from experience, and the same is true in reference to getting just the right effect in molding them. This is sometimes accomplished by making them up into round balls and putting them into a bed of flour to rise a second time, flattening the ball when it is sufficiently risen and ready to cook. There are other ways of getting them flour covered. The griddle should be thick, slowly heated, and when hot enough to brown flour rather quickly it is ready. Turn and bake in all ten minutes, if each muffin is made of about one-quarter of a pound of dough. They should not be thick or large.

Many English cook books give directions for toasting them with none for making, but one which does adds: "When well prepared, they are, in my opinion, a very great luxury, obtainable at a trifling expense."

Imitation Bath Buns.—Use any good sweet raised dough, lightly shortened, or the following: Soak one-half cake of yeast and a teaspoon of sugar in a little tepid water, and after it stands until it foams add it to a cup of boiled milk cooled until tepid, with one-half cup of sugar, one-fourth cup of butter, and one-half a beaten egg, saving the other half for brushing the buns, or rolls, if these are made instead of buns. Or double this recipe. Mix thoroughly and set to rise. When it has risen sufficiently add flour and knead until it is in a condition to be handled and shaped. A few currants and some candied peel may be added when the sponge is mixed, or these may be kneaded into the sponge. Make up into small buns, brush with egg, bake, and when cooked dab over a little space on the top with icing and sprinkle with caraway comfits or Neapolitans. The former may also be baked in the dough.

What the true Bath bun is has been a matter of dispute. But at any rate it was a sweet and soft thing of some sort on its top, sometimes sugar only, which ran down and caramelized around its edges in the pan.

Sweet Graham Dominoes.—One-half cup of granulated sugar, one-half cup of sour cream, one-half teaspoon of soda, one-half teaspoon of salt, one heaping cup of sifted graham flour, white flour to handle and roll. Put cream in mixing bowl, stir in the soda, add sugar, salt, and flour, and stir to a stiff dough. Sift white flour on the breadboard, pour out the dough on it, work into a ball and roll thin. Cut into strips three-fourths of an inch wide, and then cut these into three inch lengths. Prick with a fork, sprinkle with a bit of sugar, and then bake in a rather slow oven until crisp. These keep well and are nice to have on hand. The dough is a most satisfactory one to work with, and may be cut in shapes to please, but the dominoes are nice with tea.

Scones and Baking Powder Biscuits.—Two cups of flour, two teaspoons of baking powder sifted with one-eighth pound of butter, or, if preferred, lard or other shortening rubbed into it, with half a teaspoon of salt and a teaspoon of sugar, the whole wet up with three-fourths of a cup of milk or the right amount to make a dough which can be lightly and quickly kneaded. Knead dough and divide into three or four parts. Make each part into a round flat cake with the hand, lay it into a baking tin sprinkled with flour, brush over with the yolk of an egg mixed with a little milk, cut across each way, making four triangular pieces, and bake for fifteen minutes in a biscuit oven. The name scone is used for a great number of variations of this dough, the shape doubtless the same. When soda is used instead of baking powder these are called "soda scones."

A part of this dough may be used to make a small pan of baking powder biscuit, cut out with a small cutter. These may be made more suitable for afternoon tea by giving them a sweetened and crisp upper crust. One way to do this is to sprinkle the hot biscuits with a little bit of crushed and sifted lump sugar and putting them under the hot broiling fire until this melts. The whole crust will be a delicious sweet brown. Or they may be brushed with egg and caraway comfits, sprinkled over them just before they are taken out of the oven.

Pudding Points.

Grease the pudding basin well, as grease prevents the mixture from sticking to the basin. If it sticks the pudding will not turn out properly.

When making a boiled pudding always be sure that the basin is quite full. If there is any space left water will get in, and consequently the pudding will be heavy.

Make sure that the pudding is kept boiling all the time. If it is allowed to go off the boil it will be heavy.

Whenever possible it is wise to steam a suet pudding instead of boiling it, as it will be lighter and more digestible. Allow one hour more for this way of cooking than the time allowed for boiling.

Home Hints.

Use a sheet of asbestos laid over the top of the stove if you wish to make a large quantity of toast at once.

A galvanized tub should be cleaned with gasoline or kerosene and then scrubbed with hot water and soap.

It will be found a simple matter to mend a hole in a small boy's trousers pocket if a darning egg is slipped into the pocket and the darning done over it.

If salt fish is required for immediate use, it will freshen much more quickly if soaked in milk instead of water. Sour milk will answer as well as sweet.

To clean coral soak it in soda water for some hours, then make a lather of soap and scrub with a soft haired brush rinsing finally in clear water and drying.

To drive a nail through a plaster wall without injury to the wall, dip in hot water first. This will prevent it from breaking away the wall.

When necessary to blue clothes in hard water add one cup of sweet milk to a tub of water, and it will prevent the clothes from being unevenly blued.

To prevent moths from invading drawers and boxes where woollen goods are stored, sprinkle a little turpentine in the drawers or boxes every three months.

When giving sticky medicines to children heat the spoon by dipping it for a moment in hot water, then pour in the medicine, and it will slip easily from the spoon.

GRAINS OF GOLD.

Economy is half the battle of life; it is not so hard to earn money as to spend it well.—Spurgeon.

Whatever the occupation of man is, to it he should give his first and greatest attention.—Blackstone.

I put no account on him who esteems himself just as the popular breath may chance to raise him.—Goethe.

Courage is generosity of the highest order, for the brave are prodigal of the most precious things.—Colton.

To be always thinking about your manners is not the way to make them good, because the very perfection of manners is not to think about yourself.—Archbishop Whately.

Let us believe that there never was a right thing done or a wise one spoken in vain, although the fruit of them may not spring up in the place designated or at the time expected.—W. S. Landor.

Let no man think it a light matter that he spend his precious time in idle words; let no man be too weary of what flies away too fast and cannot be recalled, as to use arts and devices to pass the time away in vanity, which might be rarely spent in the interests of eternity.—Jeremy Taylor.

Boring for Artesian Water.

Over a very large area of Australia, and especially where the rainfall is light, it is possible to tap an apparently inexhaustible supply of artesian water by boring. In this way much has been added to the value of large tracts of country, both for stock breeding and general productive purposes.

Bostonese.

Little Girl—Why did your mamma spank you? Boston Child—Because she is too untutored and ignorant to devise a more modern reformatory method of punishment.

Alas, Too True.

"There are more important things in life than money."

"Yes, but you haven't the leisure to notice them, if you haven't the coin."

"What is the best dress improver?" "A pretty girl." "Why is an author more free than a monarch?" "Because he can choose his own subjects." "Why is an author the queerest animal in the world?" "Because his tail comes out of his head."

MR. F. J. GLACKMEYER.

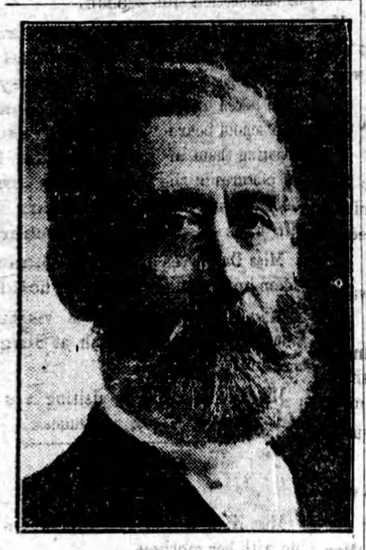
47 Years Sergeant-at-Arms In Ontario Legislature.

"My commission," said Mr. F. J. Glackmeyer, the Sergeant-at-Arms of the Ontario Legislature, in the course of a chat, "is dated 1867, the year of Confederation, when Provincial Legislatures, as we know them to-day, were organized. John Sandfield Macdonald was Premier and Attorney-General, with the Hon. John (afterwards Sir John) Carling as Minister of Agriculture and Public Works. It was through the latter that I was appointed. Born in Montreal, I had been living in London, Ont., where Sir John Carling resided, for some twelve years, and knew him well. When it became necessary to appoint the Sergeant-at-Arms he nominated me. I was twenty-four years old at the time, and I had no conception of what the office or its duties meant.

"Sir John Carling sent for me," proceeded Mr. Glackmeyer, with a reminiscent smile, "on the 22nd of December, 1867. The next day we went to Toronto together, and saw the Premier, who said I looked strong enough for the job, and on the 24th I got measured for my uniform in the morning, and went back to London with Sir John in the afternoon, to spend Christmas. He told me I must have a sword, so I borrowed one from Colonel Macbeth, who then commanded the seventh regiment. I shall not soon forget Sir John's consternation when he saw that I proposed to wear a big military sword with a brass scabbard. I finally borrowed the Sherriff's sword, and wore it with my new uniform at the opening of the House on the 27th."

Under Six Premiers.

Mr. Glackmeyer has seen six Premiers during the forty-seven years he has held his post—he has held it longer than any living Sergeant-at-Arms in the British Empire has. He speaks warmly of the fine speaking of the Hon. Edward Blake, who replaced Sandfield Macdonald as



Mr. F. J. Glackmeyer.

Premier, on the latter's defeat at the general election four and a half years after he had formed his Government. And he also mentions the Hon. E. B. Wood, Provincial Treasurer in the Sandfield Macdonald Administration, who was known as "Big Thunder," as being a remarkably fine speaker. He has known ten Lieutenant-Governors, the first of whom, Major General H. W. Stisted, held office for only one year. The present Speaker is the thirteenth occupant of the chair since his appointment. One of these, the Hon. R. W. Scott, was Speaker for only two weeks, and then became a member of the Government. Another Speaker, the Hon. W. D. Balfour, was elected in February, 1895, and took office in the summer of the year following as Provincial Treasurer. Yet another, the Hon. W. A. Charlton, was elected in 1903, and resigned, after a comparatively short time, to become Minister of Public Works in the Ross Government.

"When I was first appointed," said Mr. Glackmeyer, "the House met in the old building on Front Street. This was quite unsuitable. It was inconvenient, and had gone to wrack and ruin, having been used as a barracks. The first session in the present Parliament Building was opened in the spring of 1893. There were only eighty-two members, when I was appointed, as against a hundred and six to-day. The longest session of which I have had experience—the first of the tenth Parliament—lasted 110 days. The shortest—that in 1874—lasted only forty days."

Scenes Are Rare.

What, perhaps, impresses Mr. Glackmeyer most, on looking back, is the calm with which the Ontario Legislature has pursued the even tenor of its way. Unlike the British Parliament, where questions are often "thrashed" out "on the floor of the House," in the most literal sense, it has no liking for scenes.

"The members," he said, "are practical, business-like men. I have never been called on to eject anyone, though once, very many years ago, I nearly was. Interruptions from strangers, too, have been very rare, though I remember Edward Blake, on one occasion, appealing to the Speaker to clear the House in consequence of some such interruptions. But my career as Sergeant-at-Arms has been almost entirely immune from excitement of this kind.

"Nor have comic interludes been frequent. But I can recall two extremely tragic happenings. In the one case, in 1881, Dr. Harkin, who had been a member for some six years, died suddenly. I saw him, sitting in the third row to the left of the Speaker, suddenly drop. He was taken to the Speaker's room, where he expired. In the other case, in 1892, Mr. H. E. Clarke, M.P.P. for East Toronto, was actually addressing the House, with hand extended, when he fell down dead from heart failure. A member, who was a doctor, jumped over Sir Oliver Mowat's head, in his haste to get to his assistance. I had met Mr. Clarke in the hall shortly before, when he had told me he was feeling well.

"Speeches in the House are much shorter now than in the old days. The sittings, too, are much shorter. Shorter sitting came into vogue partly as a result of Sir William Meredith's appeal to Sir Oliver Mowat for them. As a rule, it is rarely now that the House sits later than half-past ten or eleven. The longest sitting I remember was towards the close of the Ross Government's term of office, when the House sat from eleven of one morning till eight of the next."

The number of members whom Mr. Glackmeyer has seen and known, during his forty-seven years of office, is literally enormous. Sir James Whitney, who is the present "Father of the House," first entered it when Mr. Glackmeyer had been Sergeant-at-Arms for more than twenty years. But the present Clerk of the House, Mr. Arthur H. Sydere, was appointed Clerk of Routines and Records at the same time that he received his commission.—Toronto Star Weekly.

MARVELS OF TORPEDOES.

Can Be Steered By Waves of Energy Same as Wireless.

In the next naval battle one of the most effective weapons will undoubtedly be the Orling-Armstrong torpedo, as it is known, which can be steered by waves of energy transmitted through ether, much as wireless messages are sent. Once these torpedoes are dropped into the water, they can be sent in any desired direction, to left, righ, or straight ahead, just according to the will of the man who is handling the controlling instrument ashore.

Some astonishing facts about these torpedoes are given by Mr. Archibald Williams in "The Wonders of Modern Invention." He relates how, in the first place, in order that the operator might be able to follow the movements of the torpedo a mast of some sort had to project upon the torpedo's back.

"Since, however, this was so liable to be destroyed by the enemy's fire, some better arrangement had to be thought of, and the inventor, Mr. Armstrong, has said that it came to him in a dream. It certainly was an inspiration, however it came, for his idea was to make the machine suck in water and then blow it upwards in a jet, just as the whale does when it comes to the surface to breathe. This water mast answers ideally, so it is said, for receiving the wireless control, and it is quite evident that the enemy might blaze away at it all day long without inflicting the slightest harm upon it."

Mr. Williams emphatically states that torpedoes have not proved very successful in modern warfare, and he mentions the fact that in the Russo-Japanese War they did comparatively little damage. On the other hand, mines in several instances blew great battleships to absolute destruction in a few minutes.

The fault seems to lie in the fact that the torpedo cannot carry a sufficient quantity of explosives to create any great damage, and, according to Mr. Williams, "if anyone can improve upon it so as to make it of greater explosive strength, there is a fine chance for him."

French Temperance Society.

An organization for the promotion of temperance in France has been founded by M. Schmidt, deputy for the department of the Vosges. A feature of the new body is its catholicity. It includes every shade of political and religious belief, and all classes of society—politicians, professional men, and workmen. A meeting, addressed by doctors, lawyers and a deputy, has just been held in Bordeaux. The new association, which is called "L'Alarme," justifies its name by calling attention to the rising flood of alcoholism in France.

'Nuff Said.

"You are charged," said the magistrate, "with talking back at an officer. Have you anything to say?"

"Dayvil a word, your honor," replied the culprit. "Oi've said too much already."

Our London Letter

Cigarettes Enjoyed by Women.

English women have no desire to be cured of the cigarette habit. Clinics, such as have been opened in America for the treatment of feminine tobacco victims, are not needed in this country.

"I rarely encounter cases of women who smoke excessively," said a prominent London doctor. "Women smoke quite moderately as a rule. There is no doubt, however, that the cigarette habit is growing."

Five years ago the women who smoked were associated with Shavianism and suffragism; she was called "unwomanly" and "not quite nice." To-day the most respectable feminine suburbanites smoke as a matter of course.

One used to see the warning, "Ladies are requested not to smoke" in most western restaurants. To-day the legend is antiquated. Only in one or two places does the restriction linger.

Inquiries at West End tobacconists elicited the fact that the women have long since passed the stage when they demanded "ladies' cigarettes." A well known tobacconist said that his lady customers smoked much the same brands as men. A hospital nurse told me that almost every member of her profession smoked—usually in their bedrooms—and that it required some ingenuity to evade the vigilance of the matron.

Latest British Submarines.

In the new submarines the admiralty is building, and about which a great deal of secrecy is maintained, a departure has been made, for the first time in this country, from the Holland type.

The S 1, now building at Greenock, is of the Laurenti type. Enormous precautions were taken to screen it from the view of unauthorized persons, but it is known it is built under license from an Italian company design which is favorably regarded by the admiralty.

The chief features are the provision of water tight compartments, which find no place in the design of previous British submarines, and a detachable keel, weighing twelve tons, which can be released by those on board should all reserve buoyancy be exhausted.

Two other vessels of the same design are now on order, and will be known as S 2 and S 3.

New Anaesthetic Successful.

Some interesting experiments with the new anaesthetic urethane are being conducted on animals in a Cambridge laboratory. This drug is obtained by combining urea with alcohol and is administered hypodermically, like morphia, with a syringe.

The great advantage of urethane is said to be the fact that heart failure never occurs when it is properly used. Should the drug be given in an overdose death will, of course, take place but that is due primarily to failure of breathing. The importance of this is not clear until one realizes that the majority of deaths under chloroform occur as the result of heart failure. When breathing stops, as it frequently does during the administration of an inhaled anaesthetic it can usually be started again by artificial respiration, always provided that the heart is still beating. The assurance that in all cases of overdose the breathing would be affected before the heart—and not after it—would be an immense comfort to the patient.

Seventy-five Is Young in London.

Once it used to be said and believed that the true Londoner, the "Cockney," died out in three generations. This may have been true once, but it is not the case now. Indeed, a report of the London County Council proves that Londoners are living longer, while statistics of old folks indicate that the capital is rivalling Brighton in the longevity of many of its inhabitants.

Last year, for example, there were 7,500 deaths of Londoners who had lived for over seventy-five years. A mean future life table based on modern statistics shows that the Londoner who is 75 is due to live for another five or six years and that those who have reached 85 can rely on an average of another three years of life.

The man of 35 has an average future of twenty-six years, but the woman of the same age will live for another twenty-nine years; for in all the age groups the women hold to existence with a greater tenacity. But the notable point is that Londoners do not in these days automatically die off at the third generation.

The Queen as a Conversationalist.

Queen Mary is a poor conversationalist, according to her most recent critics. On some one being brought up to her, it is said she will begin to talk with remarkable felicity, setting the other at ease and delighting him. Then all of a sudden, she suddenly ceases, an acute silence supervenes, and the other does not know whether to break the pause or slip away. The fact is the Queen talks well by dint of concentration; this does not always last until the end of the conversation, and once the thread is broken she grows abstracted, thinking of something else.

World's Busiest Centre.

The new Charing Cross Station, London, England, is now becoming the busiest traffic centre of the world. By the process of reconstruction which has been going on for two and a half years there are four railroads one above the other. The Bakerloo is at the bottom, the Hampstead tube 25 feet above it, the District Railway 50 feet higher, and the South-Eastern and Chatham at the top. In the course of a year these four systems will run 900,000 trains over one point. It is estimated that 15,000,000 passengers will be handled yearly. Altogether 26 separate lines and routes of traffic are available from Charing Cross Station.

Yieldable Extension Cars.

A western car manufacturer is building "yieldable extension" railroad cars, which, it is claimed, will greatly lessen the danger to life and limb in railroad accidents. The cars are especially constructed, with a framework designed to yield and to a certain extent telescope under a severe shock instead of going to pieces, while remaining rigid under ordinary bumps, such as would be received in every-day use by the coupling of cars or the sudden application of the emergency brakes.

Can You Change a Quarter.

There are 315 ways of changing a quarter of a dollar. The pieces used are the 20-cent piece, 10-cent piece, 5-cent piece, 3-cent piece, 2-cent piece and the 1-cent piece. To make all these changes without using the same coin twice would require 1,223 1-cent pieces, 614 twos, 378 threes, 184 fives, 59 tens and 9 twenties, making 2,584 pieces, worth $53.75.

Matrimony is a sea in which many courtships have been swamped.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL STUDY

INTERNATIONAL LESSON, APRIL 26.

Lesson IV. The Lost Sheep and the Lost Coin. Luke 15. 1-10. Golden Text, Luke 15. 10.

Verse 1. Now—During this general period. No events intervene between this and our last lesson.

Publicans—Tax collectors for the the Roman government, and despised of the Pharisees because serving the oppressors of the Jews. Moreover, there existed in Palestine the system of farming the taxes, and the collectors could, if dishonest, demand too much money and keep the balance for themselves.

Pharisees—Members of the religious-patriotic sect dating back in their origin to the Maccabean period or still earlier. They were strict in the literal observance of the Jewish law and ritual, bitter in their hatred of the Romans, and self-righteous and oppressive in their attitude toward the common people who knew not the law.

2. This man receiveth sinners—How much hope for the world lies in this fact!

Eateth with them—Mere association with the socially outcast, regardless of the motive prompting to such association, was enough to bar Jesus from fellowship with the Pharisees; according to their standards to eat with such outcasts involved social ostracism.

3. Unto them—To the Pharisees who found fault with Jesus for associating with publicans and sinners.

4. What man of you—Jesus appeals to their personal experience. The wealth of many of them may have consisted in flocks and herds.

One of them—Just one is lost and so many remain, yet the utmost concern is felt. Thus is the love of God for each individual shown.

Leave the ninety and nine—The ninety and nine are not neglected, but left in their usual summer pasturage, that is, the wilderness, or the uninhabited regions among the hills where they are properly tended and suffer no want.

And go after that which is lost, until he find it—The search is continued until the lost is found.

5. Layeth it on his shoulders—There is no upbraiding nor murmuring at the trouble. The shepherd returns rejoicing that the lost one is saved. Note the contrast between the tender feeling of the shepherd and the cold indifference of the Pharisees.

7. I say unto you—This note of authority is present in all the teaching of Jesus.

Joy in heaven—The interests of heaven and earth meet in the individual.

Repenteth—Both in the literal sense of facing about from the wrong to the right and in the sense of regret and sorrow for wrongdoings.

8. What woman having ten pieces of silver—The silver coin is the Greek drachma, worth about sixteen cents. Women of Palestine wear strings of these silver coins hanging from the head as ornaments. Perhaps the lost coin had been worn in this way.

Light a lamp—A peasant's hut has no window.

Until she find it—As in the case of the lost sheep, the earnest, persevering activity of the owner is emphasized.

9. A charming picture of simple village life in which the joys and sorrows of one person are shared by all.

10. Even so—In like manner not alone the angels, but the heavenly Father himself rejoices over one sinner that repenteth.

Hudson Bay Wireless.

The Canadian Minister of Marine has announced that his department is making active preparations to improve the aids to navigation on the Hudson Bay route this season. Twelve new lighthouses will be established from the South Straits to Port Nelson, and a wireless station will be established somewhere on the straits.

Nice Distinction.

"Mr. P," said a gentleman to his tailor, "how is it you have not called on me for your account?"

"Oh, I never ask a gentleman for money."

"Indeed. How then, do you get on if he doesn't pay?"

"Why, after a certain time I conclude he is not a gentleman, and then I ask him."

Taking No Risks.

"And you say you never attend weddings any more?" asked the sweet young thing.

"No, I do not," replied the bachelor.

"And why not, pray?"

"Why, don't you see what's happening every day to innocent bystanders?"