The Housewife's Corner

Dainty Dishes.

Date Cake.—One pound dates, stoned and halved; one pound English walnuts, cut; three eggs, beaten well together; one cup of granulated sugar and one cup flour. Bake in a shallow pan in a slow oven and cut in small squares while hot.

Prince of Wales Cake.—Two and one-half cups granulated sugar, three-quarters cup shortening (butter and lard mixed), one egg, two cups sour milk, one large teaspoonful soda (dissolved in the sour milk), one teaspoonful cinnamon, one-quarter teaspoonful ginger, one-half teaspoonful allspice, one-quarter teaspoonful cloves, one teaspoonful cocoa, flour enough to make a stiff batter, one-half teaspoonful cream of tartar added to the flour and, lastly, one cup hot raisins.

Twelfth Night Cookies.—To make these delicious cookies beat to a cream a cupful and a half of sugar and one scant cupful of butter, add four eggs beaten light, a pinch of salt, the juice and grated rind of one lemon and a teaspoon of soda, one-half cup of boiling water and flour to mix just stiff enough tor oll, but not too stiff. Roll, cut out and bake in a hot oven; when cold, frost with white icing, and before it hardens decorate with small pink candies arranged to form a star in the center.

Date Loaf.—Take a breakfast cupful of flour, two ounces of butter, four ounces of sugar, one egg, half a pound of stoned dates and three ounces of stoned raisins. Cream the butter and sugar, add the beaten egg and a quarter of a cupful of boiling water in which has been dissolved a quarter of a teaspoonful of carbonate of soda. Mix in the flour, together with half a teaspoonful of baking powder, and lastly stir in the fruit, cup up small. Bake in a moderate oven in a well-greased loaf tin for one hour and a half, and when baked leave uncut for a day or two.

Ratafia Biscuit.—Take half a pound of sweet almonds and half a pound of bitter almonds and pound them in a mortar, very fine, with whites of eggs; but three pounds of powdered sugar, mix it well with the whites of the eggs to the proper thickness in a basin; put two or three sheets of paper on the plate you bake on; take your knife and spaddle, made of wood, and drop them on the paper; let them be round and about the size of a nutmeg; put them in the oven, which must be quick, and let them have a fine brown and all alike; let them be cold before you take them off the paper.

Sponge Fingers.—Use five eggs, their weight in powdered sugar; half their weight in flour and the grated rind of half a lemon. Set the flour, beat the egg yolks and sugar until stiff and frothing. This takes about 20 minutes. Beat the whites to a stiff froth and add to the yolks and sugar a little at a time, sprinkling in the flour alternately. Mix well, add the lemon rind or a teaspoonful of any preferred flavoring and put into the tins, which should be prepared by greasing with a blend of flour and butter and then dusting with powdered sugar. When the tins are filled with the mixture sift a little sugar over the top and bake in a moderate oven.

Whistles.—Half a pound white sugar. Quarter of a pound of butter and six eggs, the whites and yolks (sic) beaten separately. Stir the sugar and butter to a cream, then add the eggs previously beaten, and sifted flour to make a thick batter; flavor with rosewater, if you like. Drop the mixture by the large spoonful onto buttered paper. The mixture should be dropped several inches apart and spread out thin. Bake then until of a light brown, on a board which will not be over five minutes. Lay them on a moulding board that has white sugar sprinkled on it; roll them on a stick while warm. When cold fill them with any kind of jelly that is thick.

Cake Without Eggs.—Boil 1 cup raisins in cup water for 10 minutes, then cool. Add 1 cup brown sugar, 2 of flour, 1 teaspoonful soda in cup of water, ½ teaspoonful cloves, I teaspoon cinnamon, pinch salt, 2 tablespoons shortening; mix. Bake one hour in moderate oven. Mades good-sized loaf. Is delicious for dessert, steamed with sauce.

Meat Souffle.—Melt one-third cupful of butter in saucepan; add two tablespoonfuls flour, and when thoroughly blended add gradually, while stirring constantly, two cupfuls of scalded milk; bring to boiling point, and add one teaspoonful salt, one-eighth teaspoonful pepper and one-half cupful of soft, stale bread crumbs, and cook two minutes. Remove from fire, add two cupfuls of finely chopped, cold cooked meat, yolks of three eggs well beaten, and one tablespoonful finely chopped parsley; then fold in whites of three eggs beaten until stiff. Turn into a buttered pudding dish and bake 35 minutes in a slow oven.

Braised Turkey is as fine as a roasted one. Truss and stuff a turkey, the same as for roasting, using a force-meat made of minced chicken, mushrooms and sweetbreads, in addition to the bread; lard the breast; with fine square shreds of fat salt pork; place the turkey in a stewpan, with sliced vegetables and sufficient broth to cover. Set it on top of the stove, and as soon as it begins to simmer put it into the oven and cook slowly for an hour and a half. Baste occasionally with the gravy. Garnish the turkey with stoned olives and serve with the gravy which should be slightly thickened.

Flank steak, poultry dressing, bacon fat, stock sauce or ketchup. Spread the steak out on a table or board and cut the fibers crosswise with a sharp knife, being careful, however, not to cut through the entire thickness of the meat. Prepare a dressing such as would be used for roast veal or chicken. Spread this over the meat, roll up and tie in shape with a string or tape. Brown lightly by cooking in a little hot fat—bacon fat would be good. Then thicken the fat in which the meat was cooked with a tablespoonful of flour and a cup and a half of water and a little stock sauce or ketchup and bring the meat to boiling point in this thickened gravy. Cook for ten minutes, so as to heat the entire mass through to the center; then place in the fireless cooker and cook from six to eight hours.

Household Hints.

Skimmed milk and cornbread and butter are a nourishing lunch.

Palms and ferns should be kept away from draughts and gas.

To enrich the soil on your flower beds, empty your tea and coffee grounds there.

A few minced dates added to fudge as it comes from the stove will make a novel and dainty confection.

Blueberry cake cut in squares when hot and served with a strongly flavored thin sauce makes a delicious pudding.

A good dressing for fruit salad is made of a cup of whipped cream with two teaspoonfuls of French dressing added to it.

When making an apple pie, sift a little flour over your apples before putting on the top crust and the juice will not cook out.

The oil left from sardines is a good substitute for butter in fishballs or any kind of minced fish?

To have blooming geraniums in winter, keep them in small pots all summer. When you take them into the house in the fall do not re-pot them.

When making apple pie the flavor is much improved and the apples will keep in good color if a few drops of lemon juice are squeezed over them just before the crust is put on.

Charcoal is a cleansing agent in the kitchen. A lump of charcoal put in any jar keeps the contents sweet and purified, for the charcoal absorbs unpleasant odors and impurities. A lump on each shelf of the icebox is also useful.

Cracks in Plaster—A good filling is plaster of paris mixed with vinegar, which will not set for twenty or thirty minutes, while water will set very quickly, often before you can use it. The putty-like mass must be pushed into the cracks and can be smoothed off evenly with a table knife.

To clean irons rub them on brown paper over which powdered bath brick has been sprinkled, and if they become rusty, rubbing them with emery powder and a little paraffin will put them right. But table salt sprinkled on several thicknesses of strong paper, over which you work the heated iron is just as good as anything.

To Freshen Gilt Frames.—Dust gilt frames carefully, then wash with one ounce of soda beaten up with the whites of three eggs. Where scratched, patch up with gold paint. To clean oil paintings use castile soap and water, very carefully applied. Gilt may also be brightened by adding to a pint or two of water sufficient flower of sulphur to give it a golden tinge. In this boil four or five onions or a quantity of garlic. Strain off the liquid, and wash the gilding with a soft brush. When dry it will look like new work.

High Price for Stamp.

The highest price lately paid for a postage stamp was $670, a sum given at a New York auction the other day for a five-cent Hawaiian missionary stamp of the issue of 1851. When the early missionaries went from New England to Hawaii they looked ahead to many things, but hardly to the sale of their postage stamps at prices higher than their salaries for a year.

Japanese Make Dyes.

The quick-witted Japanese do not intend to be caught by another dye famine. Under the patronage of the Government a four-million-dollar company has been organized to manufacture synthetic dyes, says the Cincinnati Times-Star. Japanese despatches state that such has been the financial rehabilitation of that country that the stock for this dye company has been over-subscribed several hundred per cent.

Dry, All Right.

"You came from a dry town, didn't you?"

"Dry? Why, they won't even allow the carpenters to use spirit levels."

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL

INTERNATIONAL LESSON
JANUARY 7.

Lesson I.—Jesus The Life and Light of Men—John 1. 1-18. Golden Text—John 1. 4.

Verse 1. The Word—The Greek Logos is beyond any one English word: it combines speech and the reason that prompts it. "The word of God" (personified in Rev. 19. 13) is generally the gospel. But while logos may mean a "sermon," it can also mean "science": compare "theology." The Evangelist takes up a great term of Greek philosophy, which in seeking for the ultimate element out of which all things were made at last found it in Mind. But he is recalling at last equally the Jewish personification of the creative Word of Gen. 1. The author of Prov. 8 pictures Wisdom as with God at creation; and for Christian thought "Christ the Power of God and the Wisdom of God" more than fulfilled these highest ideals of Jew and Gentile alike.

2. The apparent repetition is intended to open what is really a new paragraph.

3. Through him—This preposition usually marks the action of the Son, the Father being the original Source. Without him—It is the same word as in John 15. 5, "apart from me ye can do nothing." Read here, "Apart from him not even one thing came into being. That which hath come into being was life in him." Note how often life appears where we might expect alive: the self-propagating quality of life is always in thought, never stopping with one object, but passing itself on. It is rather attractive to connect in him with the preceding verb, and understand that "all which has been born in him" has this great quality of life. The light—Life and Light are the two great words of this Gospel, and the Epistle which accompanies it: they meet in Love, which is the essence of God.

5. Overcome (margin)—The same phrase in John 12. 35, "lest darkness overtake you": what possessed our translators to take the other sense of the verb here, and what the meaning may be, are mysteries. Darkness may "overcome" us, but never the Light, which is eternal.

6. These three verses prepare for verse 15, the report of the witness for the sake of which John was born. Note that in this case the Fore-runner was like his Lord, who in John 18. 37 declares that he was born and came into the world that he might "bear witness to the Truth." And He to whom John "bore witness" is himself the Truth.

8. The negative points to the strong and repeated disclaimers of John, who even long after his death was still believed to have been the Messiah (Acts 19. 3).

9. Coming into the world refers to the light (compare again John 18. 37). The universality of the Light is here expressed most strikingly. Every human being has some glimmer of the True Light, and that Light is the Word.

10. He was—The masculine pronoun in this verse comes in to tell us that the Light, like the Word, is no abstraction, but a Person. Moreover, he was in the world: the statement that he was coming into it does not mean that he then visited it for the first time—it is a new and fuller manifestation of "that which was from the beginning." Knew him not—There are two words for know, one for having knowledge (as in 2 Tim. 1. 12), the other (as here, and in Phil. 3. 10; John 17. 3) for getting it. The world could not be blamed for ignorance: its condemnation was that it would not recognize its Maker.

11. His own—Compare the parable of the wicked husbandmen. As a nation, the Jews rejected their Messiah, and the Evangelist's almost invariable use of "the Jews" as a name for the Lord's enemies is the presentation of the fact as it stood sixty years after the crucifixion. But Isaiah's doctrine of the Remnant still held, and in every place Paul visited he sought first for these true Israelites who could recognize and preach their King.

12. As many as—"They called themselves, both Jews and Greeks" (1 Cor. 1. 24). The right, or privilege, to become children—For the natural sonship (Luke 3. 38) had been forfeited: a second birth must restore it, and on a higher plane. Believe on—Trust in: intellectual acceptance is the smaller part of this. His name—Or revelation of himself. A man was never a mere label, as with us: it was a part of the personality and expressed character. The name of the Lord Jesus Christ is a complete Creed in itself, implying everything vital in our religion.

13. Who were begotten—An interesting ancient reading is who was begotten, implying the miraculous birth. But it cannot be right, or it would never have disappeared. John is here anticipating 3. 3-6. Those whom the Lord was "not ashamed to call his brothers" must be born, like him, of God. John's silence about the mystery of the Lord's earthly birth is accounted for by the next verse. The doctrine of the Eternal Sonship has eclipsed any question of the manner of the Incarnation.

14. Flesh—Paul uses this term of humanity as it is; John goes back to Creation, when it was "very good," like all God's work. Hence when Paul declares the Incarnation, he says that God sent "his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh" (Rom. 8. 3). It is John who uses the strongest phrase to show that he whom he is always depicting as the Very God, was Very Man like ourselves. Tabernacled (margin)—The symbolism of the tabernacle is used by New Testament writers to show that the Real Presence goes about with men, like the tent in the wilderness of the wanderings, never limited to "holy" places or things. We beheld—So 1 John 1. 1. That the writer claims to be an eye-witness is the central datum, without which indeed the psychology of the Gospel is unintelligible. An only begotten from a father (margin)—When there were two or more sons, each inherited a portion: an only son inherited all. The point here then is that the Incarnate Word is no partial revelation; all of God is there, and infinitely more than we can ever see. Full—Referring to glory. The brackets are needless, as our new knowledge of Greek vernacular proves. Grace—Unmerited lovingkindness.

TWO WAYS OF CLEARING LAND.

Relative Cost of Power Machinery and Explosives.

When time is no object, the best way to clear land from timber growth is to let nature and live stock assist. When the growth is removed and the brush burned off clean, which, with most growths, may be made a profitable operation by the sale of the timber and firewood, clover and grass seed may be sown, and, while cattle and sheep are pasturing and eating down the sprouts, the stumps will slowly but surely decay, and their removal becomes an easy operation. This process will require from six to ten years before clearing can be completed.

At the Experimental Station, Fredericton, N.B., where it was desired to bring the land into cultivation at the earliest possible moment, two plans of stump removal have been tried, and herewith are given figures of the relative cost on land from which an average tree growth had been removed.

The two methods employed were: stump pulling by power, and removal by dynamite.

A stump puller of the drum and long lever type was employed, giving a lifting power of 25 tons with an ordinary team. With one hundred and twenty stumps, 10 inches and over, to the acre, and seventy-two smaller stumps, it required an average of twenty minutes with a team and driver and two men to remove each of the large stumps and 5 minutes to remove each of the smaller ones. The 120 stumps required 40 hours, and the smaller ones 6 hours.

The relative cost, therefore, stood as follows: Where power machinery was used, cost per acre was:

46 hours work, team and driver at 32c	$ 14 72
92 hours work, helpers at 18c	16 56
330 hours work, cleaning and piling at 18c	59 40
60 hours work, burning at 18c	10 80
	$101 48

Where explosives were used, the cost per acre was:

150 lbs. stumping powder at $14.90	
150 lbs. stumping powder at $14.90	$22 35
500 feet fuse at 60c	3 00
300 caps at $1	3 00
40 hours, labor of dynamite operator at 23c	9 20
40 hours, team and driver at 32c	12 80
80 hours, helpers at 18c	14 40
60 hours, labor piling at 18c	10 80
40 hours, labor burning at 18c	7 20
	$82 75

On other areas, where there were heavy boulders and small stones, the cost of clearing ran up to $186 per acre, while, where the land was free from stone, and stumps were small and comparatively few, the land was made ready for the plough at a cost of less than $40 per acre.

THREE MILLION TIES.

For Railways in Rear of Fighting Line, C. N. R. Share.

Vice-President D. B. Hanna, of the Canadian Northern Railway, in discussing the call for the laying of a railway line back of the fighting line in France and Flanders will, he said, involve the cutting of about three million ties.

A large portion of these could be supplied from the territory surveyed by the Canadian Northern Railway north of Lake Superior. It is expected that the operations now under way on behalf of the C.N.R. will result in the production of a substantial local tonnage through that stretch of country between Sudbury and Port Arthur.

The prospect of building up of towns and traffic in what was untamed wilderness five years ago is now considered very promising. Apropos of the present scarcity of paper, it is stated that in the country through which this new line runs there is sufficient of the raw material to satisfy even the hungry press of a metropolitan paper for more than two hundred years.

With the Provincial Government, said Mr. Hanna, the Canadian Northern will undertake to locate settlers in these fertile agricultural lands abounding in mineral and timber wealth. The railway alone will purchase all the railway ties produced each year.

Marriage may be a lottery, but a whole lot of people seem to be satisfied with less than capital prizes.

An elephant has more muscles in its trunk than any other creature possesses in its entire body.

The trouble with temptation is that it always makes work seem more disagreeable than it is and pleasure more alluring.

Trucks and Trailers.

The old Roman roads, which are constantly referred to in every effort made to effect a general improvement in the highways of this and other countries, are not brought into comparison because they were simply good roads, but rather because they gave an easy means of transportation to build up tremendous savings in the agricultural life of a great people. The Romans were the first to figure that if the city and country could be brought into the closest and easiest communication, that a general prosperity would inevitably accrue. Of course, they always had the idea of war in the back-ground, and knew that when armies could be transported readily, success was always closest at hand. The paramount though, nevertheless, was easy access to outlying districts. This being true, there is now no doubt that a further step is being taken by progressive farmers in the purchase and maintenance of trucks and trailers, in order that the cost of transportation may be brought down to a minimum. A good road is always a well-travelled one, no matter what class of vehicular traffic is popular, but if in Canada we can combine good roads with minimum transportation charges, we have gone a long way towards a money-making era such as never yet has been enjoyed.

Motor Trucks.

Motor trucks are being used, at the present time, by many farmers engaged in the fruit, dairy, creamery, cheese and allied industries. Sometimes these trucks are purchased new, direct from the manufacturers or their agents, at prices ranging all the way from $750 to $5,000, but in most cases the machines are either purchased second hand, after having been replaced by new ones in city work, or a passenger automobile is torn down and a truck body placed upon the chassis. Both systems find many advocates, and both bring varying degrees of satisfaction. If you have never used a truck, it might be well to go slowly at first, but the system that we suggest would be the purchase of an old passenger car with an obsolete body but an engine of standard make and in satisfactory running condition. You can either remove the body intact and place a new truck body on the frame or pursue the simpler method of taking off the rear seat and building a platform instead. This will leave the front seat for the driver and passenger. Such a step should provide a truck of from 1,000 to 2,500 lbs. capacity for from $600 up. There are a great many arguments in favor of hard tires, but we believe that the farmer will find that the pneumatic tires give greater satisfaction, as they do not have a tendency to communicate stiff jars and jolts to the motor. Hard truck tires are economical where the pavements and roads are very smooth and even, but they do not attain maximum results in country running. If you employ a man to operate your truck, it might be well to have a governor placed on the engine in order that his speed may never be greater than twenty miles an hour. This is going to prevent accidents that would inevitably occur to the truck if it was operated at high speed when carrying a maximum load.

Trailers Useful Invention.

Trailers, as you know, are practically the outcome of the past two years. They are built in two-wheel and four-wheel types. Some of the two-wheel models carry the load directly over the axle, but in the semi-trailer, the load is carried forward and rest partly upon the connecting rod between the trailer and car. The good quality of the trailer, and they are made from ¼ ton to 7-ton capacity, is that they allow the pleasure car, by drawing them, to carry a full complement of passengers and be free from bruises and scratches incident to the actual handling of freight. It can be stated, in a general way, that if a trailer is attacked to a truck, it will draw about the same load as it carries itself between the capacity of one ton to five tons, but many trucks of less than one ton capacity, will draw a trailer with a heavier load. Passenger cars are a different proposition, but it will be very easy for you to determine just what sized trailer a passenger car can handle by experimenting a little on the road. It is folly, of course, to draw a trailer with a load that is too heavy for the car, as damage, through strain, may resuts to the mechanism of the automobile. There are a few points regarding the trailer proposition that are worthy of your attention. On muddy, slippery and sandy roads an automobile must, of necessity, reduce its speed greatly when drawing a trailer. The reduction on good roads can be safely estimated at about 15 per cent. You must remember, however, that a passenger car hauling a trailer, and so lessening its speed, will nevertheless deliver twice the quantity of goods that might otherwise be expected without the trailer. Trailers are attached to passenger cars through a drawbar which in turn is attached to buffer springs that take up jolts and vibration. There is one other point that we must emphasize, and that is the ease with which trailers can be loaded. If you have a great deal of hauling to do, and cannot see your way clear to invest in a truck, it may pay you very well to purchase two trailers, one of which can be in the process of loading while your passenger automobile is delivering the other to any destination. Iron tires are used on trailers where the goods to be transported are in no sense fragile, but if your product is subject to breakage, in going over bumps and rutty places, hard or pneumatic rubber tires must be used in accordance with your requirements.—Auto in Farmer's Advocate.

"Fertile eggs cost the farmer $15,000,000 a year." This statement is made in Farmers' Bulletin 528, Hints to Poultry Raisers, published by The United States Department of Agriculture. The bulletin states further: "Farmers lose $45,000,000 annually from bad methods of producing and handling eggs. One-third of this loss is preventable, because it is due to the partial hatching of fertile eggs which have been allowed to become warm enough to begin to incubate.

The prices of eggs are high and going higher. Therefore, be sure that the fowls get plenty of a variety of food so that they will have the material of which to make eggs.

Plenty of good yellow corn, fed twice or three times a day, all they will eat each time, will make the geese nice and fat for the market.

Make sure that the glass in the henhouse windows is clean so that the sun's rays can fill the building, dry it out, warm it and make it more healthful by destroying disease germs.

If it has not been done, be sure that the hen-house roof is water-tight and the sides windproof so that the house can be kept dry and the fowls protected from drafts, especially when on the roosts at night.

There is no economy in feeding hens less than they need, or in feeding on only one or two grains or kinds of feed. A variety and plenty of it, is necessary to keep the fowls in good condition and provide the material from which to make eggs.

The most important thing in rearing young ducks is the drinking water. It must be kept in vessels in which they can put only their heads. Please note that it is imperative that they should submerge the whole head in water; otherwise the two holes at the base of the bill, through which they breathe, will get filled up with mash foor or mud and the poor little creatures will be half suffocated, grow sick and die.

When killing geese for market, the feathers can be removed easily if, after killing, the body of the goose is dipped three times in water which is almost at the boiling point, dipping it slowly in and out each time, and then wrapping it in canvas or closely woven cloth to keep in the steam. In a minute or two this will loosen the feathers so that they will come out easily.

MOBILIZING MAN POWER.

What Britain Will Do To Utilize All Service Available.

The London Daily Chronicle gives prominence to an article which purports to outline the Government scheme for utilizing all the man power resources of the country with a view to the more vigorous prosecution of the war. Men between the ages of seventeen and fifty-six are wanted. They must place themselves at the disposal of the State for the duration of the war and consent to be transferred to occupations or localities where their services are most required in the interest of the country.

The full trade union rate of wages for skilled or unskilled work, as the case may be, will be paid to war workers and in addition to this pay a subsistence allowance at the rate of 2s. 6d. (sixty-two cents) a day for seven days of the week will be paid to men who, owing to the system of transfer, will be under the ne[illegible] of maintaining two homes.

There is to be a register i[illegible] locality, of war, industrial or p[illegible]tive requirements, which, of c[illegible] will vary from time to tim[illegible] schedule of indispensable and no[illegible] essential trades is to be drawn up. Non-essential industries will be shut down without compunction.

To stimulate the mobility of labo[illegible] is nearly as important as to add [illegible] the quantity of labor. It is estima[illegible] that at any given time 40 per cent. of the men engaged on war work in Britain are either idle or not occup[illegible] to their full capacity owing to lack of mobility. In order to red[illegible] the housing difficulty to a minimum power will be taken to billet workers in private houses.

All the Kings of Prussia have called Frederick or Willia[illegible]