Home Chats

By

MARIE ANN BEST

"The most wasteful of all days is that on which one has not laughed."—Chamfort.

Marguerites — What Are They?

Some people never call the meat left-overs "hash," but think up some fancy good sounding name. The result is it is hailed with acclaim by the family. In fact it is often found the left-overs are more tasty than the first appearance of the roast if you are a good cook. It is said that the proof of a good cook is judged by the goodness of the hashes she can make.

Often they must be made out of her head for of course she has to do with what she finds in the house and many a recipe is completely changed because, well, it calls for celery but I don't happen to have any to-day, so I will use celery salt instead. Then I do believe it will taste better if I add this bit of green pepper, etc., etc. So that by the time the dish is ready for the table it is stamped with your own name and a new ragout is concocted waiting for a new title.

Then, best of all, do not the properly treated left overs reduce the meat bills most acceptably, while at the same time it makes us feel we are imitating the great French chef himself, for the French—and the thrifty Canadian housewife—never throw away anything, not even a teaspoonful of vegetables. Everything is saved and transformed into something good and topped off with a fancy name. Here is one right now:

* * *

Marguerites

Mince any cold meat left over and add to it finely cut celery which has already been cooked until tender. Make a sauce of some of the stock and tomato, thickening it with a heaping teaspoonful of butter and one of flour rubbed to a smooth paste. When cooked to a consistency of thick cream add celery and meat. Season well.

To three cups cold mashed potato add sufficient flour to make rather stiff dough. Turn out on a board and roll an inch thick. Then with round cutter three inches or so in diameter, cut into rounds. With another smaller cutter cut the centres out of the rounds about three-quarters of the way through. Take out the centre with a fork and bake the cakes until golden brown. Then heap the cakes with the very hot meat and serve with sprigs of parsley.

* * *

The Twilight Hour Story

Chapter 10

The Next Morning

In the morning, I can tell you, the chicks were good and hungry. It was the first time they ever felt hungry because you may remember they had the yellow of the egg to eat for three days in their little tummies. It was a good thing they had that, wasn't it? Especially when Mama Hen was so bad to them and didn't care if they had any breakfast or not. Mama Lady knew they would be hungry, so in the morning she and Billy opened the box and took off all the warm covers very early. And because the box was in the sun it streamed all over them so that when they came out they were delighted and started playing in the straw and sunbeams until Mama Lady had something to eat for them. Do you know what she gave them? Well, she got some chick starter at the store that looks something like flour and added a little bit of water until it looked like fine cake crumbs, so they could pick it up with their little bills easily. Then she put down about a quarter of a piece of newspaper on the straw for a table cloth and sprinkled some crumbs on the paper. At first the little chicks were afraid of it and ran off behind the black shawl, but they peeked out, watching her all the time, and soon couldn't help coming out and seeing what it was. Then they even walked on the paper when she sprinkled some more crumbs on it.

At first the little shavers didn't know what to do with it, but after the first mouthful they did, and I can tell you it was all gone in no time. They ate every little scrap and hunted all over for more. Billy said, "Mama, give them some more, they are still hungry.' But Mama Lady said, "No, Billy, that wouldn't be good for them. They can just have a little so their wee tummies can get used to eating. But instead of three meals they may have six. Won't that be fun for them?" Yes, every two hours Mama Lady brought a nice clean paper, and set it down among them. It didn't take long for them to know what was coming the minute she put down the paper. Then after they ate up all the crumbs she took the paper away so they could scratch and play in the straw. Sometimes they would scratch so hard and fast that the straw would get into the little water dish in one corner and then they would look all around for their water and wonder where it was, for they liked lots of drinks. Billy always saw that there was plenty of water for them.

They were full of fun, these little chickies, and now that they belonged to Billy and Mama Lady they wanted to give them each a name, but they couldn't. Do you know why? They looked so much alike no one could tell them apart. So we must wait until later on. It is a good thing we know Jimmy. We won't forget that, beone anyway, isn't it, and that one is cause he was bigger.

These little chicks wer so cute. Do you know what they did every little while? They worked so hard digging away in the straw that they would get just awfully tired. Of course Mama Lady knew this, and often she came over to them and put them all in their little bedroom on the can of warm water to have an afternoon nap. They liked it, too, and would go right to sleep back in there, just like you do in the afternoon.

Next Week—Another Little Friend.

A Poisonous Fish

On the Queensland coast a fish greatly feared by fishermen and bathers is the stone fish, a kind of distant relation of the Australian red rock cod. It is a poisonous fish, which is likely to inflict an extremely painful and dangerous wound.

"The bullrout, which is very unfavorably known in the higher fresh water parts of the estuaries of New South Wales, also causes a very painful wound. On one occasion a fisherman, who had trodden on one of these fish, was in such suffering that his mates, not realizing the harm they were doing, placed his foot in a bucket of boiling water. The pain was so severe that he was unable to feel the heat of the water, and in the end his foot had to be amputated.

"The little Fortescue of Pork Jackson, which is a kind of first cousin to the bullrout, also causes a painful and dangerous wound.

"The catfish, both fresh water and estuary, is widely known and feared for the bad wound it is able to cause with the pectoral and dorsal spine.

"Australia has only two kinds of poisonous fish, that is, poisonous to eat, and these are not looked upon as edible. These are the various species of toad fish and the heavily-armored porcupine fish.

There is a little fish with poisonous spines that rests on the bottom of Sydney Harbor. It is known as the frog fish. One would think that the habitat of this fish would protect it from interference from anything above water, yet the great black cormorants are able to dive to a depth of as much as twenty-six feet of water, and bring this frog fish to the surface. I have ascertained during the last few years that where the cormorants are able to get this fish they seem to prefer it to any other.—"Animal Life."

More than 119,000 of the people living in London are of foreign birth, nearly one-sixth of them being of Russian extraction.

Sunday School Lesson

February 22. Lesson VIII—Jesus Bearing the Good Tidings—Luke 8: 1-15. Golden Text—He went throughout every city and village, preaching and shewing the glad tidings of the kingdom of God.—Luke 8: 1.

ANALYSIS.

I. MINISTERING WOMEN, Luke 8: 1-3.
II. PARABLES, Luke 8: 4-9.
III. SOWER AND SOILS, Luke 8: 11-15.

I. MINISTERING WOMEN, Luke 8: 1-3.

Vs. 1-3. We know little of these ministering women, no doubt their names were familiar in the Early Church. Magdala seems to have been on the south-west coast of the Sea of Galilee. The "seven" devils might refer to a particularly bad case of demon-possession, or to a number of relapses. It has been suggested that Chuza may possibly be the nobleman referred to in John 4: 46.

Jesus command to the rich man, to sell all his goods and give to the poor, was a particular, not a universal, command. He warned men of the dangers and snares of riches, but he was not the enemy of private property. He taught men to make a spiritual use of money, but he preached no economic doctrine, and we cannot quote his authority for Capitalism, or Socialism, or Communism, but only for the doctrine of stewardship. If you are rich, use your money unselfishly; if you are poor, do not envy the rich. Jesus did not seek hardship and discomfort for their own sakes; there was nothing "ascetic" about him, as if people had no right to enjoy themselves in this wicked world. He did not refuse invitations to dinner, or to marriage festivals. He allowed these women to use their wealth to enable him and his disciples to do their work; but when the way of duty pointed to the Cross, no lure of comfort, ease or pleasure, could turn him from the way.

II. PARABLES, Luke 8: 4-9.

Vs. 4-15. Still, today, if an Oriental teacher is asked a religious question, it is likely that he will answer with a parable; for the parable is, as it was in Jesus' time, a familiar method of conveying truth. It is a device for teaching, not for concealing truth. It is contrary to all historical and moral probability that Jesus used parables in order to hide his meaning from the majority of his audience, v. 10. Even this passage from Isaiah should not really be understood in this way. The prophet meant that the result rather than the intention of his preaching was the hardening of men's hearts, Isa. 6: 9, 10.

But the parabolic method of teaching which was customary in the Orient was not familiar in Europe and in the early Gentile churches. Here the simple parables of Jesus were taken as dark and mysterious allegories which required skillful and learned interpretation. But if the disciples themselves could not understand the parables of Jesus, much less could the common people; then what would have been the use of preaching which nobody understood? We are bound to assume, therefore, that the parables of Jesus represent the simplest form into which he could put his teaching, and that his meaning would be plain at least to the more spiritually minded of those who heard him. But every preacher who bases his sermon upon a parable of Jesus explains the parable, and says, in effect, "Jesus meant so and so." The Early Church did not draw any very clear line of distinction between "Jesus said" and "Jesus meant."

III. SOWER AND SOILS, Luke 8: 11-15.

If the church interpretation of the parable is substantially right, Jesus must have spoken the parable some time after the beginning of his ministry, for he seems to be looking back upon the effect of his preaching, and perhaps comforting himself and his disciples with the reflection that, if much of the preaching seemed to be in vain, yet, here and there, the word was falling on good soil.

V. 10. By "the mysteries of the kingdom" we are not to understand abstruse theological doctrines, or some special, mysterious teaching accessible only to apostles and ministers, but rather the deep things of the kingdom of God. The mysteries in Christianity are all open mysteries to those who have pure eyes and Christian hearts.

Vs. 11-1v. In these verses we have an adaptation of the parable to the conditions of those who hear Christian preaching in all ages and places; but, whereas, of course, the soil is not responsible for its fertility, hearers are largely responsible for the answer they make to the preaching. In v. 13 the words, "temptation" and "fall away" are almost technical terms. "Temptation" means "persecution" and "fall away" means "become apostate," or "deny Christianity." In v. 15 "patience" means "endurance." Even those who are of an honest and good heart will have a hard time, but they will hold on and bring forth a plentiful harvest at last.

Great West Life Had Excellent Year

Directors' Report to Shareholders a Message of Encouragement to General Public

The splendid progress of the Company and its position of safety were revealed in the report of the Directors and addresses of the President and General Manager; "but perhaps the most significant outcome of the year's work, from the point of view of the general public, is the convincing demonstration of Canada's fundamental soundness as a field of operation for well-directed and well-managed large-scale business.

statement shows business in force of

Analysis of the Company's financial $614,405,447.00, Assets of $129,147,632.- not yet due, of $10,559,742.00, and Un- 05, Accrued Profits to Policyholders, assigned Profits and Contingency Reserve of $4,413,907.37. The Gross Surplus Earnings for 1930 of $6,075,327.57 were the largest in the Company's history. The total net surplus of the Company, after providing for all profit and dividend requirements and . er writing down assets is now increased to $3,413,907.37 exclusive of the balance in shareholders 'account.

The standing of The Great-West Life as one of the best profit-paying companies of this continent will be maintained in 1931 by the continuance of profits to policyholders on the same liberal scale as in the previous year, according to the announcement of the General Manager.

During the year the assets of the Company and all investments were subjected to the test of a rigid revaluation under present depressed conditions. The assets of the company show an interesting diversity, viz.: Bonds and Debentures 34%, City Mortgages and Properties 25%, Farm Mortgages and Properties 21%, Policy Loans 19%, Miscellaneous 1%. Western Farm Mortgages have been restricted, but by no means discontinued. Applications for loans are carefully scrutinized, loans are restricted to moderate amounts and those applicants who have done something towards engaging in mixed farming methods are favored.

The business in force increased by over twenty-two millions in 1930, in spite of the financial depression which caused a number of policyholders to let some portion of their insurance lapse.

A note of well based confidence in the future of Canada was sounded in the address of the President, Mr. G. W. Allan, K.C. Dealing particularly with the agricultural future he pointed out that the present conditions where agricultural products do not bring reasonable prices cannot last. The law of supply and demand was now functioning to the distress of our people; it will in due time bring to them a return of prosperity. Canada can produce food at low cost and therefore will probably be one of the first countries to recover from the present world-wide depression as conditions return to normal.

There are 182,240 sheep in Manitoba, 207,551 in Saskatchewan, 520,000 in Alberta and 204,342 in British Columbia, according to the latest statistics.

One of life's finest things, as it is one of its most pathetic, is the continual reassertion of Soul. It may be trodden down, but it cannot be trodden out. It may be degraded, but it cannot be destroyed. G. Beesley Austin.

According to figures compiled by the Toronto Convention and Tourist Association, nearly 6,000,000 tourists have visited the "Queen City" since the organization opened its bureau in 1926. The figure does not include about 550,000 convention delegates who are not tourists in the strict sense of the world.

FARM PROBLEMS

Conducted by Prof. Henry G. Bell, Dept. of Chemistry, Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph

The following are this week's questions and answers:

L.G.—There is a fertilizer on the market and is making its first appearance in this district this year, called Tennessee Rock Phosphate, 33% total phosphoric acid. Is it a safe fertilizer to use, as some people give it a bad name, or have you had any experience with it? Would you think it as good buying it at $30.00 a ton as a 2-12-6 mixed fertilizer at the same price? I farm 100 acres of land and sow fertilizer on everything I sow. Even at that I don't know everything about fertilizer yet and I am ready and willing to learn all I can.

Answer.—Raw rock phosphate is found in Tennessee and Florida. The grade you mention contains 33% tri-calcic-phosphate. Grades containing a higher percentage of tri-calcic-phosphate are used in the manufacture of superphosphate. The manufacture of superphosphate usually involves the grinding of this rock to a definite fineness and treatment of it with sulphuric acid. This treatment produces soluble forms of phosphoric acid which constitute available phosphate under the regulations of the Dominion Fertilizer Act. The 33% tri-calcic-phosphate is ground much more finely than the ordinary rock phosphate used for the manufacture of superphosphate. The object of the superfine grinding of the 33% raw rock phosphate is to increase its availability.

When subjected to tests provided by regulations of the Dominion Fertilizer Act, the 33% raw rock phosphate shows an availability of 1.3 to 1.8%. Superphosphate, which has a total content varying between 17 and 18% phosphoric acid (P205) shows an availability of 16% under the authorized tests. Therefore the comparison of availability between these two materials is as 1.8 to 16.

It is difficult to compare raw rock phosphate with a mixed fertilizer such as 2-12-6, first, because less than 2% in the 33% total phosphoric acid of raw rock phosphate is available while, in a 2-12-6 fertilizer, 2% of nitrogen, 12% phosphoric acid and 6% potash is available; second, because raw rock phosphate carries phosphoric acid (very largely insoluble) and a percentage of lime, while 2-12-6 carries nitrogen and potash in addition to 12% available phosphoric acid. This is how the three materials compare:

Percentage Amount of Available Plantfood

Rock Phosphate—Nitrogen, 0; Phosphoric Acid, 1.8; Potash, 0; or in 1 ton, 36 lbs. Superphosphate—Nitrogen, 0; Phosphoric Acid, 16; Potash, 0; or in 1 ton 320 lbs. 2-12-6—Nitrogen, 2; Phosphoric Acid, 12; Potash, 6; or in 1 ton, 40 lbs. Nit., 240 lbs. Phos. Ac., 120 lbs. Potash.

Thus a ton of 2-12-6 fertilizer contains 240—36 or 6¾ times as much available phosphoric acid as rock phosphate and has, in addition, 40 lbs. of nitrogen and 120 lbs. of potash.

33% raw rock phosphate has been tested in many sections of the province during the past summer. Quantities were sent for test purposes to several counties. We have on file letters from 12 farmers who reported on their tests. Out of the twelve, demonstration tests conducted in several counties we have reports on 16 tests on oats where 33% raw rock phosphate was compared with check or no fertilizer, with acid phosphate and with 2-12-6. The average yields are as follows: No fertilizer, 49.1 bus. per acre; raw rock phosphate, 44.1 bus.; acid phosphate 49.9 bus.; and 2-12-6, 54.5 bus. per acre. In 7 out of the 16 tests raw rock phosphate made a slight increase over no fertilizer. In 11 out of the 16 tests acid phosphate made substantial gains over raw rock phosphate. In all but 4 of the tests 2-12-6 was a materially heavier yielder thn raw rock phosphate.

6 tests on barley showed an average yield for unfertilized of 36.9 bus. per acre; raw rock phosphate 34.7; acid phosphate 35.6 and 2-12-6 38.9 bus. per acre.

7 tests on fall wheat in various parts of the province showed an average yield for no fertilizer of 32.8 bus. per acre; raw rock phosphate 31; acid phosphate 40.7; 2-12-6 45.2 bus. per acre.

6 tests distributed over several potato growing sections in New Ontario showed an average yield for check or no fertilizer of 342 bus. per acre; raw rock phosphate 372 bus.; acid phosphate 414.3 bus. Certain of the soils on which these potato tests were conducted showed a strong degree of acidity. Evidently the lime content of the raw rock phosphate has functioned to some extent under such conditions. It is the opinion of this station, based on work previously conducted with more coarsely ground raw rock phosphate, that increases may be looked for in succeeding years due to the unused portion of the rock phosphate becoming available as time goes on.

From the work already conducted by this station up to date and at the price you indicate per ton we cannot recommend the purchase and use of 33% raw rock phosphate as a source of available phosphoric acid, in view of prevailing prices quoted for superphosphate. As to a comparison of 2-12-6 with raw rock phosphate, the former carries so much more available plant food than the latter—two valuable plant foods in addition to the phosphoric acid carried by raw rock phosphate and 2-12-6 alike—the comparison is impossible.

What New York Is Wearing

BY ANNABELLE WORTHINGTON

Illustrated Dressmaking Lesson Furnished With Every Pattern

Even the smallest member of the family must have her jacket suit to step out smartly this Spring.

And this one answers Fashion's call admirably.

It's just the cutest ever in its sports styling. And because girls must needs be a little more feminine these days a fetching gathered ruffle has been added to the simple tuck-in blouse. The kilted skirt with the plaits starting at either side of the front is a darling mode. It buttons to the blouse.

French blue sportsweight linen with white dots with plain white handkerchief linen made the original.

Style No. 3001 is designed for girls of 4, 6, 8 and 10 years.

Pique, cotton broadcloth prints, wool persey, woolen plaids, ginghams and novelty rayons make up attractively.

HOW TO ORDER PATTERNS

Write your name and address plainly, giving number and size of such patterns as you want. Enclose 20c in stamps or coin (coin preferred; wrap it carefully) for each number, and address your order to Wilson Pattern Service, 73 West Adelaide St., Toronto.

God tempers the wind to the shorn lamb.—Laurence Sterne.

MUTT AND JEFF— By BUD FISHER

Justice Shuts Off the Hose.