TABLE TALKS

by Jane Andrews.

There was a time when the weekly baking included enough loaves of bread to last a hungry family—to say nothing of visitors—for the following seven days. Not many modern housewives follow this time-honored custom, as bread-baking on that scale was a tedious chore, and one which involved many hours.

But there's no reason why Quick Breads made more attractive by the addition of fruits or nuts, shouldn't help you—as they do so many women—in that never-ending problem of "What to Give Them Next?" Most of the quick loaf breads will keep well for as long as a week, especially those containing dried fruits. Cool the loaves on a wire rack, wrap in waxed paper, and be sure to store in a tightly covered tin. Here's a recipe you'll find worth your while, I'm sure. It's for

Butterscotch Bread

1 egg
1 cup brown sugar
1½ tablespoons melted butter
2 cups sifted flour
1 teaspoon soda
2 teaspoons baking powder
½ teaspoon salt
1 cup sour milk or buttermilk
½ cup chopped nuts

Method

Beat egg. Gradually beat in brown sugar. Add melted butter. Sift together dry ingredients and add alternately with sour milk. Stir in chopped nuts. Pour into greased loaf pan and bake in moderate oven (350 F) for 45 minutes. Makes one loaf.

Another of these Quick Breads seems to go especially well when made into sandwiches with jam or cream cheese—or both together—as a filling. It's called

Lemon-Molasses Bread

1 egg
¼ cup sugar
½ cup molasses
¼ cup melted shortening
1 teaspoon grated lemon rind
2½ cups sifted flour
1 teaspoon soda
2 teaspoons baking powder
1 teaspoon salt
1 teaspoon cinnamon
¾ cup buttermilk or sour milk

Method

Beat egg until light. Add sugar, molasses, shortening and lemon rind. Sift dry ingredients together and add, alternately with milk, to first mixture. Blend well and bake in greased loaf pan for 1 hour in moderate oven (350F). Makes 1 loaf.

* * *

The name given to these Muffins is an appropriate one,I think, as they come as a real surprise—and a pleasant one—to most folks who taste them for the first time. The recipe given makes 6 large muffins; but if you want more, just increase the amount of ingredients proportionately.

Surprise Jam Muffins

1 tablespoon shortening
¼ cup sugar
1 egg
1 cup sifted flour
2 teaspoons baking powder
¼ teaspoon salt
½ teaspoon cinnamon
½ cup milk
¼ cup jam
2 tablespoons chopped nuts (if desired)

Method

Cream sugar and shortening together until light and fluffy. Add egg and beat well. Sift together flour, baking powder, salt and cinnamon. Add flour mixture alternately with the milk. Fill greased muffin pans ⅔ full. Place two teaspoons jam on top of batter in each pan. Cover jam with batter. Sprinkle chopped nuts on top. Bake in hot oven (400F) for 20 to 25 minutes.

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NEW and USEFUL TOO--

CUTS GAS WASTE. According to the makers, the waste of gasoline in the average motor car can be eliminated automatically by the new airflow carburetor needle. The average motorist drives a large portion of his mileage at inefficient idling speeds—constantly starting and stopping, waiting for traffic signals, slowing down for other cars. What the needle will do is adjust the motorist's gasoline mixture every time he comes to a stop. In actual tests an average increased mileage of two miles per gallon was reported.

NEW METAL CLEANER. Of the "wipe-on-wipe-off" type, this new metal cleaner is said to clean without any rubbing. Applied with damp cloth, fingers, or a brush this product requires only 40 seconds to dissolve tarnish, rust or stains on brass, copper, chrome, nickel and aluminum and removes rust stains from porcelain enamel and rust out of fabrics, according to makers' claims.

JAMLESS FASTENER. A new slide fastener that won't jam on underclothing, threads or other obstructions. A twist of the tab releases whatever material has been caught in the teeth.

WARM WALLS. A new hot-air home heating method that gives the sensation of radiant heat. Special registers and grilles set into outer walls of room force warm air upward in a fanlike pattern, creating a blanket of warm air next to the walls. Engineers say this method cuts installation costs by as much as fifty per cent.

BABY CONVERTIBLE. A lightweight baby carriage that can be converted into a bassinet or stroller. The body can be detached for use as a bassinet, and the chassis converts into a stroller when the baby has outgrown a carriage.

FOR THE OPEN ROAD. A trailer with a collapsible sun-deck balcony, also another type with a Plexiglas dome in the living room. Also shown at same exhibition was a two-story moveable house with 3 bedrooms upstairs and a living-room, kitchen and bathroom downstairs. Made of aluminum and weighs 7500 pounds.

OSCAR AWARD NOMINEES

INGRID BERGMAN
'Joan of Arc'

OLIVIA DE HAVILAND
'The Snake Pit'

SIR LAURENCE OLIVIER
'Hamlet'

CLIFTON WEBB
'Sitting Pretty'

CHRONICLES OF GINGER FARM

by Gwendoline P. Clarke

Partner called me outside this morning. "Do you hear what I hear?" he asked. I listened . . . a crow . . . and then more crows! There they were, away off in the bush, talking to each other; asking each other—"Can this be spring?" And why not—the sun was bright and warm, there was hardly a trace of snow anywhere, and there was no wind, other than a gentle breeze. Yes, more than the crows were asking—"Can this be spring?"

Personally, I am completely bewildered; it seems far too early for spring—and yet, surely too late for winter. But that, I know, applies only to this district. More than likely some of you people who read this column have winter all around you. And you may be the better off in the long run. None of the farmers around here are too happy about the bare fields.

* * *

Oh my, what a lot of things we can find to worry about these days—if we are the worrying kind. And even if we are not there is at least a sense of uneasiness nagging at our subconscious. We would like to know the answer to so many things. What will be the outcome of the North Atlantic pact? Is there another depression on the way? Will it be profitable to raise chickens this year—or shall we be left holding the bag? Are prices really on a downward trend? And what is the overall outlook for farming? Yes, those and a dozen other questions are quite enough to keep us awake at night—if we let them. But what good would it do? Certainly we need to take an intelligent interest in world affairs. But worry defeats its own ends by making us less able to deal with any problems which come our way, and which may well be the outcome of greater problems affecting our country as a whole.

* * *

You know, there are times when I go over this column and say to myself—"My goodness, folks will think we don't know about anything beyond our hundred acres!" But let me assure you, we do have a few ideas over and above what concerns our cows, our dogs and our cats. But I feel that you know as much, and probably more, about anything that happens that is of national importance; but you don't know, unless I tell you, of the crazy things our Honey does, or the time I have keeping our three animals from half killing each other. If the telling amuses you for awhile, that's fine. But if I bore you to tears just let me know and we will see what can be done about it. Or if you have ideas as to how this column can be improved I shall be glad to hear and consider your suggestions.

* * *

Speaking again of problems . . . early the other morning I was sure I had swallowed a pin—an ordinary, straight pin. Naturally I was in quite a dither about it. However, I consoled myself with the thought that when I swallowed it the blunt end went first! If only it stayed straight maybe it wouldn't do any harm, I thought. And then, still worrying, I suddenly came to my senses—"Why, I didn't swallow that pin . . . I didn't swallow anything. I've been dreaming . . . here I am, still in bed—I couldn't have swallowed a pin!" And sure enough, it was a dream—a dream so realistic that I had quite a time to convince myself that such an accident hadn't really happened. But oh dear, how glad I was to discover it wasn't true. Now there's a chance for dream fans—tell me, what did my dream foretell?

* * *

Maybe I had been working too hard with my crochet hook and sort of got things mixed up. You see I am about three parts through with making a tablecloth. When it is finished it will consist of 1400 crocheted squares. Each square in itself is about two inches square and takes about 12 to 15 minutes to make. Partner and I amused ourselves the other day by figuring out what the value of the cloth would be when finished, on the basis of an eight-hour day at $5 a day—which you will agree is hardly trade union pay. We figured it out at $225, not counting the cost of the thread, which I have lost track of. And yet, if I wanted to sell that cloth—which I don't—I suppose $100 would be considered an outrageous price to ask. Truly the work of one's hands is seldom appraised at its true value. But in this case I have the satisfaction of knowing that Daughter will probably treasure my tablecloth as an heirloom . . . when I get through with it!

The SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

By Rev. R. Barclay Warren

SPECIAL TRAINING OF THE TWELVE

Mark 6:30-32; Luke 11: 1-4, 9-13.

Golden Text:- For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.- Luke 11:10.

No group of men ever received as good training for the work of the ministry as did the twelve. It is admitted that judged by present day seminary standards they had low "entrance credits." They came from ordinary walks of life as fishing and tax collecting. But they had the world's greatest teacher. He spake as never man spake.

He, Jesus Christ, excelled as a counsellor. The twelve returned triumphantly from a tour in which they had preached repentance, cast out devils and healed many sick. On their return they learned of the murderous action of the adulterous Herod in beheading John the Baptist. It was an appropriate time for Jesus to take the group away from the throngs which gave him no leisure, even for eating. What counsel and comfort the group must have received from the master as they moved across the lake. The holiday was short, for a crowd had gone about the lake and were waiting with their sick. The compassion of Jesus was such that he forgot his intended rest and ministered. But in this, too, he was training his disciples.

Jesus, by example and precept, taught the twelve the meaning and value of prayer. He held communion with the Father. His praying was not irksome but it was so attractive that they said on one occasion when He had finished, "Lord, teach us to pray."

The promises with respect to prayer are either true or false. They are not false for history tells of many who have proved them true. If they are true for some they are true for all who will test them. Every great religious awakening has been preceded and accompanied by much praying. Would to God that the prayer life of our nation would deepen. The tyranny that is sweeping the old world might be averted. Our social ills would be healed if Canadians would humbly and earnestly seek God in prayer. Let us pray.

Answer To This Week's Puzzle

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