

Of Interest to Women



THE MIXING BOWL

By ANNE ALLAN
Home Economics Editor

THIS IS CHRISTMAS!
A Joyous Christmas to everyone! And, as Tiny Tim observed, "God bless us every one!" Let's remember the happier things for a spell and dwell on the spirit of good fellowship, of thought for others, of heart warmth and old-fashioned cheer—for this is Christmas!

Yes! We shall keep Christmas. This year we will celebrate it more quietly, more simply. But the boys across the world—on land, at sea or in the air—will be able to think of us, at home, keeping Christmas for them.

The Christmas season will mean more to you if you follow these three simple rules:

1. Look back to your very happiest Christmas and say, "It will be that way this year—we've so much to be thankful for."

2. Decorate even though the materials are simple. There may be no Christmas tree but there will be evergreen sprigs, popcorn, cranberries, red and silver streamers and lots of other things.

3. Plan special menus for Christmas, adding a festive touch to each meal. If this is something you haven't tried before, then it will be a surprise for the family and they'll love it.

RECIPES

Liverwurst Canapes

1 lb. liverwurst, 1 tsp. lemon juice, 1 tsp. scraped onion, 1/2 tsp. salt, 1/2 tsp. paprika, mayonnaise, crackers, 6 pickles.

Remove the skin, and mash the liverwurst to a smooth paste. Add lemon juice, onion, salt and paprika, moisten with mayonnaise. Spread on crisp crackers. Top with pieces of pickle. (A tasty accompaniment with vegetable juices).

Savoury Dressing

(Without butter)

2 cups soft bread crumbs, 1/2 cup sliced cooked prunes, 1 grated apple, 1 lb. minced onion, 1 tsp. sage, 1 tsp. salt, 1 tsp. paprika, 1/2 tsp. summer savoury, 1/2 tsp. thyme, 1/2 cup water. Mix together lightly; do not mash. Enough for a 4-lb. fowl.

Roast Turkey With Savoury Dressing

One 12 to 15 pound turkey, salt, savoury dressing, baking fat.

Prepare young turkey for roasting. (Reserve wing tips, neck and gizzard to cook for broth). Rub well with salt. Stuff with Savoury Dressing. Sew securely. Rub outside with baking fat. Place on shallow pan and into a cold oven. Turn switch to bake and set control for 325 degrees. Cook, timing turkey 20 minutes per lb. If a larger turkey, lower temperature to 300 degrees and cook 18 minutes per lb. An old turkey should be cooked for a longer period 20 to 25 minutes per lb.

Turkey Soup

Break turkey carcass in pieces, removing all stuffing; put in kettle with any bits of meat that may have been left over. Cover with cold water, bring slowly to boiling point and simmer 2 hours with switch turned to "low." Strain, cool, remove fat, and season with salt and pepper. One or two outer stalks of celery may be cooked with carcass to give additional flavor.

TAKE A TIP:

1. Make red oilcloth place mats for the Christmas table. They may be placed on top of the linen cloth for everyone's plate; the cloth must do for the holiday week.

2. Where will Santa Claus put the presents this year? Around the fireplace on the decorated buffet or on a huge snow ball made by two hoops covered with sheets, and sprinkled with artificial snow, opening at the side.

Trim the table with an idea in mind: a miniature church, an original floral arrangement, or tiny cardboard uniformed girls or men, if one of your guests is an uniform.

TIP QUESTION BOX

Mr. B. Your question has been answered and mailed to you direct.
Anne Allan says: May I thank each and every one of you for your Christmas messages and letters of appreciation received throughout the year.
Anne Allan invites you to write to her, Care of The Acton Free Press. Send in your questions on homemaking problems and watch this column for replies.

NO HOLIDAY

EDMONTON, England, (P) School children of this Middle town have been given the privilege of attending school throughout the Christmas holiday should they choose to do so. Every teacher was asked to give up one day's holiday to assist in keeping one school in each school district open during the holiday period.



REVEALS "OUR CANADA"

Gerald Noxon is the author of the CBC Sunday night series which tells the story of Canada. He was born in Toronto, of parents who came from United Empire Loyalist stock. He went to England and France to school, married an American girl in London, worked on documentary films in Britain under John Grierson who is now head of the National Film Board in Canada. He wrote for the BBC two years ago and produced the first entirely French film in the Canada Caries On Series. His first script assignment for the CBC was a series in connection with the Commonwealth Air Training Plan, broadcast under the title They Fly For Freedom, in 1941. The seventh Our Canada program, Into the Air, will be heard Sunday, December 25, at 10:15 p.m. EDT, 11:15 p.m. EDT, 11:15 p.m. ADT.

WAR 25 Years Ago

German Power on Eastern Front Greatly Increased by Troops Brought East After Russia's Defection

BY H. H. GORDON
Canadian Press Staff Writer

British forces in Palestine celebrated Christmas 25 years ago amid scenes associated with the nativity of the Prince of Peace. Centuries of Turkish domination had been ended by the capture of Jerusalem only a few weeks earlier, but there were few signs on the other battlefronts of the First Great War to indicate that the following Christmas would be observed with the Allied, victorious and a war-torn world at peace.

On the contrary, there was ground for apprehension in the collapse of the Russian Army as a fighting force and the peace negotiations, entered into by Germans and Soviet representatives at Brest-Litovsk. Further darkening the picture was the disaster to the Italian army at Caporetto.

But 1917 brought a number of bright spots, most of which underlined the growing strength of the Allies. Entry of the United States into the war in the spring made her great resources available to the Entente nations and before the end of the year her fighting men were in the trenches on the continent.

The Canadian Corps played a big part in the fighting that carried armies under Sir Douglas Haig's command forward across the plain of Flanders and in the Ypres salient, forcing the Germans back to the formidable Hindenburg line.

Vimy and Passchendaele

Sir Arthur Currie's men added to the laurels earned at Ypres earlier in the war by their great victory at Vimy Ridge on April 9. In this engagement they set off the big British offensive along the Scarpe and Ancre valleys.

Rushed north in the autumn they won undying glory in the battles at Passchendaele from Oct. 26 to Nov. 10. The storming of Passchendaele Ridge brought an end to the five-month Third Battle of Ypres. It gave the British control of a large part of the Flanders Plain, stabilized the battlefield in that area for the winter and made it possible for Anglo-French reinforcements to go to the Italian front.

Throughout the year British operations on the Western Front were pushed to relieve pressure on their French allies to the south. The operations were successful, but achieved only at a great cost.

In Africa, the British in addition to sweeping through Palestine, met with success in their Mesopotamian campaign. Baghdad was in their hands and Turkish influence waned rapidly throughout the great area. German opposition in East Africa was smashed completely during the year and the remnants of enemy forces had moved into Portuguese East Africa.

Chronicles of... Ginger Farm

Written Specially for The Acton Free Press by GWENDOLINE P. CLARKE

When you read this it will probably be after Christmas. Yes, even though The Fazz Pass comes out the day before Christmas it is more than likely you will give the paper the "once over" and lay it on one side until you have time to read it more thoroughly. But as I write this is the Saturday before the 25th and Partner and I are sitting here listening to the hockey broadcast. More than that, I have one ear cocked for the telephone. You see we had a letter from our son to say he and his girl friend would be here Saturday, arriving on the midnight train. That sounds fine—except that there isn't any midnight train! There used to be, but not now. Every other night of the week but not Saturday. As soon as I got that letter I wrote right back to that effect but whether my letter will reach Quebec in time I don't know. So here we are wondering if there will be a long distance call from Toronto—which is more than likely.

But that isn't our only worry. The lane has filled in and I couldn't possibly get out with the car to meet the train. Not could Partner take the team because one of the horses is lame, so I guess one traveller, should they come, will have to solve their own transporting problems. Oh, the joy of country visiting in winter at sub-zero weather! But oh dear, how thankful we should be if we have enough to eat and sufficient fuel to keep the house reasonably warm. To say nothing of having enough clothes to wear. Imagine having to go cold and hungry in this weather. Think of it—and then going without butter for a day or two won't seem so bad.

The CBC just announced that Donald Gordon is to speak to-morrow night but the subject of his address was not disclosed. Could it be about butter, I wonder? Is rationing about to begin? If so I imagine it will be more than welcome to the butterless. So far we have had enough. But then, we use so little. No, I don't make it. We sell our milk so we have to buy our butter and take a change just the same as people who don't live on a farm.

Sunday. When—what a day!—and what a night! First thing this morning I put a thermometer outside and then half-an-hour later, on my way to feed the hens I took a look at it. Twenty-four below zero! "That's ridiculous," said I to myself, "it can't be that cold, even if my hands are numb and my eyes smarting." At 10 a.m. it registered 20 below. And then I heard of four other persons who said their thermometers had also registered 24 below so I guess I'm not a doubting Thomas any longer.

Well, it looks as if my letter of warning must have reached Quebec in time as our visitors did not arrive. During last evening Toronto was calling and I thought, "Ah, here it comes." But no, it was Daughter whose voice answered me and not that of our soldier son.

This morning Partner shovelled out the lane it was either that or take the milk to the road. The rest of the day has been taken up with chores at the barn and with one or the other of us running back and forth to the henhouse at intervals to thaw out the water-pails and to gather eggs before they would freeze. Even so two eggs got frozen. At chore time to-night I took a shag at starting the car. But I couldn't get a kick out of it at all. All the motor did was turn over slowly with creaking protests, but not a spark could I get at all. May be it would have started had I persevered, but it seems to me the best place for a car this weather is in the garage unless driving is absolutely necessary. But I am disappointed too as I would like to have gone to the candlelight service to-night.

Well, sitting at the table is cold work so I think I'll get a little closer to the stove. So once again wishing you all a very Happy Christmas I'll say good-bye. And here's to a "White Christmas" but let's hope, not a sub-zero one.

P.S. Donald Gordon has spoken—and it's half-a-pound of butter per person per week. Well, that's nothing to grumble at—anyway. We shan't starve on that!

300 ON A CORVETTE

LONDON, (CP) Canadian corvette men will appreciate this one: The British corvette Patricia rescued 248 men, women and children from the sea after a ship had been torpedoed. Added to the normal crew of about 60, the little warship thus was carrying more than 300 persons about five times the number for which it has proper accommodation.

Armoured Division in Interesting Manoeuvres

Another in a series of articles written by W. R. Legge and C. V. Charters, who represented the Canadian Weekly Newspapers' Association in a recent tour overseas.

Article No. 9
BY C. V. CHARTERS

One of the most realistic manoeuvres which we were privileged to witness overseas was "held on" by the Armoured Division, commanded by Major-General E. W. Sanson, D.S.O. It was the largest complete battle exercise by one armoured brigade yet staged.

The afternoon was clear and cool. The setting sun was perfect for this operation which extended over several miles. We were situated on a commanding elevation and equipped with field glasses. Junior officers acted as our guides, and hosts, and kept us informed on the technical aspects of the operation. Your correspondent was the particular charge of Lieut. Laird Howland, of London, formerly of Peel County, just recently named as Aide-de-Camp to General McNaughton.

Such training as we were witnessing was carried out under hazardous conditions. German reconnaissance and daylight bombers take great delight in trying to detect and, where possible, interrupt routine training of this kind by bombs and machine-gun fire. Everything possible was therefore done to conceal troops and equipment, and some clever camouflage was used.

On this particular afternoon, just as operations were about to begin, we were advised that enemy bombers had been sighted not many miles distant. At the same time, we were told what to do if "the did come over," and assured that one of the best "kite spotters" in the service, equipped with strong binoculars, was looking after our welfare. We were comforted to learn also that the anti-air area was ringed by our own ack-ack guns.

The enemy did not molest us the whole went on as planned—and we were impressed and thrilled by it. Functions of an Armoured Division Chief function of an Armoured Division is to slash through enemy defences, penetrating and consolidating ground by means of tanks, armored cars and motorized infantry.

In a classic attack, it would follow the heavy tanks of an army tank brigade in the initial breakthrough then rapidly infiltrate and pave the way for fast-moving infantry.

Such a division has its own support group of artillery and motorized infantry. It is self-contained, but not intended for static warfare or ground consolidation other than holding ground until regular infantry formations arrive. The armored fighting vehicles of an armored division are exceptionally powerful and some can reach speeds in excess of 60 miles per hour.

One of the chief functions of a motor battalion is to find and destroy enemy tanks. Equally important is the job of occupation of strong-points gained by the armored advance and held until relief from regular infantry arrives.

A Make-Believe Attack Assuming fictitiously that the Germans had made a raid on the coast, one armored group has been warned that it may be required at any time. A Canadian infantry brigade and an army tank brigade have been warned to hold approaches until the Canadian corps can be moved to carry out its objective role.

Our party of Canadian newspapermen have just completed an inspection of the armored brigade when a message is received by the Brigade Commander that approximately 800 parachute troops, armed with light automatics and light anti-tank guns, have landed on a large hill, which was clearly shown on the mimeographed maps with which we were supplied. It is expected that their purpose is to establish a landing place for airborne troops to be landed later in the day.

The Brigade Commander calls for his orders group at the Armored Command Vehicle and issues his orders for the advance and attack.

List of Brigade Commanders' Orders Following are the orders as issued by the Brigadier and carried through by Major C. A. Turnbull, Capt. B. F. Neary, Capt. J. M. Bowie and Lt. J. H. Owen, Intelligence Officer.

"The brigade will advance and destroy the enemy on the Hill and hold this position. The advance will be covered by an advance guard composed as follows: Major, W. J. Tibbott, Commandant, one tank troop from H. Q. Squadron of Brigade, four Scout Platoons from the Motor Battalion, one troop from the Anti-Tank Battery. The advance guard will clear the front and flanks of all enemy positions. Particular attention being paid to anti-tank guns which could knock out our tanks and machine guns which could shoot up our embussed infantry. The advance guard, on receiving code word from Brigade, will come under command of the Motor Battalion when that unit has arrived at

the assembly area. The Armor Regiment will advance to its assembly area by covered approach marked on the map in red—the Motor Battalion, less four Scout Platoons, and with under command the Anti-Tank Battery less one troop, will advance to its assembly area by routes marked on the map in green—both regiments will report to Brigade when they are in their assembly areas—synchronized attack will then be ordered by Brigade on orders from Brigade, the Field Battery will give supporting fire to the attack with high explosive and smoke on targets marked on the map—the attack will be made by the Armored Regiment against the left flank of the position—the enemy anti-tank guns on and to the west of the enemy positions being blinded by smoke when the Armored Regiment has overrun the position, it will be occupied and held by the Motor Battalion who will advance from this point—the Armored Regiment will rally in a park, the light Anti-Aircraft will place themselves where they can engage enemy planes attempting to land further troops on CP Beacon Hill the light Field Ambulance will establish an Advanced Dressing Station at Alice Farm and a Main Dressing Station at H. Brigade H. Q. will be at T Hill—Code words are issued covering reports at various stages of the advance as well as orders from Brigade to the units engaged."

A Thrilling Experience With the help of our guides, our maps and our field glasses, we could locate the various units and see them go into action.

It was a thrilling experience and most realistic; at times you imagined it was an actual engagement.

The entire manoeuvre indicated efficient training, a fine esprit de corps, senior officers, junior officers—and men, working in harmonious co-operation. The skill with which these armored vehicles are handled gave us confidence that here was a group, when called upon, will give a good account of themselves in actual battle. A cup of hot tea from the mobile canteen of the Y.M.C.A. and a bumpy ride by jeep back to our rendezvous not many miles distant all helped to make us feel as if we were part of Canada's army in training overseas.

Less Than Enough, And We Lose

"This is as certain as that night follows day. Let Germany and Japan defeat us in the air and we cease to live as you and I know life. Some of us will die quickly; some, slowly and painfully; but life or what we call life will be gone forever; for us, our children and our grandchildren."

Such then, is our opportunity; for our lives while yet there is time. Let us pair into the production of aircraft every effort of which we are capable.

These words are from an address by Ralph B. Bell, Director General Aircraft Production Branch, Dept. of Munitions and Supply, on the occasion of the visit of the Lancaster Bomber to the Malton Plant of National Steel Car Corporation, Limited, where Lancasters will be produced.

Mr. Bell reminded his listeners that "But for one thing, the fact that the Royal Air Force held control of the skies over Britain in that memorable siege by air from the summer of 1940 to the late spring of 1941 instead of today's heartily welcoming a single Lancaster we might all be crushed in shuddering helplessness as giant German bombers roared overhead and dumped their terrifying loads of destruction on our homes and factories."

Since it is estimated that it takes eighteen workers behind the line to keep one fighting man in action, Mr. Bell's timely words have a deep significance for all Canadians. Lithographed copies of the address, illustrated by a fine painting of the Avro-Lancaster bomber, are being distributed in the interest of Canada's war effort by the National Steel Car Corporation Limited in cooperation with Aeronautical Lodge 917, International Association of Machinists. Copies are available from this office.

RECORD U. S. CROPS

A report issued by the United States Bureau of Agricultural Economics indicates that prospective supplies of food grains and hay for the 1942-43 season are the largest on record. The combined production of corn, oats, barley and grain sorghums will be about 120,000,000 bushels, which is three per cent greater than the previous record which was established in 1929. The hay crop is estimated as being 7 per cent larger than in any previous year.

Cotton, Jute Bags As Seed Containers

A recent order of the Seeds Administrator respecting seeds, states: "Upon every container of seed mixture, except lawn grass mixtures, or upon a tag or label durably attached to such container there shall be plainly marked or labelled a memorandum showing the kinds of seeds contained in such mixture and the percentage, by weight, of each kind of such seed. "No person shall print or stencil any information or design on any new or second-hand cotton bag or any new jute bag which is intended for use or is being used as a container of seeds, except such information as may be necessary to show the kind and—or variety of seed so contained and the stock number of such seed."