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THE MIXING BOWL
By Anne Allan
HYPOCRISY ECONOMY

Hello Homemakers! Mary is to be married! Many friends are entertaining for our popular bride-to-be, and each party is unique. To date, there has been a dessert feast, an indoor garden tea, and a noseyday buffet. Perhaps if we tell you a little about the presentations, it may be of help to plan a graduation affair, an anniversary or a shower party.

The menu for the dessert feast was: pastel meringue shells filled with vanilla ice cream, a selection of ice cream toppings lined the table, lime coloured marshmallow, dried fruits, butterscotch sauce and strawberry jam. Tea and assorted cookies were served following dessert. The centre-piece of spring flowers, flower candles, floral serviettes and the sparkling crystal made the party a delightful, feminine occasion.

The indoor garden tea was equally effective, with blossoms in several vases placed throughout the living and dining rooms and the guests stood about with a cup of tea, enjoying food served from picture plates. These plates were arranged like rows in a garden. Open face sandwiches, neatly decorated, rolled cross pieces, decorated and plain sandwiches, were placed in succession. The tiny cakes and tarts were grouped on silver entree dishes, partly filled with crumpled green cellophane which seemed to be a rock garden effect. For this part the hostess selected yellow, green, pink and mauve tapers and used silver candlesticks and tea service.

An old-fashioned nosegay of roses was placed at one end of the table with bride and groom shaped candles in front of it. A large tray of glasses filled with a rhubarb cocktail was placed at the opposite end of the table to the flowers. The rest of the luncheon was arranged on platters and bowls surrounding the plates, forks, and serviettes, which were placed buffet style along the side of the table. They were decorated with attractive garnishes, such as potato flowers for the platter of cold turkey, heart shaped jelly molds decorated with cheese and crisp salad greens topped with pepper rings. To complete this repast, a large chiffon cake, dripping with whipped cream and topped with frozen raspberries, was the dessert.

RHUBARB COCKTAIL.
12 cups rhubarb, cut
8 cups white sugar
1½ cups orange juice
1 cup pineapple juice
½ tsp. salt
Gingerale

Cook rhubarb in 3 quarts of water until tender. Put it through a strainer and sweeten with the sugar, then chill the rhubarb juice, add orange juice, pineapple juice and salt. Measure the quantity of

Chronicles
of
Ginger Farm
Written Specially for the Acton Free Press by
Gwendolyn F. Clarke

At last! Two whole days without rain—that's a record for this spring. All the birds and the beasts and the flowers have come alive as a result. The swallows sensed the approach of warmer weather and came back to the barn. Partner loves his swallows... the other morning when I went down for the milk it was the first thing he told me. The stable door was open and in flew a pair of swallows—straight to the old nest in the cow stable to which they return year after year. There they were two little birds in one nest perhaps just resting after a long flight, or perhaps arguing it out as to who was entitled to possession. But they didn't appear to be arguing so maybe they were just an old married couple glad to be back to their old home after sojourning abroad.

In the garden daffodils are blooming, golden heads nodding in the freshening breeze. Frogs continue their unending and throaty chorus in the swamp across the way. Hoppers turned loose for sunshine and exercise gambol around in the yard, stopping every now and then, heads over the fence, noses sniffing the air—sweet scented air that brings promise of luscious green feed that will taste so much better than anything they have had all winter. And we think the same about the fresh red rhubarb that tastes so good after a steady diet of canned fruit. And of course the farmers are beginning to hope again that seeding will soon be underway, although it will take a few days yet to dry the mudholes in low-lying fields.

Seeding is late but some years it has been later, that is according to dates published in a recent issue of the Farmer's Advocate, covering the last ten years. During that period the earliest seeding was in 1945, starting in some districts on March 27 and the latest in 1943 when seeding was delayed until May 15. It also said, the poorest crops and most difficult haying and harvest followed late May seeding, while the best yields of spring grain were from early April seedings. So there you have it forewarned is forearmed so it might be just as well not to take too much for granted because if the weather is against us there isn't much anybody can do about it except to make every working hour count and every dollar give us its full value, and that is only possible with careful spending. We can't expect bulging granaries all the time—sometimes a Sabbatical year is forced upon us whether we want it or not.

Here I'm talking about the warm spring weather and forgetting what an awful day it was last Saturday—rain teeming down every hour or so and just after I had had the car washed and spent a lot of time cleaning and polishing it. You know how it is, clean the car and it always rains. Trying to keep a car looking half decent is a tiring and discouraging business. It being wet on Saturday we had visitors for the week-end three of them—Daughter and two of our nieces. The nieces came on the noon bus and Daughter at night—she came later as she had promised to take her small godson to see Hopalong Cassidy. They had quite a time at the Exhibition grounds—Daughter said "Hoppy" was doing a wonderful job and seemed absolutely tireless.

Joy went to meet the bus which was supposed to come in at 7:20. She waited and waited and finally came back home. Daughter arrived about two hours late. A new man was driving the bus, missed the highway, and continued along it some road. When he realized his mistake he tried to turn at a farm driveway, couldn't make it, and went over the culvert into a water-filled ditch. After that the motor refused to function and the bus was towed the remainder of the way home—about eight miles.

Changing over from standard to fast time was another week-end highlight I hated the thought of it as we were already getting up at 5:30. And then I found it did not really make much difference at all. Set the clock ahead and forget about there being two times and then it doesn't hurt hardly at all. Big I do object to the C.B.C. announcing a programme in this way: "Time is at 1:30 Daylight saving time or 12:30 Green time." Does the C.B.C. imagine that Ontario farmers are living out in the backwoods or what? Some are without a doubt, but they are in the minority. Even in the more thickly populated areas very few farmers really like DST but they have long since realized that to stubbornly operate on standard time only makes things still more inconvenient for themselves.

Thirty-three years generally constitute a generation.

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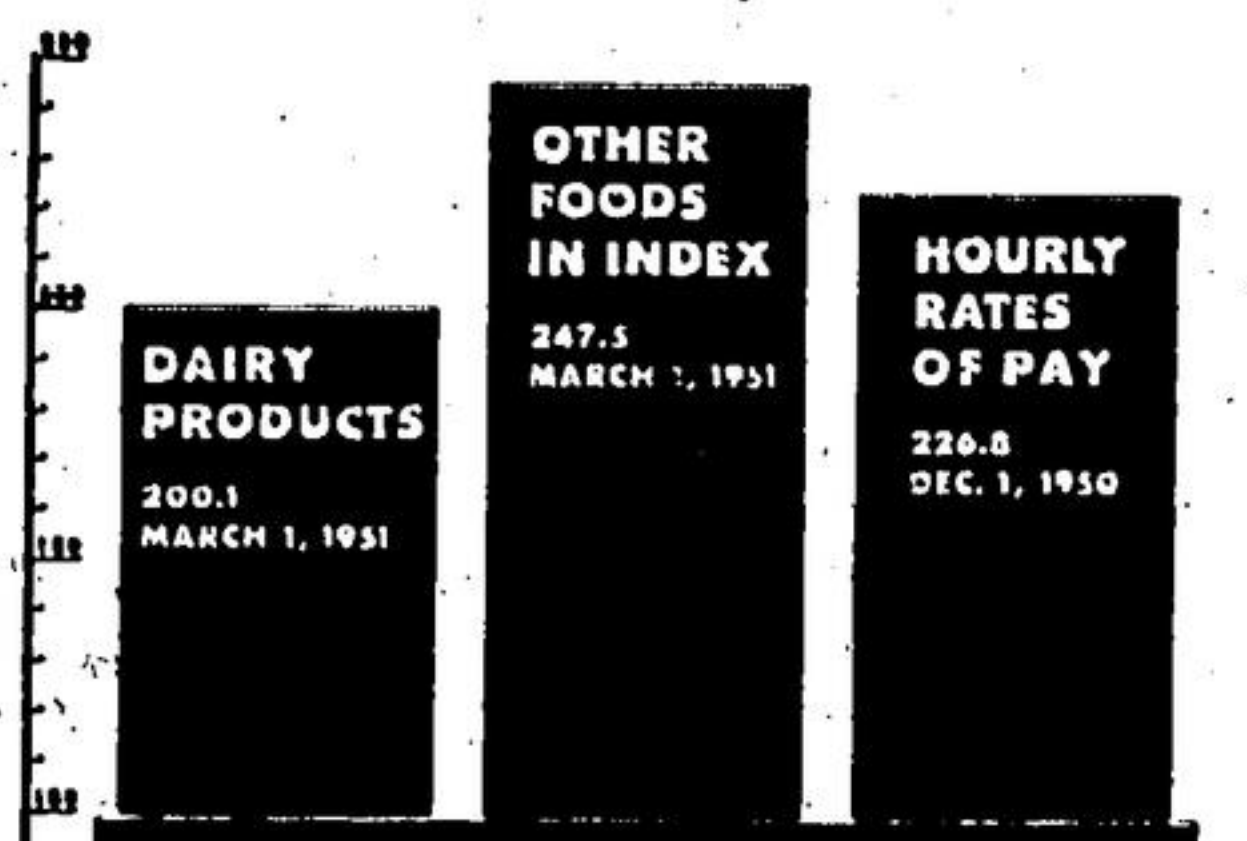
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COST OF LIVING INDEX BASE PERIOD
AVERAGE PRICES - 1935-1939

Every housewife these days is fighting the "battle of the home budget". She is quite aware that food costs have soared, and was not surprised when the Cost of Living Index at March 1st, last showed food at 244.4 compared with 100 for the base period of 1935-39.

The Dairy Farmers of Canada, faced with rising costs like everyone else, are pleased to draw attention to the fact that Dairy Products in the same index stood at 200.1 while other foods in the index were 247.5.

The price of Dairy Products is not at all out of line with other items in the Cost of Living Index, nor with wages in industry. While milk, butter and cheese stand at 200.1, clothing stands at 196.6 and home furnishings at 199.3. Wages based on hourly rates of pay in Canada stood at 226.8 as of Dec. 1, 1950, according to Department of Labour Statistics.

By using more of Nature's Fine Foods—Dairy Foods—the housewife can serve wholesome, nutritious meals and make her food dollar go farther.

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Advice Prevents Grain Frost Loss

Where frosted wheat, oats and barley is being used for seed, always increase the rate of seeding in proportion to the decrease in germination, then sow the grain as shallowly as possible to get seed into moisture, advises A. G. Kusch, cerealist at the Experimental Station at Scott, Sask.

Extension frost damage to cereal grains occurred over a large area of the prairie provinces in 1950 and the damage was especially severe in Saskatchewan. Germination tests on cereal grains grown around Scott where frost damage was severe, indicated that wheat generally will give satisfactory germination, but oats and barley will not. Many samples of these grains when tested, gave germination percentages below 40, with only a few samples showing 80 per cent.

When these frost-damaged grains were tested in soil, the number of plants emerging did not equal the recorded germination percentage. The lower the percentage germination of the sample, the more serious was the failure of plants to emerge as the depth of planting was increased. In addition there were many weak plants present that would not survive under the average field conditions encountered in the spring.

Mr. Kusch adds, the extent to which germination of cereal grains has been impaired by frost cannot be determined by examining the seed, all farmers concerned are urged to make, or have a germination test made on the grain they intend to use for seed. What may appear to be damaged severely by frost and yet show good germination and the reverse may be true. The germination of oats and barley may be seriously affected and still show little external signs of frost damage. In cases where germination percentages are low it will be advisable to purchase good seed to ensure a satisfactory crop.

Aesop, author of the book of fables, was a slave.

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Save You Money!

- PUDDING POWDERS ROYAL MANOE 3 PKGS. 14c
- PEANUT BUTTER ROMAR 16-OZ. JAR 37c
- CRANBERRY SAUCE OCEAN SPRAY 15-OZ. TIN 23c
- ROMAR COFFEE 1-LB. BAG 96c
- LYNN VALLEY GOLDEN CREAM STYLE
- CORN 2 15-OZ. TINS 21c
- 20-OZ. TINS 2 for 25c — 10-OZ. TINS 3 for 25c.
- DANDEE TEA PKG. 38c, 75c
- TEA BAGS CARROLL'S CAROL'S 34c, 67c
- KRAFT DINNER 2 PKGS. 29c
- CHRISTIE'S RITZ 8-OZ. PKG. 20c
- CHOCOLATE DROPS Gum Drops or Jelly Beans
- CANDY LB. 29c

- Blueback Salmon 3-LB. TIN 21c
- PORK & BEANS OLARK'S 2 15-OZ. TINS 23c
- AYLMER PEAS SPECIAL PROCESS 20-OZ. TIN 22c
- OATMEAL for Baby HEINZ PKG. 23c
- NIBLETS CORN
- GREEN GIANT 2 14-OZ. TINS 33c
- FANCY 8-OZ. TINS 2 for 23c

- Aylmer BEANS BOSTON BROWN 2 20-OZ. TINS 35c
- SLICED CHEESE KRAFT 8-OZ. PKG. 32c
- HONEY BUTTER GOLDEN BAR 12-OZ. PKG. 39c
- BIRD SEED BRUCE'S 10-OZ. PKG. 21c
- CAT FOOD BALLARD'S CHAMPION 2 15-OZ. TINS 25c
- PARD DOG FOOD 2 16-OZ. TINS 27c

- Cherries AYLMER RED FITTED 16-OZ. TIN 22c
- Peaches BRIGHT'S 16-OZ. TIN 21c
- Pineapple TASTY CUTS AVE. 15-OZ. TIN 27c
- Grape Juice WELCH'S BOTTLE 21c, 39c

TOMATO JUICE
BRIGHT'S FANCY 20-OZ. TIN 12c

QUAKER TOMATO SOUP
3 10-oz. Tins 25c

- GRAPEFRUIT 4 for 25c
- ORANGES doz. 39c
- NEW FLORIDA WHITE No. 1 POTATOES 3 lb. 25c
- CAL. LARGE BUNCHES CARROTS 2 for 23c

FRESH DAILY—Celery, Mushrooms, Radishes, Cabbage, Tomatoes, Green Onions, Bananas