

YOUNG ELEMENT

Irate parent: "What do you mean by calling my son a dirty elephant?"
Teacher: "Well, now I really never call the children by any names but their given ones. Perhaps I told him he was a 'disturbing element'."



Hello Homemakers! Now is the season that we look for freezing facilities to store packages of garden produce—a home freezer or a locker at a Freezing Plant. This modern method of storing many foods retains true flavour and goodness. Then too the preparation of produce for freezing is a simplified and perfected way of processing. Yet, it must be remembered that freezing does not sterilize—the frozen fruit or vegetable will only be as good as the fresh product. Briefly the processing method is

the careful trimming and washing, then scalding two to four minutes followed by rapid chilling two to four minutes. The packaging is done in moisture and vapour-proof boxes. Air is pressed from the top of each inner envelope which is then sealed with a wrap iron. Packages should be taken to locker plant within 4 hours, having packed them in a box padded well with newspapers on all sides.

- TAKE A TIP**
1. Select only fully ripened, firm fruit or vegetable.
 2. Cut out any bruised or too ripe produce to use fresh or make into a preserve for relish.
 3. Prepare, then wash in cool water with care.
 4. Let fruit drain on trays lined with paper towelling, keeping food cool. Then slice fruit or pour directly into moisture-vapour-proof containers. Carefully add cool syrup (1 cup sugar to 6 cups water) to cover fruit. Try to exclude air from each package and seal top with warm iron or sticky tape. Label.
 5. All vegetables are sorted and washed thoroughly, then cut according to size required. It is necessary to scald in boiling water using only sufficient to cover. Time this blanching period exactly using cheesecloth or a wire basket so the food can be drained quickly into ice-cold water. Chill thoroughly then package the vegetable in boxes using either layers of dry salt or a brine solution (1 tsp. table salt to 1 cup water). Exclude as much air as possible. Heat-seal the package if possible. Label.
 6. Place packages of food in freezer at zero degrees or lower.

THE QUESTION BOX

Mrs. M. R. asks: Can we package sliced beets and their washed, cut tops in the same box?
Answer: No. Package small beets and tops separately. Cook the roots and peel after cooking. Blanch the tops for 3 minutes, handling about 1 quart at a time.
Mrs. S. B. asks: Is there any difference in the varieties of spinach for freezing?
Answer: The smooth leaf (e.g., Nobel) is easier to wash clean than the crinkly (Bloomsdale) but the results are much the same if harvested before the bloom. Blanch each quart 4 minutes then chill.
Mrs. B. D. asks: Do you blanch corn before cutting from the cob or afterwards?
Answer: Both times. Remove husks and silks. Blanch 5 mins. Chill. Cut off the kernels and re-blanch 3 mins. Chill quickly in ice water again. Pack in brine for best results.
Mrs. H. J. asks: Have you ever had blackberries turn red when frozen?
Answer: Experts tell us that blackberries which are not fully ripe may turn red and become sour.

Motor Adventure On Alaska Road

The Alaska Highway is the most adventuresome motor trip on the continent, says Ronald Schiller in a recent Reader's Digest. Even on flat land the road twists into hairpin curves. In rough terrain it goes up and down like a roller coaster. Sometimes clinging to the sides of cliffs 400 feet high, it turns sharply without warning, giving rear-seat passengers the stomach-gripping sensation of taking off into space. There is not a guard rail in its entire length.

The 1523 miles of the Highway between Dawson, B.C. and Fairbanks, Alaska are not, however, quite as rugged as they were a few years ago. It is no longer necessary to take along food, camping equipment and extra gas. Lodges, garages and stores have opened up at intervals of 50 to 100 miles along the route. "You'd better have at least six good tires, however."

You should observe, too, the ancient law of the Yukon that no one may withhold help from anyone who needs it. If you drive by a car in a ditch without offering assistance you may find that no lodging is available to you anywhere along the Highway.

Though many more tourists flock the Highway in summer, the road in winter is in better condition. Buried under solidly packed snow and kept clear by plows, it provides a smooth surface. Weatherproof, 35-passenger buses maintain their usual three-times-a-week schedules. Drivers fear not the intense cold but the warm Chinook wind from the Pacific that melts the snow and makes the Highway a ribbon of ice.

The scenery is on an epic scale, the article says, and the whole country is a "gigantic menagerie." Big game, including caribou, moose, bears and wolves, is frequently seen.

Chronicles



We have eight acres of lay cut and raked; another six cut but not raked; also a field that hasn't been touched—and the hay-baler sitting in the yard. "That is as far as we have got with our haying operations. There has only been one day when the hay was fit to bale and that day the baler was busy elsewhere. We have known some 'catchy' seasons but never anything like this. But we have lots of company—there is hay out all over the place. However, all any of us can do is take what comes and hope for the best."

Right now "the best" seems to be a promise of peace in Korea. If there can ever be peace in that country, Personally I am more concerned with what may happen in Iran—Iran and its oil being of more importance to Soviet Russia than North and South Korea put together. Of course we are expected to believe that the trouble in Korea isn't Russia's war—but who can doubt but what the whole dreadful business wasn't instigated by the Kremlin.

Well, last Tuesday many women in this district met and headed for the 50th Anniversary of our Halton District Women's Institute. It was a lovely day, sandwiched in between rain the day before and rain the day after. Over 300 members and a number of guests sat down to a well-planned, attractive and appetizing lunch.

Before lunch most of us had our own little private session. There were ladies there who had not seen each other in years—members who had moved away; members who had once been members of branches that had since disbanded. Mothers, daughters, grandmothers and others; some women who had aged with the passing years; others who looked younger than they did 10 years ago! It was a goodly crowd—and we talked—almost as much as a crowd of farmers at an auction sale.

As I looked around at the smartly dressed women, I wondered what such a gathering would have looked like 50 years ago. There would doubtless have been many women there in homespun, others in gingham—perhaps a few in silk or cashmere relics of treasures from the Old Country. Skirts would be down to their ankles; older women in bonnets, younger women in cumbersome hats or turbans.

There would have been pale lips and paler cheeks, except for the rugged, out-of-door women. Hair would be pulled back straight from the forehead, ending in a "bun" at the back or on the crown of the head—or maybe thick, tightly twisted braids. Outside, tied up in the now non-existent sheds, would be the horses, hitched to buggies or demerats. Somewhere in the vicinity—at the harness shop, the grist mill, the blacksmith's or the hardware store, men would be waiting for their wives or sisters, making the best use of their time by getting a few of their own chores done.

But last Tuesday, men were conspicuous by their absence. No doubt some of them had been required to drive the family car and were somewhere down town but in many cases women did their own driving, picking up as many neighbors as were able to go.

At our head table we had as our guests, Col. the Hon. T. L. Kennedy and Mrs. Kennedy. They fitted right into the picture and added to our enjoyment. Also present was our Agricultural Representative, Mr. J. E. Whitlock and his wife. Besides adding to our program Mr. Whitlock was very busy adjusting the "mike" for each speaker's convenience. How little we appreciate the versatile

FASHION HINT



The season's newest—the duster coat. The pictured style is a butcher linen pyramid duster with a mandarin collar. Pastels and off colours are most popular for these striking coats. Certainly it's billowy skirt will keep off all the dust in town.

qualities of an agricultural representative!

There were, of course, many of our past presidents and charter members, including a lady over 90, well set-up and with eyes as bright as a woman of 30. There wasn't a tremor in her hand as she cut the beautiful three-tier cake.

Miss Ethel Chapman, women's editor of The Farmer's Magazine, was guest speaker. Everyone loves to hear Miss Chapman. She has such a keen appreciation of farm women's problems; a ready wit and an ability to make every woman feel it is a special privilege to be a farmer's wife—or to live on a farm in any other capacity. She also pointed out to us that as members of the W.I. we have great opportunities for service not only in our own district but through it and by co-operative effort, to many parts of the world.

After hearing Miss Chapman I am positive that most farm women went home more content with their lot and more anxious to contribute something for "the common weal, the good of all mankind."

HELPFUL HINTS FOR HOME SEWING

Here are some suggestions from sewing center experts for the beginner at home-sewing: When selecting a pattern, look for a natural shoulder line, set-in sleeves, natural waistline, designs that cut on the double of the fabric. Avoid intricate drapery and elaborate detail.

When choosing a fabric for a home-dressing project it is usually wiser to select your pattern first. Sewing center experts say that more dressmaking failures are caused by an unfortunate combination of pattern and fabric, than for any other reason.

For accuracy when cutting out a pattern, local sewing center experts suggest that you first press pattern before laying sections out on the fabric. Use a very low temperature iron while doing this, since too much heat will cause the pattern pieces to curl.

Here's a tip from sewing center experts: When putting darts or tucks on inside of garments, you can eliminate tying threads and have the dart lie more smoothly if you follow this procedure: First, stitch dart of tuck as usual. When you reach the end of the line of stitching, instead of cutting thread turn and stitch back along the outer edge of the dart or tuck.

Clean dishes can be contaminated by the use of unclean towels. This potential hazard can be avoided through use of hot rinsing water and allowing the dishes to air-dry.



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