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Peet's Corner
 THE WOODS OF LATE SUMMER
 by Mary Ellen Varley

To-night the woods rain-glazed,
 Spray trembles on the trees,
 Yet I must pause to listen,
 To music on the breeze.

The robin's song is swelling
 From maples cool and deep,
 While from their shaded dwelling
 The crickets chirp and peep.

Other birds are congregating
 For their evening song,
 The air their notes inflating,
 With chorus sweet prolong.

Dark-wet are the bunch-berries,
 And damp the Dryad's shelf,
 My thoughts like drifting fairies
 Go far beyond myself.

Masquerade Held By Friendly Circle

The Friendly Circle had a Halloween Masquerade in the Sunday School room of Acton United Church on Wednesday, October 15. Everybody in costume was asked to parade around the room and the following winners were picked:

Best dressed gypsy, Mrs. B. Struthers; comic-Bitons the clown, Mrs. M. Nellis; unusual-night attire, Mrs. E. A. Currey; representative-devil, Mrs. F. Kentner; witch, Mrs. Olson.

The following won consolation prizes: Aunt Jennima, Mrs. L. Lovell; Mrs. G. McKeown; cat, Mrs. R. Johnston; Chinese, Mrs. S. Brunelle.

A devotional period followed with group 2 in charge. "Come, ye thankful people, come" was sung. The Scripture was read by Mrs. R. Everdell. Prayer was given by Mrs. J. Stewart, Sr. The period ended with singing, "This is My Father's World."

The business for the evening was discussed, conducted by the president, Miss Clara Grindley. The minutes of the September meeting were read by the secretary, Mrs. J. Stewart, Jr. The roll call was answered by each person saying something nice about the one sitting on her right. The treasurer's report was read by Miss Jean Harris in the absence of the regular treasurer, Mrs. C. Pickett.

The group in charge again took over the remainder of the meeting and conducted a few games and contests.

All the members were asked to bring a nickel to the meeting and the money was put in a small basket in the form of a pumpkin and it was given to Mrs. Kentner on the occasion of her 25th wedding anniversary.

The evening came to a close with the group in charge serving refreshments.

Show of Force Often Solvent

By Joseph Lister Rutledge

One sometimes wonders if, possibly, we haven't pinned our faith and hopes too closely to the proverb, "The soft answer turneth away wrath."

Essentially we know this to be true, but there are individuals and groups to whom it has a different connotation. To agree to permit some small aggression without resort in kind, may have a sound intent and still result disastrously. We had to fight a dreadful war to prove that Munich was a gesture of compromise, not of politeness. Hitler couldn't believe it. In his book people who were gentle and considerate were weak and craven. Joseph Stalin talks the same language. When he faces difficulties he gets tough, whether within his own country or without. That is the language he understands, and other language is wasted on him. It must even be admitted in sadness that sometimes groups among ourselves think the same way. So much as we cling to the idea, we have to admit that there are places where the soft answer serves disastrous ends.

Within the past few weeks, to take a specific example, four desperate criminals escaped from the Don Jail in Toronto. They were reportedly the toughest felons in Canada. They had proved it to the public by numerous hold-ups and bank robberies. Two of the number were facing charges of murder. Everybody expected bloodshed. The police of a continent were alerted and informed of the desperate character of the escapees.

And what happened? A couple of policemen, fully armed, walked into a barn where these desperadoes were hiding-out and rounded three of them up like so many sheep. Item 2. A lone policeman later walked in, rooted about and flushed the trigger-happy member of the gang accused of murder. No one of the four put up a protest.

Was all the build-up false? Were these desperadoes the police reports described, or just the timid punks of the recapture? There was no doubt that they were dangerous. There was no doubt of the courage of the men who took them. To that all their careers of crime bears witness. But there was another fact. They had no stomach for fighting with other armed men. They were tough when all the advantage was on their side, but otherwise they were just cheap hoodlums who did not dare face a single policeman supported by a "shoot to kill" order.

Maybe there are times even in our ordinary affairs when a show of force is better than a soft answer, for the efficacy of the soft answer depends on the full recognition that it isn't motivated by fear.

THE MIXING BOWL
 by Anne Allan



Hello Homemakers! Doughnuts and Hallowe'en are closely associated as far as we are concerned. A haunting memory of making doughnuts at this season reminds us of our first teaching experience when the class pleaded to make doughnuts in the cooking laboratory. Without asking permission each group trebled their given recipe in order that a sufficient number was made to take out of the classroom for a Hallowe'en party.

Well, that was the first and last time a class detained this teacher after school hours.

TAKE A TIP

To deep fat fry food:

1. Choose a deep heavy saucepan with straight sides. A wire basket with a handle that fits the kettle is a great convenience, otherwise a slotted spoon and fork will do.
2. About 1/2 inches of oil or melted fat is advisable providing two or three inches is allowed between fat and the top of pan to prevent boilovers.
3. Heat fat slowly. Drop one inch cube of day-old bread into it. If bread browns in 40 seconds the fat is ready for frying doughnuts.
4. Fry only one layer of doughnuts at a time, usually 3 in a three quart kettle.
5. Lower food slowly into the fat, the bubbling will soon subside. Allow about 3 minutes for doughnuts to brown on one side then turn each and cook on other side for about 2 minutes.
6. As soon as food is browned remove from fat and drain on absorbent paper—paper towel or napkins.
7. Skim off all food scraps to prevent smoke.
8. When frying is completed cool the fat or oil and store in cool place.

Afternoon Tea Doughnuts
 1 egg, well beaten
 2 tbsps. sugar
 1/2 tsp. salt
 3 tbsps. milk
 1 tbsps. melted shortening
 1 cup flour
 2 tps. baking powder
 Add sugar, salt and shortening to egg. Mix and sift flour and baking powder and add to first mixture. Force through pastry bag and tube (using small lady-finger tube) into deep fat and fry. Serve with Julienne-shaped pieces of cheese. Makes 18 to 20.

Raised Doughnuts
 1 cup scalded milk
 1 pkg. yeast dissolved in 1/4 cup lukewarm water
 1 tsp. salt
 1/2 cup butter and lard mixed
 1 cup light brown sugar
 2 eggs, well beaten
 1/2 grated nutmeg
 2 cups flour

Cool milk to lukewarm, add yeast cake in water, salt and flour enough to make stiff batter. Let rise overnight. Add melted shortening, sugar, eggs, nutmeg and flour. Let rise again. If too soft to handle, add more flour. Turn on floured board, pat and roll 1/4 inch thick. Cut out with biscuit cutter and tube between hands until round. Place on floured board, let rise 1 hour, turn, and let rise again. Fry.

Fritter Batter
 2 egg yolks
 1 cup milk
 1 tbsps. lemon juice
 1 tbsps. melted butter
 1 cup bread flour
 1 tbsps. sugar
 1/2 tsp. salt
 2 egg whites

Beat egg yolks; stir in water and milk. Beat in lemon juice, butter, sifted flour and sugar. Whip egg whites and salt and fold into batter.

Apple Fritters: Peel and core apples. Cut them crosswise in 1/4 inch slices. They may be soaked for 1 hour in lemon juice. Drain them. Dip in fritter batter. Fry in deep fat at 380 degrees. Drain on absorbent paper. Sprinkle with cinnamon and sugar.

Banana Fritters: Peel and cut into halves lengthwise. Dip bananas in fritter batter and fry in deep, hot fat.

Pineapple Fritters: Drain pineapple slices; dip in batter and fry until brown in deep, hot fat. Drain on paper napkins.

CAN DEMOCRACY LIVE IN NORTH AMERICA?

Democracy cannot exist in nations which do not preserve the natural rights of individuals and which fail to protect the political rights of minorities.

The choice of governments by ballot is only the beginning of democracy. If the elected representatives fail to discharge personally their responsibilities, democracy is impaired to the extent of their failure.

In Canada and the United States the majority of citizens have been deprived of their natural rights by their elected representatives who have given these rights into the keeping of the leaders of organized groups who are not responsible to the voters at large.

The basic right of any person to work wherever and whenever he may choose has been lost to most of the people of North America. An individual may work—only where and when the leaders of organized groups may decide from time to time. The economic life and fortune of the individual is now dictated by the will and whim of others.

The natural right of an individual to own, to produce and to buy and sell any lawful product to buyers of his own choosing, within necessary health standards and regulations to prevent fraud, has been taken from him and given into hands of others who may grant or withhold in their own interests.

The rights of free speech, free communication and free association are denied in varying degree, in many parts of Canada and the United States. Even the right to worship as one may choose is impaired by the failure of the law fully to protect free worship.

"Our Way of Life" which none can define and few can agree upon, has only the trapping of democracy. Real democracy does not exist in North America. We cannot defend what we do not possess.

Can a large measure of democracy live again in North America? If it cannot, with what are we replacing it? Dictatorship by ballot which denies the natural rights of the individual and entrusts the exercise of natural rights to irresponsible groups, is merely a voting totalitarianism.—John Atkins in Rural Scene.

AIR CRAFTY

One of the big transatlantic airliners recently took a group of writers and radio artists—all women—to Europe and the women, being the only passengers, made themselves completely at home. Several hours out, with the flying perfectly smooth, the loudspeaker intoned: "Everyone please return to your seats and fasten seat belts."

The women rushed to their places, followed instructions and sat tensely waiting developments. In a moment the door of the control room opened and the pilot emerged, surveyed them and smiled. "Now, I suppose, the men's room is clear."

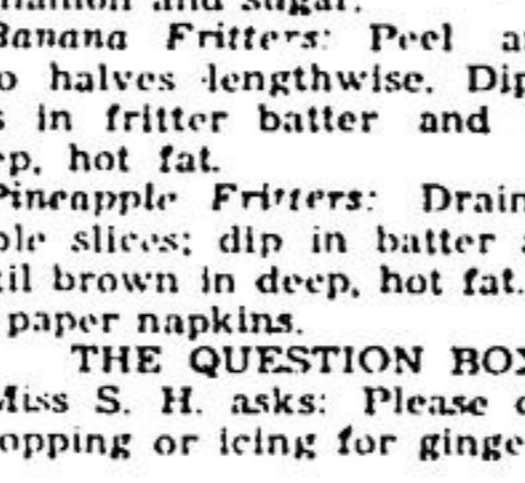
THE QUESTION BOX

Miss S. H. asks: Please describe a topping or icing for gingerbread?

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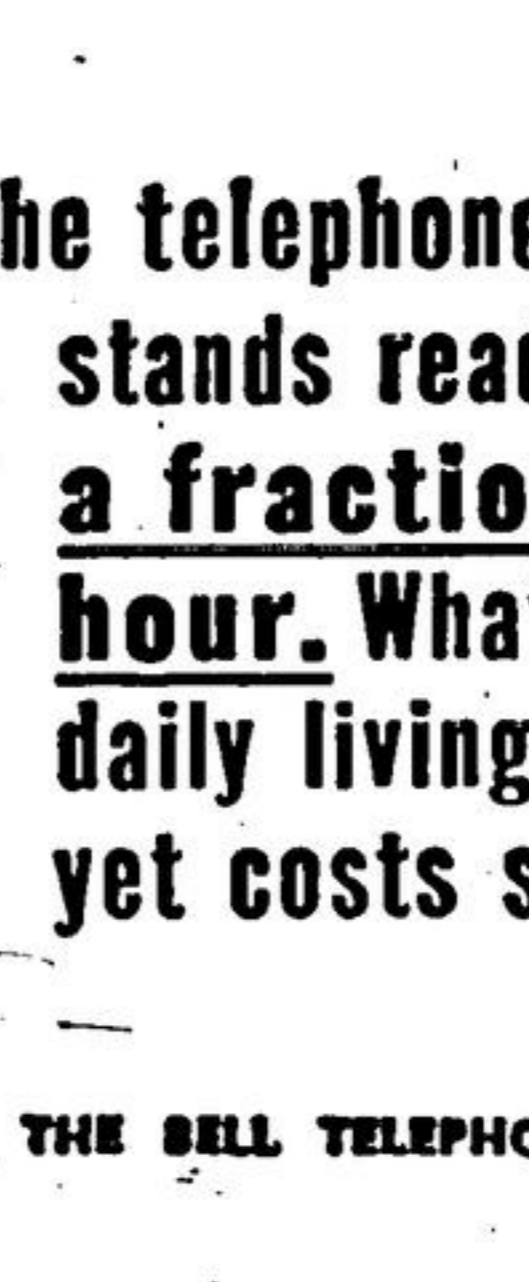
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