

The Home

VARIOUS RECIPES.

One way of Preparing Eggs.—Any one who has ever been ill has a realizing sense of how wearisome the eternal diet of broths and eggs may become and how necessary it is that everything should be prepared in as appetising a manner as possible. One good way of preparing an egg is to separate the white from the yoke, keeping the latter unbroken. Add a pinch of salt to the white and beat it to a stiff froth. Put it in a very small baking dish and drop the yoke in the centre. Place the dish in a hot oven for a few moments. Add a bit of butter and salt and pepper, if that is allowed.

Lemon Buns.—Have eight pounds of dough prepared and rub into it one-half pound sugar, one quarter pound lard, one-half pound finely cut lemon peel, lemon flavoring and egg coloring. Lighten the dough up with a little flour and place in a warm place until light. Weigh off into pieces of almost three ounces and mould up in the hands. Put on clean-greased flat tins and lightly wash over the top with egg. Set in a warm place to prove light and when nice and light put in a thin strip of lemon peel on each bun, also a little crystal sugar. Cook in a moderate heat.

Honey Scotch.—A tin of condensed milk, four ounces of glycerine, two ounces of honey and half a pound of sugar make a honey Scotch palatable and nutritious. Thin children supplied with these sweets derive benefit quickly, owing to the food elements of the milk and the fattening properties of the sugar and honey, the glycerine acting as a stimulating vehicle for the whole.

A Squash Pie.—One and one-half cups of sifted squash, one cupful boiling milk, one-half cupful of sugar, one-half teaspoonful salt, one saltspoonful cinnamon and one egg beaten slightly. This is enough for one pie, and if the mixture is too thick add a little more milk. If the squash is watery use less milk and two eggs. A squash pie should be firm enough to cut without any breaking down or coozing out of the filling when divided, this quality should be obtained more from the texture of the squash than from too great use of egg as a thickening agent. A squash pie rich with eggs is too much like a custard. When watery squashes are used and eggs are high a little powdered cracker may be added.

CUCUMBERS IN NOVEL WAYS.

The cucumber is a sadly-maligned vegetable, but when in good condition it is cooling and refreshing, and when cooked it is as harmless as a potato. For instance:

Fried Cucumbers are a new and satisfactory breakfast dish. Pare and slice very thin. Season with salt and pepper and dip in beaten egg, then in bread crumbs. Heat 2 tablespoons of dripping in a skillet, drop in the cucumbers and fry brown on both sides.

Stewed Cucumbers.—In 1 tablespoon of butter, fry a sliced onion until quite brown. To this add 6 cucumbers, pared, quartered lengthwise and all the seeds removed. When brown, take out carefully and rub a tablespoon of flour into the butter. Add 1-2 pt of soup stock, season with salt and pepper. Return the cucumbers, cover closely and stew gently for 20 minutes.

Creamed cucumbers on toast are a novelty that an epicure will appreciate. Pare and cut lengthwise into quarters 6 good-sized cucumbers. Soak in cold water 1-2 hour, drain, cover with salted boiling water and simmer 20 minutes. Meanwhile prepare several slices of thin buttered toast and arrange on a heated platter. In another saucepan blend together 1 tablespoon of flour, 1 tablespoon of butter, 1-2 teaspoon of salt and a dash of cayenne. Mix over the fire, adding 1-2 cup of rich milk and 1-2 cup of water in which the cucumbers are cooking. Stir until the sauce is thick and smooth, then simmer five minutes longer and put in 1 tablespoon of vinegar and 1 tablespoon of butter. Drain the boiled cucumbers, arrange on the toast and pour the white sauce over all.

Stuffed Cucumbers.—Have 6 green cucumbers and take out the seeds. Make a filling of 1-2 cup of bread crumbs, 2 tablespoons of boiled ham chopped very fine 1 tablespoon of minced parsley, 1 of chopped onion and salt and pepper to taste. Fill the cucumbers with this, tie two halves together, place in a covered pan with 1 cup of water and bake for 45 minutes. Serve hot with drawn butter.

On somewhat the same order are

SOMETHING QUITE NEW—

SALADA

CEYLON GREEN TEA

Same flavor as Japan, only more delicious.

green sausages. For these, pare and split large cucumbers and scrape out the seeds. Fill the halves with sausage meat and place, meat side up, in a rather deep pan, well buttered. Pour over them 2 tablespoons of water and bake slowly, adding more water if required.

Cucumber Salad.—Slice thin 3 fresh cucumbers and one onion. Lay them in cold salted water for 1-2 hour. Drain and pour over them 1-2 cup of vinegar into which has been stirred 1-2 teaspoon of sugar and a dash of pepper. Lastly add 1-2 teacup of rich cream, stir quickly and serve at once.

If one has a quantity of cucumbers they can be put up for winter use by slicing and placing in glass jars, pouring over them hot seasoned vinegar. Seal tightly.

THE CHINESE CALENDAR.

A Possible Reason Why the Dates in Table Despatches Are Sometimes Confusing.

The sojourner in the Far East is sometimes driven to wonder why the Chinese have a calendar at all. They view the passing of time with superb indifference, punctuality, if such a thing were ever to enter into the Celestial calculation, would be regarded as undignified. Nevertheless they have a calendar which is by no means a bad one when one considers its immense antiquity. A wise monarch named Yao some time about 2300 B.C. revised the calendar in use before that date to the form in which it is found at present. A volume would be needed to explain all its peculiarities, but now that despatches are mentioning Chinese dates it is well to have some idea as to wherein the Celestial calendar differs from the Gregorian.

THE CHINESE YEAR

is lunar, and therefore consists of 435 days. Before the time of Yao tradition has it that the year consisted of 360 days, and that confusion had resulted. That ruler decreed that time should be measured by the moon and that every nineteen years should contain seven additional months—almost one extra month every three years. This reckoning is excellent; it varies only about an hour every nineteen years from the true time.

Although the year is lunar, its beginning is regulated by the sun. Thus the new year comes between January 2 and February 6, unlike the Mohammedan new year, which is regulated entirely by the moon, and comes at any time, winter or summer. The year is divided into twelve lunar months, called by numbers, as first, second and so on. The extra month that comes about every three years is not added at the end, as one would suppose, but is inserted anywhere, probably according to some system too subtle for Western minds. The months are subdivided into three parts, which are not again subdivided, so that a Chinaman may speak of an event without mentioning the exact time within ten days. The days are also numbered, so that exactness may be secured if a Chinaman should ever happen to want such a thing. There is no week, but foreigners are gradually teaching the meaning of such a division. The Chinese hour is 120 minutes long, but in this instance again the foreigner is making some impression on the ancient custom, and the Chinese in and near the treaty ports are familiar with the Western method. It may be added, incidentally, that Pekin is just about twelve hours ahead of New York in point of time.

The Chinese gather the years together into cycles, as Occidentals do, but for some extraordinary reason the cycle consists of

SIXTY YEARS.

This cycle is very ancient and probably has something to do with old astrological superstitions. Another method of numbering years is by the reigns of the Emperors. The present year is the thirty-sixth year of the seventy-sixth cycle, or the year 4536 since the adoption of the present chronology.

Each year has a separate name, formed by some combination of ten "stem" characters, joined with twelve "branch" characters. These are used in an ingenious way that could be described only by a lengthy article, and would probably then be not quite intelligible to the Western mind. To go straight to anything is

impossible to the Oriental and the complicated system of naming the years is proof of Chinese ingenuity.

Of late years it has been supposed that the Chaldeans and Chinese had some intercourse at the time when Yao reformed the calendar, and that the two countries worked together in making the change. Certain it is that a similar event, occurred in Chaldea about the same time. But whenever the calendar was adopted it is likely for a long time to withstand the march of progress. It is correct enough, and the inconvenience does not worry the Chinaman in the least.

Georgy, on the warpath.—Say, Eddy, did Harry hit you? Eddy—No. Georgy—Did Jimmy hit you? Eddy—Nope. Georgy—Well, if nobody hasn't hit you, I will. I've got to lick some one.

Well, dad, cried the prodigal son flippantly, wouldn't you better go out and kill the fatted calf now? Yes, I guess I would, returned the old man slowly. One calf is enough to keep at a time.

Fuddy—They have a deal to say about the brotherhood of man, and yet wars and rumors of wars continue. Duddy—That's all right. There always has been more or less fighting in families.

Tess—So she's to marry the son of the wealthy Mr. Millyuns. How on earth did she manage to land him. I wonder? Jess—She's musical, you know, and so it's no trouble at all for her to catch an heir.

Proud Parent—If you call in the evening you probably will hear my daughter singing. Artless Friend—Oh, I shan't mind that. You ought to hear the fellow down our way practicing on the cornet. It is simply awful.

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of Dodd's Kidney Pills are legion. The box is imitated, the outside coating and shape of the pills are imitated and the name—Dodd's Kidney Pills is imitated. Imitations are dangerous. The original is safe. Dodd's Kidney Pills have a reputation. Imitators have none or they wouldn't imitate. So they trade on the reputation of Dodd's Kidney Pills. Do not be deceived. There is only one DODD'S. Dodd's is the original. Dodd's is the name to be careful about—

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INSTRUCTIVE

See the Man.
He is riding along leisurely on his bicycle.

A large dog is trotting still more leisurely ahead of him.

The man rings his bell.

When he hears that, he soliloquizes, he will turn out.

But the dog swerves not a hair's breadth, and the man runs into him and takes a hard fall.

This shows that things do not always turn out as we expect in this world.

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OMITTED THE ATTIC.

I am a self-made man, said the proud individual.

Well, you are all right except as to your head, commented the other part of the conversation.

How's that?
The part you talk with is out of proportion to the part you think with.

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ONE OF THE DIRECTORS.

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Well, I can. James is a splendid penman, and here is the news in his last letter. He has just finished directing 10,000 circulars.

THE REASON.

Askington—Why don't you get married, old fellow? Is it because you cannot afford it?

Borrowly, frankly—No; it is because the girl's father can't afford it.

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In the North-west has been suppressed and our citizens can now devote reasonable attention to their corns. The only sure, safe, and painless remedy is Putnam's Painless Corn Extractor. It never fails; never makes sore spots worse than the original discomfort. See that you get "Putnam's," and take none other.

ECONOMICAL PLEASURING.

City Cousin—I see the farm-house next to this one is closed. Why is that?

Rural Relative—Mrs. Hayfork, who lives there, has gone to the sea-side for the summer. She says it's cheaper than stayin' on the farm and feedin' city relations.

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Said the Other Shopper—What! Do you mean to tell me that stupid nurse has dared to bring out my little darling in such a day as this?

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THOUGHT SHE DID.

Mistress—Bridget, do you know what my husband will say when he finds you have broken his finest meerschaum pipe?

Maid crossing herself—I do, mom!

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