

Some Interesting Facts in Regards to Hallowe'en

Event to be Celebrated on Saturday Goes Back Many Centuries. Apple, Pumpkin, Cabbage Associated with Festivities on This Date. Some Recipes of Special Interest for Hallowe'en.

No farm—no Hallowe'en festivities. That is the position, although little thought may be given that the festivities of Hallowe'en and the farm, as the producer of the fruits of the earth, are inseparable. Certainly, the apple and the pumpkin, two farm products, are popularly associated with Hallowe'en, but the farm is also the supply base of all the necessary essentials of the feast. Even the humble cabbage, apart from its culinary purposes, has a peculiar significance at Hallowe'en, for do not some maidens sally forth in the

darkness of the night to the cabbage patch to pick a stem, in order to divine the characteristics of their future husbands? If the stem be tall, or short, or crooked, so shall their future husbands be.

The pumpkin as a Jack-o-lantern in the hands of a frolicsome lad is the improved Canadian edition of the humble Swede turnip in Europe, and to many a youth in Canada the pumpkin is the symbol of Hallowe'en par excellence, either for food or frolic; but after all the apple is more closely asso-

ciated with the feast than any other fruit or vegetable. There is a special reason for this. In pagan times, at the festival of Pomona, the goddess of fruit trees, nuts and fruits, particularly apples (poma) played an important part and originated the custom of roasting nuts, apple ducking, and the distribution of apples as gifts at this festive time. The Canadian boys who go from house to house asking for Hallowe'en apples are doing exactly what little boys in other countries did three thousand years ago.

When Adam was appointed to dress the garden of Eden and keep it (Genesis 11:15), the apple was fated to be of overwhelming significance to the whole human race. In this connection, the legend of the Apples of Paradise figured in the lore of ancient Egypt some 5000 years ago. These apples were said to show in their top-sided shape the outline where Eve had taken a generous bite. In this Egyptian lore, there was mention of other apples, the apples

of Istikhar, all sweetness on one side and bitterness on the other. In modern times, in the production of various kinds of apples, Canadian scientists have been and are in the forefront of world research.

In the Christian church, Hallowe'en or All Hallows Eve is the name given to the evening of the 31st of October as the vigil of Hallowmass, or All Saints Day. Before the Christian era, however, the eve of the 31st of October was the occasion of harvest and other ceremonies in various countries. The festivities which gradually gathered round the Christian Hallowe'en originated for the most part in countries under the sway of the Druid religion, notably Britain, plus a few indoor celebrations borrowed from the pagan Roman festival to the goddess of fruit.

The two chief characteristics of ancient Hallowe'en were the lighting of bonfires and the belief that Hallowe'en was the only night of the year in which ghosts, warlocks, witches, imps of the

earth and air, and evil spirits were permitted to wander on earth. On the 1st of November the Druids held their great fall festival and lighted fires to the sun-god in thanksgiving for harvest. It was a firm belief in the religion of the Druids that on the eve of this festival, Saman, lord of death, called together the wicked souls that had been condemned within the past 12 months to inhabit the bodies of animals. With regard to this belief it is interesting to note that in parts of Ireland, the 31st of October was, and even still is, known as Oidhe Shamhna, the vigil of Saman. In Scotland, bonfires, otherwise known as baal-fires, still are part of Hallowe'en celebrations, a relic of the worship of Baal. Some cynics declare that the evil spirits of old Druidical times still exist in the shape of thoughtless youths who overstep the mark of pure fun at Hallowe'en and cause injury to persons and damage to property.

While the apple still holds its premier

position in Hallowe'en festivities, particularly in Canada, pumpkin pie is also held in high esteem. At the same time there are other pumpkin delicacies, for example, pumpkin chips and candied pumpkin, in the making of which at Hallowe'en time the following recipes may be found useful.

Honey Pumpkin Pie
 1 cup cooked pumpkin
 1/2 cup honey
 1/2 teaspoon ginger
 1/2 teaspoon cinnamon
 1/2 teaspoon salt
 1 egg
 1 1/2 cups milk
 Press the pumpkin through a fine sieve, add salt, spices, and honey. Beat well. Add well-beaten egg; then the milk. Pour into a deep pie plate lined with pastry and bake at 450 degrees F. for ten minutes, then reduce heat to 325 degrees. Bake until custard is firm. Pumpkin custard is excellent for children and may be served when pie is served to adults. For the custard use

the above recipe, omitting the spices. Bake in custard cups.

Pumpkin Chips
 6 pounds pumpkin
 4 pounds sugar
 2 lemons
 1/2 ounce root ginger
 Cut the pumpkin up, rejecting the centre seeds and hard outside rind. Cut the pulp into small thin chips. Use only the juice and the rind of lemon. Put all together in a granite pot. Bring to a boil and boil slowly for two hours, taking great care to prevent burning. Remove ginger root. Put away in sterilized jars.

Candied Pumpkin
 Peel pumpkin. Remove seeds and cut in pieces one inch square. Weigh and add an equal weight of sugar. Let stand overnight. Drain. To each cup of syrup allow one teaspoonful of vinegar and a small piece of root ginger. Cook until the mixture coats upon the spoon. Add pumpkin and boil until the pumpkin has absorbed almost all the syrup. Drain thoroughly, then spread on plates to dry. When dry, roll in sugar, and pack between layers of waxed paper.

Baked Canadian apples, hot or cold, are always welcome at Hallowe'en parties. Here are three recipes:

Baked Apples 1
 Wipe, core and scour sour Canadian apples. Place them in an agate baking dish and fill centre of apples with sugar and 1 teaspoon lemon juice or sugar and cinnamon, using 1 teaspoon cinnamon to 1 cup sugar. Allow 1/2 cup water for 6 apples and pour it around them, not over them. Bake until the apples are soft, from 20 to 45 minutes, basting every 10 minutes. Place apples in a dish and pour the juice over them. When cold they may be served with or without plain or whipped cream.

Baked Apples 2
 Pare and core good uniform Canadian apples. Put into baking pan. Fill the centre of each apple with sugar and add a bit of butter on the top. Add enough water to cover the bottom of the pan. Cinnamon or nutmeg may be sprinkled on the top if desired. Bake in hot oven until soft, basting very often with the juice in the pan.

Baked Apples 3
 Pare and core tart Canadian apples. Fill the cavities with raisins, citron, sugar and lemon peel. Place in baking dish and pour over them 1/2 cup of water. Dust with granulated sugar. Bake in a slow oven until tender. Sprinkle with soft bread crumbs and sugar. Bake ten minutes and serve hot with cream or pudding sauce.

Another Stork Derby Is Threatened for Future

Those who have been soothing their founded feelings by thinking that the Millar Stork Derby will soon be over and so there will be an end to the unpleasant affair, have apparently another guess coming. Instead of the thing being over it seems that another one is threatened. One of the contestants in the present stork derby is understood to affirm that she is certain to win—that there is no chance of her losing. That may be bad enough, but there is worse to come. She threatens (that seems the only proper word from the public standpoint) to start another stork derby with some of the money from the present one. "I think it would be nice to give mothers who did not have a chance to win anything in the last ten-year period a chance for the next ten years," she is quoted as saying. This woman is credited, or otherwise, with having twelve children in the past ten years. She expects to get half a million or more from the provisions of the will of the late Charles Vance Millar, Toronto lawyer, who left this part of his fortune to the Toronto mother having the largest number of children born to her in the ten years immediately following his death. The woman who threatens to start another stork derby suggests that she will give a prize of \$100,000 or better to the mother bearing the most children in the ten years to come after she receives the half million or more. It is generally admitted that the late Mr. Millar placed this stork derby clause in his will because of his peculiar sense of humour. If people laugh where he is now, he certainly must be rocking with laughter at the mischief and the furore that his joke has caused and special chuckles will be his over the idea that some of the money is to be used to perpetuate the absurd contest.

Plenty of Roosevelts But Only One Landon

Politics sooner or later gets mixed up into everything in a United States presidential election and everything gets mixed up into politics. In New York they have even been consulting the geographies and the postal guide. One newspaperman in New York, as a result of close enquiry and research reaches the conclusion that there are many Roosevelts everywhere but only one Landon. He says:—"Everyone knows that Franklin D. Roosevelt and Albert M. Landon meet for the presidency in United States polling booths November 3, but do you know that—Voters can mark their ballots for Landon in Roosevelt, Ariz. Roosevelt Ark. Roosevelt, Minn., Roosevelt, Md., Roosevelt, N.Y., Roosevelt, Okla., Roosevelt, Texas; Roosevelt, Utah; Roosevelt, Wash.; Roosevelt, Wis.; Roosevelt Beach, Ore.; Roosevelt Rd., Ill.; Roosevelt Park and Roosevelt Square, Mich. But nowhere can you vote for Roosevelt in Landon, because there is no city or town by that name in the United States. However, there is an Alf, Ark., if you care for diminutives."

Fort Erie Times-Review—Hamilton police now have sirens—the mechanical kind. The office cynic suggests better results might be obtained in crook-catching if the kind with big black eyes and seductive voices were used.



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