

# NEXT 'SCHOOL OF COOKERY' APRIL 3—OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP PARISH

## Bridge Or Food?

The successful hostess can always be depended upon to provide an unusual and pleasant surprise for her guests. For instance, when the entertainment is bridge, she may to the surprise of everyone, announce that the bridge-playing will be cut short in favor of food and that it will be up to all the guests to prepare the spread. And for a bigger surprise and more fun, announce that the men will have to prepare it. Possibly to insure getting some edible food, you might prepare the major dish but, by all means leave the rest of it to the men.

You will be surprised how eager the men will be to "do their stuff" behind a kitchen apron. And no doubt they will demonstrate very forcibly that "the manly man" is the brood. But it will provide less fun and less self-defense, the men will have to eat what they have cooked.

Another plan is to let each guest bring the ingredients for some particular dish and when they arrive, turn them loose in the kitchen. However, you might check on each guest before the party so that there will be no possibility of several guests bringing the same food.

## Mortgages Pass 5 Billion Dollar Mark

Applications for FHA insurance of small-home mortgages have now exceeded \$5,000,000,000, Federal Housing Administrator Abner H. Ferguson announced.

Almost 1100,000,000 of small-home mortgage insurance applications were received during February, Mr. Ferguson said, and applications during the past week brought the cumulative total since the start of the program above the \$5,000,000,000 level. The number of applications is approximately 11,400,000.

During February, applications for FHA insurance of new-home mortgages showed increases over both the preceding year and the preceding month, Mr. Ferguson said.

**25 Per Cent Increase**

A total of 17,112 small-home mortgages aggregating \$782,400 covering new homes to be constructed under the FHA program were selected for appraisal during February. This represented an increase of 25 per cent in number and 23 per cent in amount over February, 1940, when 13,718 home mortgages totaling \$438,725 were selected for appraisal.

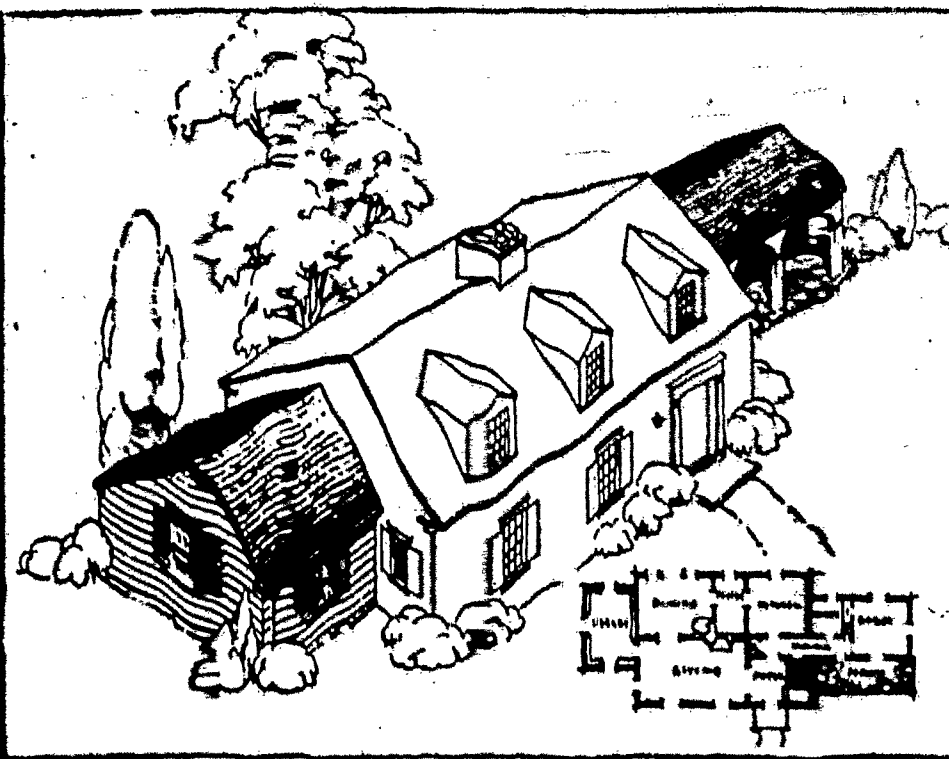
The volume of new-home mortgage insurance applications selected last month was 18 per cent larger than the 14,524,000 applications selected in January, Gaines reported.

New-home construction started under FHA inspection last month showed a gain of 19 per cent over a year ago. The increase was 27 per cent in January over 1940.

The average weekly figure on new homes started under FHA inspection during February was 2,112, compared with 2,291 in January and 2,045 in February, 1940. These figures exclude new small homes financed by loans insured under Title I of the National Housing Act.

Property improvement and modernization loans insured under Title I also showed gains over last year. A total of \$1,184,100 in loans in the amount of \$2,864,719 were reported for insurance during February, compared with \$2,390,479 in January and \$1,261,476 in February, 1940.

## Additions Increase Value and Appeal



The addition of a single room to an old house will often result in greatly increased value and all the difference between a cramped inefficient arrangement and an adequately convenient one. Such an addition can be designed to harmonize with the existing house—so become a part of it and increase its attractiveness.

Expansion in this form of a new sun porch, great room and bath, or library is possible with funds obtained from qualified lending institutions under the Modernization Credit Plan of the Federal Housing Administration.

## Advise Serious Selection of Mechanical Equipment

The average individual selecting mechanical equipment for modernization of a home or for installation in a new home is faced with great variation as to type, make, and items of equipment, FHA officials say.

Because of this it is all too easy to lose sight of the fundamental purposes of the equipment, with a resulting selection poorly suited to house, pocketbook, and convenience requirements. Under the FHA's Modernization Credit Plan a way is provided for the financing by lending institutions of home installations.

Mechanical differences are often of minor importance in comparison with the reliability of the Social from selling and installing the selected items of equipment, FHA officials say.

The home should be equipped mechanically up to the standard set by other homes of like quality and age and site in the neighborhood in order to maintain the value of the whole property. However, FHA officials warn, equipment added over and above this standard may appear desirable to the immediate user, but in case of resale, over-equipment may tend to lower, rather than raise, the value because of differences in human desires and obsolescence in equipment.

## Home Orientation Deserves Study

The rooms of a house should be located to receive the sun, and prevailing winds, Federal Housing Administration planning authorities declare.

The living room, they say, should be bright, cheerful and have plenty of sunlight and fresh air. The best view from its windows. Morning sunlight is generally desirable for dining space. The kitchen should be located to avoid as much direct exposure to the sun as possible.

Bedrooms should have sunlight some time during the day and be favored by exposure to the prevailing Summer winds at night.

You Can Win Prizes at the 'School of Cookery'

## Better Homes & Better Living

Q. Should a combination of different materials such as brick, wood, or stucco be used for the exterior walls of a small house?

A. To combine different materials successfully on the exterior of a small house requires considerable skill on the part of the designer. Since simplicity in design tends to increase the apparent size of a house, avoid using too many different materials which contrast in color and texture and break up the exterior into small units. By the use of a single color different materials can be used to provide variety, maintaining the appearance of size.

## Landscaping Service

## CHAPTER II Hybrid Tea Roses

Just mention roses and what a riot of beauty is brought to mind. What a range of colors are now available in the latest creations of the leading rosarians of the world.

In the selection of varieties to be planted on the home grounds, there are several important facts to take into consideration and it is a brief article will bring to your attention the most important of these so that if our readers follow these suggestions, they will have the maximum of success with their roses.

**Many Varieties**

There are available at the present time in commerce, hundreds of named varieties of hybrid tea roses. (Hybrid tea roses are those that bloom continuously from June until frost in this climate.) Of course many of the varieties have entered the public eye in that they are extremely unimpaired by later creations. They are not alone out of date as to coloring, shape, petalage, etc., but they lack the disease resisting qualities of the newer creations as well as those more attractive foliage to be found on these newer introductions.

There has been a complete color range available in hybrid tea roses for a number of years so that the greatest efforts of the hybridizers and rosarians has been to produce varieties that will have the utmost in perfection in shape of bloom, highly disease resistant foliage, etc., but don't let anyone tell you that a totally insect resistant rose bush has been developed as fortunately yet, we say "fortunately" such a bush has not been produced and the reason we believe it is fortunate is because of the care required to combat insect life on roses we give them the attention they deserve which is more than repaid by the roses themselves with better blossoms and foliage.

**Location Vital**

It is also an important matter as to where hybrid tea roses are planted for them to do their best. Protection from strong west and north winds is very desirable, good drainage is most important, and planting rose bushes other than by themselves is usually very unadvisable.

The proper pruning of hybrid tea roses is a very important consideration but not more so than the proper timing of "blowing" during the blooming season. Hybrid tea roses can be materially weakened and the future blossoms made greatly inferior by lack of knowledge as to the proper method of picking the beautiful covers.

**Plant Early**

It is very important in the spring planting of hybrid tea roses that the stock be planted as early as possible so that the bushes will thoroughly establish their root systems before the blooming period commences. In this climate, planting usually starts about April 15th and continues until about May 15th and the earlier in that period the bushes are planted, the better the results will be the first year.

Just a word regarding quality. There are four grades of rose bushes offered the public. No. 1 is a bush that has five or more principal canes. No. 2, three to five principal canes. No. 3, less than three principal canes and culms which are offered at very low prices usually for "cheap" and very cheaply they are hardly worth anything at all as the intensity of the season in which they are offered, label them as an extreme value just as to the best of the somewhat the first summer, usually die the first winter due to their very great weakness and late planting.

If you are contemplating the planting of a rose garden, whether only a few bushes or a formal rose garden, phone or write for our Landscape Consultant to call and advise you as to the best of the newer varieties, their best location for the bushes on your home grounds and how to prune and pick the flowers for best results. In this way you will get the very utmost from your investment and your bushes will produce a multitude of gorgeous flowers, year after year.

There is absolutely no charge for consultation for this service, but write to the CATHOLIC COURIER, 26 Chestnut St., or phone Metro 1-1111.

## A "Flying" Party

Airplane has taken the world by storm. So why not let it take your next party? Loads of fun and you'll be talked about as one who knows how to show guests a good time.

Send your invitations out on toy balloons enclosed, deflated in small cardboard boxes. The invitation is written on the balloons in white ink and can be read only when the balloons are inflated. A little white tag tied to the balloon could carry the following instruction: "You need not talk, and so do I. So blow me up and I'll give you the story. The news printed on the balloons would read: 'Fly over to my house next Wednesday night about 8:30 and get in on a great show.'"

Decorate your table after the fashion of a landing field and be sure to have a lot of toy airplanes on the table. Above the table spread a larger plane and during the supper, take a miniature model plane from this plane and deliver a message to each of the guests. For a novelty dance, make a parachute out of a toy umbrella and hand it to one of the boys. He may cut it on any couple of them. Show the young lady and hand the parachute to her partner, who has the right to cut it in another couple.

A Balloon Race affords enjoyment. Inflate balloons with gas and weigh them so they will not get away. Divide the guests into two relay teams and arm each guest with a ping-pong racket with which they guide their balloons over a given point and back when they turn the balloon over to the next person on their team.



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**GARDENER'S CORNER**

## START LAWN WORK NOW

Early spring feeding and seeding gives best results. With the rigors of winter over, gardeners can utilize to good advantage the changing conditions brought about by alternate thawing and freezing of the ground in fertilizing the lawn and sowing seed now. Time is then conserved for other planting activities when the last frost has passed.

During winter, grass has gone into cold storage, may even have lost its pristine freshness and color, but if the sod was kept in good condition the previous year, it will have continued to grow through any thin areas should be reseeded now. Good Lawn Food and Seed.

Feeding should be done prior to seeding a new lawn area or prior to reseeding patches in an established lawn. Preferably a commercially prepared lawn food should be applied at this time of year so that nature's changing temperatures will carry the fertilizer in available form down to the root zone in order that growth may be promptly stimulated.

Fertilizing the ground and then sowing the seed is an ideal procedure. The last of winter's light snow, or even after that has passed, is fast becoming a favorite practice among gardeners according to experts of the D. M. Scott & Sons Co., who have made a nationwide check on seeding practices on both large estates and small properties.

In the early spring the soil is homogeneous and an ideal sowing place is found to be naturally prepared for the seed which is then worked into the ground as a result of alternate thawing and freezing of the ground. This is the best time to sow seed effectively than could be done by raking.

Whether planning the new lawn or reseeding one already established, low, flat-cast lawn seed should be avoided. They are apt to contain coarse, inferior grasses as well as a percentage of weed seeds.

**Even Seeding**

From four to six pounds of high quality seed per 1,000 square feet is adequate to produce a solid turf. Half the quantity should be sown lengthwise of the area and the remainder crosswise so that the most even distribution possible of the seed is obtained.

Responsible seed houses have spent huge sums of money to ensure that their customers have only the best possible grade of germination-tested, weed-free seed. If one is far-sighted and looks to a lessening of lawn care problems and a better lawn throughout the year, perennial rather than annual seed, packaged by a reputable house, should be purchased. Most of the difficulty with lawns on small properties lies in poor quality seed, insufficient fertilizer, and bad maintenance technique; all of which could be avoided if more care and forethought were exercised in these matters.

**Advantages of Early Seeding**

A subsequent survey over several years by the Research Department of D. M. Scott & Sons Co. reveals that the practice of early seeding and seeding with good quality products has yielded lasting beneficial results.

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