At Home With Trudy McNall

An Easy Spring Buffet

Spring is a wonderful time for entertaining and a buffet is one of the easiest and pleasantest ways to fete your friends. The spring buffet can be as casual or as formal as you wish and the menu can be such a number of things that there is lots of room for your imagination to go to work.

An easy spring buffet menu is provided when you serve an arrangement of cold cuts, cheeses and sliced tomatoes with one hot dish. This is a good rule to remember, for even though the weather is warm and cold foods are certainly the order of the day, one hot dish adds contrast and interest.

The suggestion I have for you is a delicious vegetable casserole to go along with the cold cuts, cheese and tomatoes. I'm sure you'll be impressed when you try this recipe for Escalloped Onions.

The onion is neglected because it is not often used in a great variety of ways, but too often is related to the seasoning department only. There are so many good ways to serve the onion as a vegetable . . . escalloped, stuffed, in stews and salads to name a few.

Escalloped Onions can be prepared ahead of time and then popped into the oven until bubbly and hot.

ESCALLOPED ONIONS

6 medium onions (3 cups sliced)
3 T. butter
1 c. diced celery
2 T. butter
2 T. flour
1 t. salt
1/8 t. pepper
1½ c. rich milk
½ c. pecan halves
Paprika
Parmesan cheese

Wash and peel onions; cut into thin crosswise slices and saute in 3 T. butter in skillet. Remove onion slices from pan. Add 2 more T. butter and salt. Blend in salt and pepper. Gradually add milk and cook over low heat, stirring constantly until thickened. While sauce is cooking, cook diced celery, covered, in small amount of boiling water until just tender; drain. Place onions, celery and pecans in alternate layers in buttered baking dish.

Cover with cream sauce, sprinkle with grated Parmesan cheese and paprika; bake at 350 degrees until bubbly and hot, or about 20 to 30 minutes. Makes 6 servings. Just as the narcissus and the amaryllis arrive with the spring, so the lowly onion, a member of the same family is arriving in excellent supplies from the west. You can always tell onions, even in the dark and that characteristic flavor is exactly what we like about them. Ever since Biblical times the onion has been a magic wand for homemakers and chefs.

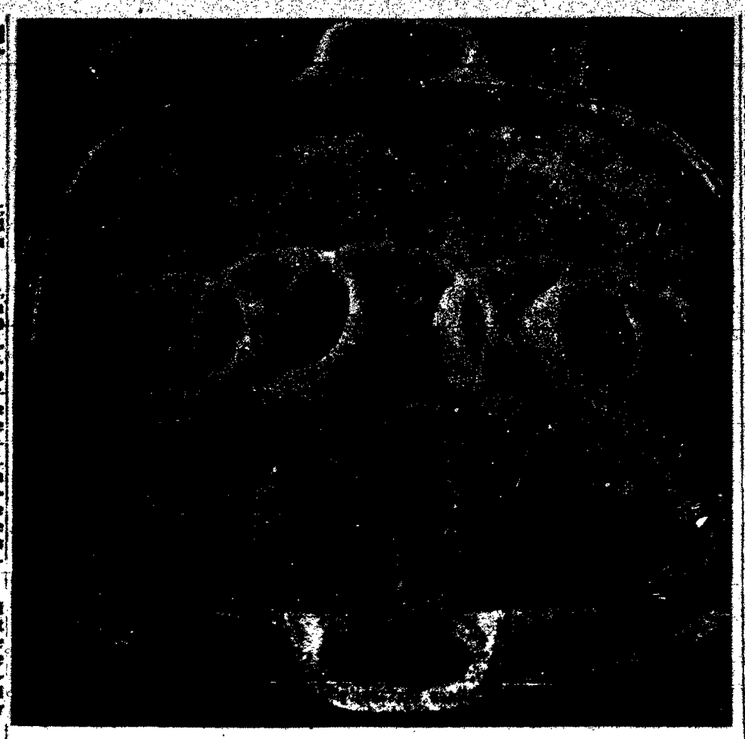
Serve some crunchy bread sticks along with this buffet and for dessert here is a recipe for a brand new kind of ice cream pie, that needs only refrigeration (not freezer) and can also be made even a day ahead if you wish.

Before I give you the recipe for the pie I want to clear up a problem that some of my TV viewers have written about and that is the difference between Onion Salt, Onion Powder, Onion Flakes, and Onion Juice and how to use them. Onion Salt, is a mixture of salt, dried onion powder and preservatives. It is usually sold in a handy 2 ounce shaker bottle and can be used like common table salt. Onion Powder is dehydrated and ground onion. 1 teaspoon of this powder is equivalent to one medium onion. Onion Juice contains salt and a small amount of preservative. It is convenient for seasoning meats, soups, gravies, salads and canned foods. Onion Flakes or Instant Minced Onions are dehydrated onions which are ready to use in place of chopped onion. They need no preliminary cooking when added to hot dishes such as casseroles. 1 tablespoon is equal to a 1½ inch onion chopped.

STRAWBERRY ICE CREAM PIE

1 c. milk
1 pint strawberry ice cream
1 package strawberry instant pudding mix
1 baked 9 inch pie shell

Combine milk and ice cream in mixing bowl. Blend until smooth. Add pudding mix and beat slowly with egg beater until just well mixed, about 1 minute. Pour immediately into May 9th my Home Cooking Pie crust. Chill until set — gram on WROC-TV will move about 1 hour. Makes 6 to 8 servings. Hope you'll tune in to a new time. Note: For variation use in daily Monday through Friday vanilla instant pudding instead from 9:30 until 10:00. Until of strawberry and any flavor of them tune in at my regular ice cream you prefer. Note: On time each day from 2:30 until 3.



"Olympics" Slated To Help Missions

St. Louis — (NC) — Foreign missions will be the beneficiaries of the biggest Catholic high school sports event ever staged in the St. Louis archdiocese.

An Olympic track and field festival will be held May 15, with all of the 41 private and parochial Catholic high schools in the archdiocese competing.

PATTERNED AFTER the Olympics to be held this summer in Rome, the event will be the first in which all local Catholic high schools will take part.

The event will be sponsored by the Society for the Propagation of the Faith in cooperation with the Catholic High School Office. Proceeds will go to the society's mission fund.

SPIRITUAL EXERCISES AT THE CENACLE

Spiritual exercises will be conducted at the Cenacle Retreat House, 693 East Ave., Rochester, during the month of May as follows:

RETREATS:

May 6 - 8 St. Raphael's Guild, Professional Women — Rev. Brendan C. Connolly, S.J.
May 13 - 15 Legion of Mary — Rev. John Havas, S. J.
May 20 - 22 Hornell and General — Rev. John McAsey, C.S.Sp.
May 22 - 26 Cenacle Religious in Retreat.

DAYS OF RECOLLECTION:
9:45 a.m. to 3:45 p.m.

May 5 St. James Rosary Society — Rev. Brendan C. Connolly, S.J.
May 19 McQuaid Mothers and General — Rev. John McAsey, C.S.Sp.

GUILD MEETINGS:

1st Tuesday, May 3 — St. Raphael's Guild — Professional Women — 7:00 p.m. — Rev. Joseph L. Hogan.
2nd Monday, May 9 — Condare Guild — Business Girls — 7:00 p.m. — Rev. Albert J. Shannon.
2nd Wednesday, May 11 — St. Regis Guild — High School Girls — after school — Rev. Robert M. Egan.
2nd Thursday, May 12 — Eucharistic Guild — 9:15 a.m. Mass — Very Rev. Charles J. Lavery, C.S.B.
3rd Monday, May 16 — Our Lady of the Cenacle Guild — Business Women — 7:00 p.m. — Rev. John Havas, S.J.
3rd Wednesday, May 18 — St. Lucy Guild — for the Blind — 7:30 a.m. — Rev. John J. Paret, S.J.
May 2 — Retreat League Executive Council — 8:00 p.m.

SUNDAY, MAY 29 — FEAST DAY SERMON, BENEDICTION in Garden — 3:00 p.m.

Eucharistic Unit Bus Trip Planned

A four-day bus trip to Washington, D.C., on May 12-13-14-15 will be sponsored by the Holy Family Eucharistic League.

Highlight of this trip will be Mass on Sunday morning as a group, at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception followed by a guided tour of the shrine and the Franciscan Monastery.

Hattie M. Statt Requiem Offered

Funeral services for Miss Hattie M. Statt of 31 Manda Ter., who died Saturday, April 9, 1960, were held at the August M. Maier Funeral Home and in St. Bridget's Church on Tuesday, April 12. A solemn Requiem Mass was celebrated by her nephew, the Rev. Thomas R. Statt of Canandaigua, N. Y., assisted by Rev. Gerald T. Brennan, as Deacon, and Rev. Francis Vogt, Sub-deacon. Rt. Rev. Msgr. John M. Duffy was present in the sanctuary.

Besides her nephew, Father Statt, Miss Statt is survived by three brothers, Ernest L., Cyril J., and Ray W. Statt; one sister, Mrs. Lawrence A. Wegman; several other nieces and nephews.

Interment was made in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery where the final blessing was given by Father Statt and Father Brennan.

Oratorical Winner Named

Susan Kennedy was the winner of the school oratorical contest, April 12, at Our Lady of Mercy High School. Her speech on Exploiting the Teen-ager won for her the right to represent Mercy in the Bishop's Oratorical contest at McQuaid Jesuit High School, May 12.

Competing also in the school contest were sophomore Patricia Carroll, who spoke on Outer Space; junior Sheila Dwyer, America; senior Nancy Florin, Television; junior Suzanne Klingler, Prejudice; and sophomore Wendy Lesniak, Red China.

Zito Given Latin Honors

Joseph A. Zito, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph V. Zito, 1705 Creek St., and a student at Fordham University, has been chosen as one of his school's top Latin scholars and enrolled in the Horatian Academy.

St. Bernard's Grad Lists European Tour

A European tour to visit Catholic shrines will be headed by Rev. Joseph Kane, a St. Bernard's Seminary graduate and now a curate at Immaculate Conception Cathedral, Syracuse.

Mission Schools Crowded

Tachay, Ill. — (NC)—Catholic schools are proving one of the Church's most effective public relations ventures in a west-central Indian diocese, the See's missionary bishop believes.

This is the opinion of Bishop Francis Simons, S.V.D., of Indore, India. Bishop Simons, a native of the Netherlands, discussed the influence of the Catholic schools in an interview during a visit to the Divine Word Fathers' U.S. headquarters here.

The Bishop, whose diocese covers 42,000 square miles in which Catholics are a small minority, said that in the eight years since he took over direction of the See he has devoted major attention to developing Church-operated schools.

THE EFFORT has paid off, he said. At first, Non-Catholic parents were extremely reluctant to enroll their children in the Catholic schools. Now the reverse is true, and they are eager to pay the one rupee — 21 cents — monthly tuition cost.

A reputation for good discipline and high teacher competence explains the popularity of the Catholic schools, Bishop Simons said.

Even high-caste Hindus and Moslems, including local nobility and government officials, send their children to the Catholic schools, he reported. There is no segregation on caste lines in the schools and the children of all social levels mingle freely and without hesitation, he said.

BOOK SHELF

Music and Love

By SISTER MARGARET TERESA
Nazareth College

Night Music, by Sven Stolpe. Sheed '60. 234 pp. $4.50.
Through Dooms of Love, by Karl Stern. Farrar, Straus, & Cudahy '60. 433 pp. $4.95.

Swedish author Sven Stolpe has a special vision of a man to impart, and despite a certain unreality of background — a kingdom of Graustark within minutes of falling under Communist control, yet saved—he succeeds in imparting it.

He wishes to say that character is complex, that appearances are deceiving, that one must get below the first layer and the second, to find the real person. Even below the third layer sometimes.

Furthermore, the close relations of his characters are made to show that deceptive appearances may fool brother and sister, father and mother, husband and wife, fiances, and the individual—and this over a long period of time, and without specific intent to deceive, until misjudgment is a fixed habit and a trap, a tragedy. The Communist villains of the story do less harm than do the long-cherished blindnesses of pride; in fact the villains serve the purpose of God quite directly.

MORE THAN this: Stolpe would say that people do not learn very much very fast, even when forced to total reversal of their false judgments. They go doggedly off down the wrong streets again, they bungle, they misjudge.

They never find God. He finds them. They run counter to His lavish inspirations, and He keeps on inspiring, turning them round to Him. He does all. In this view, Stolpe moves on surer ground than Mauriac, makes a happier synthesis than Benanos.

For God's ministry to souls, there is the unmasterful monk of his story, clear-sighted, tactless, putting his foot in it constantly but with humble fidelity not ceasing his work on that account; worldly looking, little understood, truly God's man. God uses too the pompous, blustery, blind Prime Minister, really timid, really brave enough to destroy himself for his King—a stylized, gay, Graustarkian king who, however, knows himself to have a single value, the symbolic.

Psychiatrist Karl Stern in Through Dooms of Love is above all hopeful, kind, tender toward suffering humanity. While his story features the life of an expatriate father and daughter in America, his concern is with all the lonely folk, the isolated, those uprooted by disasters within the family, resentments dimly understood and slowly resolved, love denied in one generation and demanding fulfilment in another.

The world of things and the world of nature are taken account of in Stern's work; they are functional, God-intended. "The quiet scenery in front of him (was) the expression of something anarchic and guilt-laden."

It is Christ the Divine Hunter, the Sufferer, the Beggar, who comes slowly into perspective in Stern's story. "He haunts me," says the little doctor. And in another place, "He can produce Love out of anything. He alone has the secret, the recipe for creating. If you don't use His recipe, the stuff grows into terror . . . Without Him it's a nightmare, a continuous nightmare."

There is a wholeness in this story that satisfies, that comes back later as right, true. Marianne's aristocrat father has had to fill his emptiness with learned hobbies, but in suffering, he stumbles on one needier than he, a wordless, helpless cripple who turns to him. The focale of the story is a vast mental hospital, but it is not a dreary place. It is a place where the healer's art is practiced — on patients, doctors, visitors — by man and God, man with God. Marianne's love-story, too, requires and receives the Healer's art.

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THE WEEKLY NOTE FROM MR. PEPSI:
The blind man asks me what I see, and I say, "I see what you see, for the fingers of my understanding are no more feeling than yours."
And the cripple asks me about the joy of running, and I say, "Your least motion is my mile race."
And the deaf mute motions me of sounds of music and, touching his shoulder we both hear a symphony.
And the rich man, standing before a mirror, asks me what I see, and I say I see only a mirror.
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