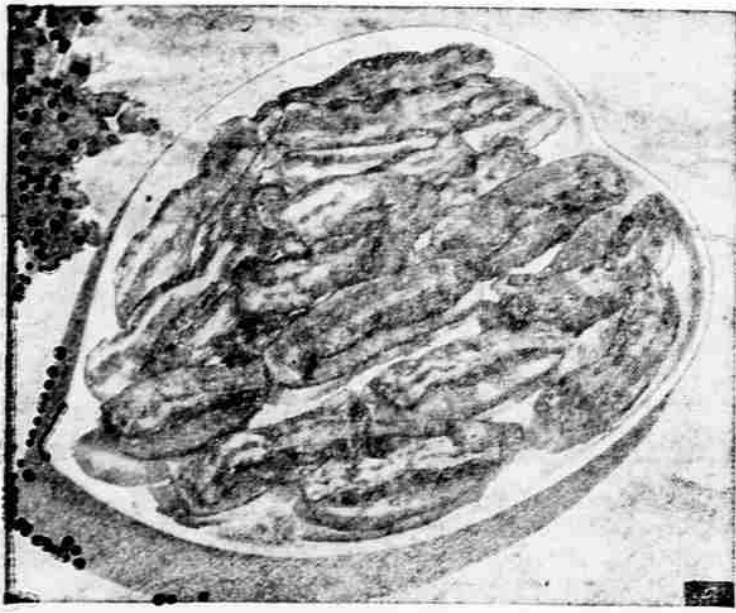




Bacon Sweet Potato Bake

A bacon and sweet potato bake is a real "filler-upper" for hungry tree trimmers or holiday guests. Baking the bacon is a trick worth remembering when you have quite a crew to feed. Place the slices of bacon on a rack in a baking pan. In an oven set at 400 degrees it will take 10 to 15 minutes to crisp the bacon, and this is the same length of time required to glaze the sweet potatoes.

Use 1/2 pound bacon, 6 sweet potatoes, 1 orange, juice and grated rind, 1 cup brown sugar. Cook sweet potatoes until just tender and remove the skin. Cut lengthwise slices 1/2 inch thick and arrange in one layer in a shallow pan. Combine grated rind of orange, brown sugar and enough orange juice to make a consistency to spread over sweet potatoes. Place slice of bacon on a rack in a baking pan. Bake the potatoes and bacon in a hot oven (400 degrees) 10 to 15 minutes. Serve two strips of bacon on each slice of potato.

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Bridals Original Say Color May Replace White for Gowns

By DOROTHY FLANDERS

United Press Correspondent
St. Louis—Two brothers, who ran a bridal gown business, happily say, "We are destroying our own market."

"We can only hope each customer is so pleased she will never buy another bridal gown," said Vincent Nania.

He and his brother, Jake, launched Bridals Original, when they returned from Army service after World War II and found their Italian-born mother trying to fill orders of clamoring brides-to-be.

Mrs. Rose Nania had operated a ready-to-wear shop in St. Louis, but her ability as a seamstress was spread by relatives and friends who wore gowns she had made. With her help Vincent and Jake made up a line of gowns and sold their wares to department stores throughout Illinois.

Today, Vincent said, the firm is the largest in the nation supplying moderately-priced gowns. Always On Time

Production is geared solely to a girl's wedding date and red-flagged gowns take precedence over the rest. Each seamstress has strict orders to work on the "critical" orders first.

The brothers say they have never missed a wedding.

"We can't afford to," Jake said. "Why, agitated brides have been known to cancel weddings because the gowns did not arrive."

But the firm came close once. To avoid the tragedy of a bride without the gown she wanted, the brothers reserved a seat on a plane for the package. The reservation, Vincent recalled, cost more than the dress.

Styles for brides are changing as fast as new designs are accepted, Vincent said. Not even the traditional bouffant skirt is intact. Gone is the slipper satin of yesteryear. Gone, too, are the aisle-wide train and the floor-length skirt. Traditional white is being shoved aside.

Party Gets Bigger

The brothers Nania said this year's bride has new ideas about weddings—and enough attendants to wear every color in the rainbow. While wedding gowns are getting shorter, the bridal party is growing longer.

Jake said bride's dresses usually are three popular lengths—ballerina, waltz and with the chapel sweep. The latter bows to tradition with an 18-inch train on the skirt.

Jake said today's bride prefers the shorter gown but the longer wedding party. Attendants average between six and eight, and go as high as 10.

With that many women in the party, he added, everyone can have her favorite color. The bride may lead the procession in pale pink or blue. This year, she may choose a new champagne color, a light beige usually over white satin.

The brothers said mass production of bridal gowns could not exist without one of the miracle fabrics, nylon and the firm of Bridal Originals are about the same age. In comparison, only a small part of the firm's gowns are turned out in imported French silk lace. The modern gown usually is a combination of both.

College To Produce Cinderella

Ashland—The first reading rehearsal for the winter term production of "Cinderella" has been held, according to Dr. Dorothy Stolp, director of the children's theater play for Southern Oregon college.

Double casting of the production was made necessary by the large response of students wishing to act and the numerous performance dates. "Cinderella" will be played on campus February 13, 14, 15 and after the production here will be produced on the stage of the Craterian theater in Medford under the sponsorship of the Medford American Association of University Women. Tentative plans are being made to stage the production at some location in Ashland for the grade school children of the city.

First and second cast roles have been filled in all but two roles. Cast of the production are as follows: (first cast members are followed by members of the second cast) Cinderella, Gay Eskridge and Pat Leek; first sister, Barbara Cox and Elizabeth Betschart; second sister, Kathryn Stewart and Marjorie Osgood; mother, Florence Moore; prince, Dick Swinney and Harold Setzer; Roland, Peter Lungreen and John Converse; fairy godmother, Suzanne Burk and Janet Anderson; Gafalon, Eldon Francis and Kermit McLemore; Curdick, Steven Wisely and Richard Puhl; Felicia, Myrtle Converse and Sharon Rogers; queen, Audrey Hite; page, Irma Penwell.

Nellieann Roseberry and Myrtle Converse are assistants to the director with Gayle Hodgins and Sharon Rogers are filling the position of rehearsal secretaries.



Make it an old fashioned family Christmas and let the children help make these simple tree ornaments using Christmas Seals, gummed seals and stars, bits of ribbon, and pieces of gift wrapping paper. They were designed by the Dennison Manufacturing Co. to help you use all the Christmas Seals you buy to help the fight against tuberculosis.

Mail Order Business Soaring

By JEANNE LESEM

United Press Staff Correspondent
New York—A friend of ours isn't worried about the Christmas rush. She's shopping by mail for gifts—and Christmas dinner, too.

This is the peak season for the food mail order business—most of it ordered for gifts. But often you'll find a housewife shopping for her own holiday meals, as well. Some firms do business solely by mail. Others are fancy food stores with mail order departments. And a growing number of fine restaurants, such as New York's Cafe Chambord, are opening retail shops to sell frozen, canned and bottled specialties both by mail and over the counter.

Fast as the field seems to be growing, spokesmen are reluctant to estimate its size in dollar value.

500 Companies
"But the sales pattern has changed in this supermarket era," said Jack McDonnell, president of the Epicures Club, one of the largest mail order houses. Supermarkets and independent stores are concentrating more on the budget shopper, he said, and leaving gift and gourmet needs to mail order merchants.

McDonnell estimated that there are some 500 companies and individuals that sell food solely by mail. The number, he explained, fluctuates because the field is highly competitive and only top quality products and services survive.

He launched his company in 1946, when war-time shortages were no longer a problem, and today claims a customer list of one-quarter million persons.

A typical newcomer to the mail order food field is a New York firm, Suzanne-Crue, that opened this fall. Like the much larger Epicures Club, this company markets under one label premium quality products made by a variety of cooks.

High Income Area
It plans to concentrate on mail orders for foods like Grandma used to make—and a few Grandma never dreamed of. In the old-time category are sunshine preserves, cooked only by the sun in glass trays on a Maine farm. Modern products include a lime salad dressing and bite-size cognac cakes (fruit and nut confections).

In addition to those firms which sell a variety of products there are others dealing in only one type of food, including fresh fruit, cheeses, seafood, or poultry and smoked meats, either cooked or raw.

Who buys all this by mail? McDonnell said sales follow the income level of a community. More and bigger orders come from high income areas.

But Philip Rosen, managing director of the Cafe Chambord, said most of the biggest orders come from west of the Mississippi, many of them from California.

So—wherever you live, the chances are you'll find at least one food gift under your Christmas tree this year, bought by someone whose shopping list took her no farther than the corner mail box.

Bravo for Broccoli
Bright green broccoli gives a Christmas appearance to meals. To keep that bright green color, start cooking over a fast flame and cook uncovered for three minutes. This allows the mild acids to escape with the steam. (If these acids stay inside the pan, the green pigment changes to an olive-drab color). After three minutes, cover the saucepan and cook until the stalks are just tender. Ten to 15 minutes is plenty of cooking time for most broccoli.

Time Savers

Reduce work. Deviate from routine. Create fun. Margaret Spader, home service editor of the Gas Appliance Manufacturers Association, suggests these ways to take advantage of the blessings of the Holiday season. Serve a "fork and finger" supper on a good TV night. Disposable plates and cups are time and work savers and should be used for occasional meals. On week ends, serve two sit-down meals instead of three. A tray of snack foods, with napkins and plates handy, will permit members of the family to eat while working on a favorite project or relaxing elsewhere in the house.

Toys From Mops

Mop heads made of sturdy nylon and cotton yarns make pretty, cuddly toys for small fry. Shaped with string and decorated with buttons and bows, they can be washed and dried in the dryer while children sleep. After they have served their purpose as toys they can further serve Mother in the cleaning closet.

Instead of making place cards for a children's party, fasten a balloon to the back of each chair. Write the child's name on the balloon with nail polish or tempera.

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