

# Processed Potatoes Replace Grandma's French Fries

By JAMES W. RYAN  
United Press International

...sue Isle, Maine, ... Mom's daily ritual of washing, peeling, slicing and frying potatoes is being automated into a one-day operation.

There's a mild revolution under way in potato marketing and the processed potato is king of spuds. A processed potato has many forms — French fried, potato puff (several sizes hash brown) and several others — but the main thing is that it is factory peeled, cut, cooked, frozen and packaged. All month has to do is pop into the stove for a last-minute warming up.

"Within four years, half the potatoes consumed in the United States will be in processed form," predicts Leo M. Daigle, manager of the Maine Potato Marketing committee.

Five big processing plants are now operating in the heart of the Aroostook potato country, providing jobs in an economically depressed area and saving work for housewives.

In the 1958-1961 period, 4,830 of 71,000 carlots of potatoes shipped from this potato-growing district were in processed form, Daigle said. The market has expanded since and is expected to continue at a healthy clip.

Edmund J. Rollins, president of Taterstate Frozen Foods at Washburn, Maine, said there was "some question" about local processing of potatoes when the idea was new a few years ago. "That's pretty well answered now: the quality of the frozen product is excellent, as attested by steadily increasing production and sales," Rollins said.

Typical of the new processors is Potato Services, Inc. of French Isle, starting from scratch in 1961. Potato Services has invested \$4 million in a plant that covers nearly eight acres and is just now completing a 1,200-carload storage facility.

General Manager M. L. Kimmel said the firm supplies all major food chains and some other processors. Major markets are east of the Mississippi, he said. Potato Services has one foreign market, Sweden.

Potato Services employs all local labor. At first, the complicated factory equipment was beyond their understanding, Kimmel said, but they caught on rapidly. Right now, a crew of 100 is priming the

At nearby Easton, Maine, Vahling Inc. operates one of the nation's biggest potato processing and shipping facilities on a 31-acre site. The plant operates year-around, supplying frozen processed potatoes to 250 cities east of the Mississippi and in 15 European, Asian, African and South American countries.

A tour of the Vahling plant starts with the raw potato. The potatoes chug along a conveyor belt to a peeler. Then they are hand-sorted for defects. A vibrating screen is used for sizing. Next follows blanching, frying, pre-cooling, freezing and packaging — all on an assembly line basis. The finished product is cold stored to await shipment.

Vahling employs 300 persons on a three-shift day here and its operations include a plant in Elva, Tex., to make

polyethylene bags for packaging.

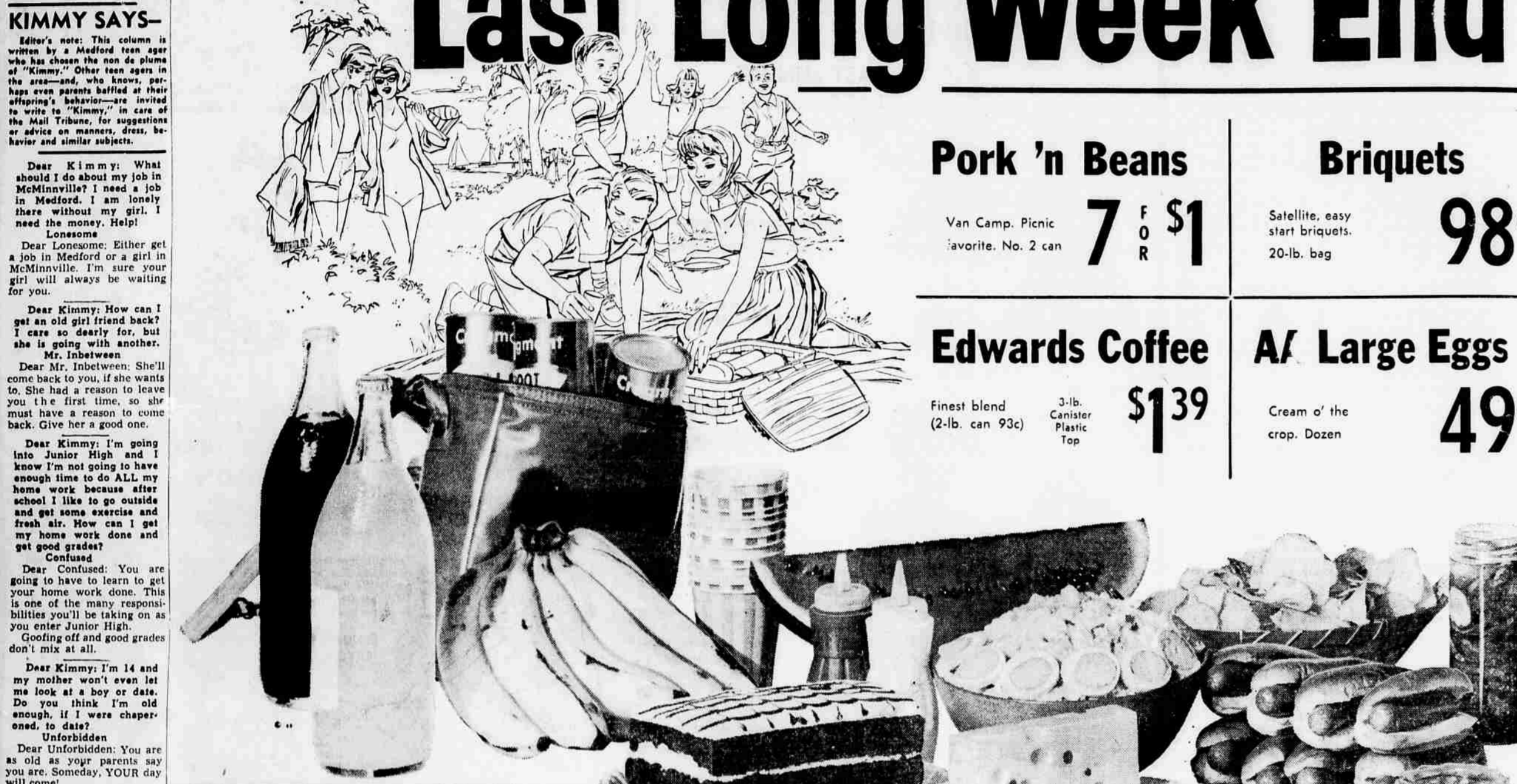
Freezing French fries was pioneered by Snow Flake Canning Co., a subsidiary of H. C. Baxter and Bros. of Brunswick, Maine, in 1945. General Foods opened a plant for freezing peas at Caribou, Maine, in 1947 and went into potato processing in 1949.

Processors are confident of unlimited expansion of their business because it's so much easier to open a package than fry your own and maybe grandma's home made French fries weren't that much better at that.

Customers are indeed the boss in this relatively new thriving industry. For example, French fried potatoes must be golden brown to sell in the Boston area. New York customers prefer a whiter French fry.

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# Last Long Week End



## KIMMY SAYS—

Dear Kimmy: The column is written by a Medford teen ager who has chosen the non de plume "Kimmy." Other teen agers in the area—and, who knows, perhaps even parents—were invited to write to "Kimmy," in care of the Mail Tribune, for suggestions or advice on manners, dress, behavior and similar subjects.

Dear Kimmy: What should I do about my job in McMinnville? I need a job in Medford. I am lonely there without my girl. I need good grades.

Dear Kimmy: How can I get an old girl friend back? I care so dearly for her, but she is in love with another.

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Dear Kimmy: I'm going into Junior High and I know I'm not going to have enough time to do all my home work because after school I like to go outside and get some exercise and fresh air. How can I get my home work done and get good grades?

Dear Kimmy: I'm 14 and my mother won't even let me look at a boy or date. Do you think I'm old enough, if I were chaperoned, to date?

Dear Kimmy: How would you as a boy (if you could) let a real cute girl know you really like her. Lonely.

Dear Kimmy: I'm going with a girl who is always telling me that she loves me. What should I do about it?

Dear Kimmy: All the High School kids, trying to initiate us, catch us to shake our heads. What should we do? Fight?

Dear Kimmy: How old do you think a boy and girl should be before they start kissing & LOTT?

Dear Kimmy: Someone said I was a kook.

Dear Kimmy: I want to write to this certain boy. The only thing is I don't know how to start. Should I be? Dear Hi, or his name?

Dear Kimmy: Use "Hi"! It sounds more friendly and bright!

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**Potato Chips**  
Nothing could be more crisp. Reg. price 79c.  
14-oz. pkg. **59c**

**BUSY BAKER**  
**COOKIES**  
Spice, oatmeal, sugar, or choc. chip.  
14-oz. pkg. **3 FOR \$1**

**BACK TO SCHOOL BUYS**

**Surveyologists to Survey Reservoirs**  
San Francisco—The Pacific Gas and Electric Co. said Wednesday that archeologists are starting a survey at the McClellan and Iron Canyon reservoir areas of the company's McClellan-Pit hydroelectric plant.

PG&E said it is sponsoring investigation by the Central California Archeological Foundation at the reservoir sites in Shasta county.

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**Nectarines** A real treat. Sweet and juicy! 3 lbs. **49c**

**SAFEWAY**

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**4 REDEEM HERE THIS WEEK!**

# Many States Consider Birth Control to Reduce Welfare Costs

By DAVID SMOTHERS  
United Press International

In Colorado, the state senate this year passed a bill allowing the state to distribute birth control information, devices and drugs to women on relief.

In California, the legislature battled over a resolution to put the state on record as favoring the dispensing of contraceptives.

In Wisconsin, a state assemblyman wanted to jail women who had two or more illegitimate children. He said he was tired of helping pay for their support.

In Illinois, briefly, a program was in effect to pay for contraceptives for women on relief — married or unmarried — with state funds.

In these and other states, the legislative sessions of 1963 debated hotly whether it is right to deny aid to a woman who insists on bearing babies out of wedlock — or whether it is right to help them prevent having such babies.

Few final decisions were reached. Federal laws, the arguments of social workers and the objections of religious leaders generally stymied action to deal with one of the most pressing problems facing the states — the rising number of illegitimate children whose mothers depend on the state to supply rent and grocery money.

The problem will still be there when the legislatures reconvene next year. In many states, legislators could only guess at the extent of the problem. Welfare agencies are often reluctant to break down their statistics on the basis of legitimacy or illegitimacy.

Yet, in a cross section of states checked by United Press International, these were the estimates:

— In California, 33 per cent of the children on relief were illegitimate. Nearly half the state's illegitimate children were born in 1961 and prevent at least 4,000 births in Cook county (Chicago) alone each year. The state was in effect before it was crushed in a flurry of political

per cent of relief children were illegitimate at a cost of \$7.4 million a year. In North Carolina the estimated annual cost was \$5.2 million and in Georgia \$2.5 million.

**Discuss Birth Control**  
The legislation debate took its most dramatic turn in Illinois, where the stormiest issue before the legislature was whether the state should finance an all-out birth control program.

Technically, such a program was in effect before it was crushed in a flurry of political

fighting. Arnold Maremont, the millionaire industrialist turned public servant who fought for the program, accused foes in the legislature of racial prejudice and was forced from office. The agency which he headed — the Illinois Public Aid commission — was legislated out of existence.

Maremont had estimated he could save the state \$1.25 million a year and prevent at least 4,000 births in Cook county (Chicago) alone each year. The state was in effect before it was crushed in a flurry of political

birth control devices for married women living with their husbands, but that was all. And another bill stipulating that birth of a second illegitimate child to a woman on relief is prima facie evidence of immorality is awaiting the governor's signature.

The relief controversy in some other large states followed the same dual pattern of birth control vs. no aid for illegitimate mothers.

The words of California State Sen. Alvin C. Weingard seemed to echo Maremont's:

where, upper and middle class families have access to birth control help and contraceptives. However, persons of lower economic and social groups, whose medical and health care is with governmental agencies, are denied the same help. This, I submit, is discrimination, pure and simple."

Weingard's resolution was killed in committee. Also killed were bills to deny aid to families where there was evidence of immoral, adulterous conduct or to families including more than one illegitimate child.

Mississippi already had one of the nation's strongest "cut-off" aid laws. It allowed the state to deny aid to a mother who continued to have illegitimate children.

But the law had to be amended this year because of new laws governing the spending of federal welfare money in the states. The regulations, known as the "Fleming policy," deny federal funds to state welfare plans that would bar aid to a child while he is living in an unsuitable home.

Mississippi settled for a law, similar to ones proposed in other states, which gives the courts power to take children from the custody of unfit mothers on relief to place them in homes where they can continue to receive public aid.

In populous New York state, the issue has been simmering ever since Joseph Mitchell, then city manager of Newburgh, tried to push through his controversial crack-down on "relief chiselers."

One of his points was denial of aid to unwed mothers with extra illegitimate children. A court threw this out, along with most of Mitchell's program. This year, the legislature asked the State Board of Social Welfare to study the whole area of birth control.

**Many States Plan**  
Other state legislatures which tangled with the issue this year included:

Colorado — The senate-approved birth control bill died in a house committee. Its major opponent, senate Democratic leader Sam Taylor, charged that it was an attempt to breed a "super race" through eugenics.

Pennsylvania — The senate approved, but the house let die, a bill to take illegitimate children away from unwed mothers after more than two such births.

Wisconsin — The legislature voted heavily against an amended bill to penalize women for repeated illegitimate births.

Ohio — The legislature passed a bill permitting married women to file non-support suits against men other than their husbands.

North Carolina — State Sen. Lunsford Crew campaigned for sterilization of 20,000 mothers and to make it a misdemeanor to father or give birth to two or more illegitimate children. The bill failed.

Missouri — State Sen. J. F. Petterson tried to eliminate a \$4 million boost in the aid to dependent children appropriation on grounds that some mothers were making a racket out of welfare. The increase was eventually whittled down to \$1.6 million.

Alabama — A bill still in legislative committee would cut off aid to an unwed mother if she won't name the man she thinks fathered her child.

Maine — The State House got into an argument over whether aid should be denied unmarried mothers who have an "unrelated male" in the house. The proposal was defeated by legislators who argued that an unrelated male is far more than male at all.

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**Lemonade** Scotch Treat. Real economy! 6-oz. can **10c**

**Salad Dressing** Nu Made. Delightfully tasty. 24-oz. jar **29c**

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**Picnic Favorites**

**Ripe Olives** Town House. Tall can **4 for \$1**

**Sweet Pickles** Zippy. Sliced or whole. 48-oz. **99c**

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**Modess** New V form. Pkg. of 12 **39c**

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**Swiss Steak** Wastefarm cut Choice bottom round lb. **89c**

**Sliced Bacon** Safeway or Armour Star Fancy lb. **69c**

**Actor To Be Buried In Portland Friday**

Hollywood — Veteran actor Larry Keating, 64, will be buried Friday in Portland, Ore., his boyhood home town, following a rosary and requiem mass.

Keating, who gained his greatest fame playing the role of the grouchy neighbor, died Monday of leukemia.

Although he had been ill for several months, Keating continued working until last week in the "Mr. Ed" television series in which he played an acid-tongued neighbor.

**INTO EFFECT**

Salem—A new law making many Social Security recipients ineligible for unemployment insurance benefits will go into effect Tuesday. The employment commissioner David H. Cameron announced Wednesday.