

**Inverted Snifters Decoration Base**

Inverted snifters and goblets may be used for appealing Christmas decorations, says the Society of American Florists. One suggestion is an inverted clear glass snifter, housing an angel figure, with red roses, eucalyptus and a red candle atop the snifter. Another thought is the use of an inverted colored goblet as a perch for red carnations, a red candle and some artificial grapes.

**Roast Almonds in Soy**  
Dark, shiny, mysterious soy-roasted almonds make a glamorous gift as well as an attractive appetizer. The recipe comes from the Gas Appliance Manufacturers Association. Roast 4 cups blanched almonds (1 1/4 pounds) in a gas oven, preheated to 400 degrees for 15 minutes. Stir occasionally. Then add 1/4 cup butter and 1/4 cup soy sauce and stir. Roast 12 to 15 minutes longer, stirring until nuts are coated and fairly dry.

**Cook's Tour**

By Jeanne Lesem



NEW YORK (UPI) — In the name of holiday spirits, shortly many of us will rally around the punch bowl, so much a part of Americana it's a surprise to find it originated in India.

But researchers for various makers of spirits report the word "punch" developed from the Hindustani "panch," meaning five.

No one knows how the ancient Indians worked their way from the word "five" to the idea of punch. But there are a lot of theories.

Some claim it stood for the five ingredients of punch — hot, cold, bitter, sweet and sour.

Others maintain it stood for the five ingredients of the famous oriental swizzle: arrack, tea, sugar, water and lemon juice.

But regardless of what the five stood for, punch still makes the perfect holiday treat. Hot or cold, it has a festive air that is hard to beat.

In Colonial America, no social gathering was complete without its punch bowl. It held water for christenings, set the tempo for the wedding festivities and was essential to the final tribute paid at the funeral.

In the interim, it retained over house raisings, husking bees, the timber rolling, the lottery drawing and elections.

The father of the country, George Washington, was a great admirer of the punch bowl.

But he stood not alone. In his time, and after, Americans and Englishmen alike observed their festive occasions around the punch bowl.

To bring punch up to date, the bowl has a place at the patio barbecue as well as at the formal open house. Clans gather 'round the punch bowl at weddings, cookouts, christenings and Christmas.

The big thing about punch—and even George Washington must have known — is that it is economical. Punch goes a long way. Large crowds can be served quickly.

Another of the delights of the punch bowl is that there are

no a la carte orders. You don't have to rack your brain trying to recall that the gal or guy at the fireplace wanted a Manhattan, that the person to the left or right wanted an old-fashioned with one or two rocks.

**Poinsettia Plant Is Traditional For Christmas**

Of all the beautiful flowering plants available from florists during the holiday season, probably the one that carols "Merry Christmas!" the clearest of all is the poinsettia. Rarely used as a cut flower these plants, with their shaggy dark green leaves and carelessly constructed blossoms, truly come into their own at Christmas.

In some sections of the United States — Florida or Hawaii, for example — those delicate plants grow rank and thick in the warm sunshine, needing practically no care to flourish and bloom in hedgerows. In more temperate climes, however, the plants must be carefully nurtured in greenhouses, for many months, to come into their glory for the holidays.

The Society of American Florists says plant culture has been so carefully defined nowadays that a florist can prophesy, almost to the hour, when his poinsettia plants will bloom. Since these plants are intertwined so inseparably with holiday cheer in most individual's minds, it is hard to find poinsettias at any other season of the year. They are hot-house forced for the Christmas trade only.

While the brightly crimson blossoms are the most familiar — and by far the most closely allied with the holidays — poinsettias are also available in a delicate shade of off-ivory. Called "white" by most florists, they are actually the color of rich cream. A hybrid plant has been produced, too, by mating the red and the "white." This produces a soft, dainty pink bloom which is extremely attractive — if less traditional.

**Fast-Rising Parisian Fashion Star Is Woman**

PARIS (UPI) — The new seasonal designer of women's clothes in Paris is, of all things, a woman.

Among present major powers in the fashion world, only one, Gabrielle Chanel, is a woman. But a fast-rising star in the world of big-name designers is Emmanuelle Khanh, 26. As a

former model for the high fashion house of Givenchy and Balenciaga, the outspoken Miss Khanh couldn't care less about the costly creations of the reigning male designers.

"They have forgotten the body of the woman," she said. "Look at their suit jackets and you can't tell if they're for a man or woman."

"Those designers make a different line each year — the trapeze, the string bean or what have you. I take the body of a woman for a model not some 'line.' My clothes are feminine. 'And their clothes look old! One male designer started making youthful clothes but now he designs for women of 70!'"

Another reason why Miss Khanh starts fashion circles is that she designs for ready-to-wear manufacturers instead of high fashion custom houses. As she says, ready-to-wear business in Paris has become "radical." Decades after other countries, manufacturers at last are hiring their own designers and beginning to turn out inexpensive, fashionable ready-to-wear clothes that may replace the traditional "little dressmaker" for the average woman.

New Designers  
The Paris ready-to-wear trend has several new designers under the manufacturers' wings, including women. One man, Gerard Pipart, recently was lured away to the high fashion salon of Nina Ricci, the first such event in Paris.

Miss Khanh's clothes are not only young and feminine but full of fresh touches, some on the wild side, that have swept the mass market in Paris.

Her "look," known as "the droop," harks back to the 30's, lank and limp, with long, pointed "dog ear" collars, sometimes double for suit jackets.

Virtually every garment manufacturer in Paris has copied her "dog ear" collar. Her spring collections feature scalloped collars and hems.

Dresses, suits and coats often have sleeves or huge cut-out patchwork of different colors and fabrics than the rest of the garment.

The Paris-born designer is as offbeat as her clothes. She has her black hair cut by a Londoner (and that in itself shocks Paris) in a 1930 style, straight and parted on the side with ends curving over her high cheekbones.

She wears horn-rimmed glasses and flat Italian sandals. She lives as young girls in Peoria, Ill., may dream a Paris career girl lives, in a sixth floor walk-up apartment overlooking an ancient church and the old rooftops of Paris.

Married to Engineer  
She is married to a Vietnamese engineer who helps her design. Their apartment has an East-West mixture of a television set, low chests and benches and an Oriental bedroom with a raised "bed" platform.

Miss Khanh was launched to fame when a fashion magazine editor photographed the then Balenciaga model in her homemade gray flannel shirt which started below the waistline. A Paris dress manufacturer excitedly asked her if she had any other ideas. Her first collection for him in 1962 was widely photographed and copied.

By now she has designed collections for three Paris ready-to-wear concerns and four London shops and manufacturers. This month her styles went on sale for the first time in New York (Henri Bendel).

Miss Khanh is undecided whether to continue designing for the mass market or to find backers for a high fashion cus-

tom house such as Yves St. Laurent. Meanwhile she sensibly accepts her fame, including the stream of journalists who beat a path up six flights to her door. "They write about you on the way up, but on the way down, too," she said.

For the holidays, fill the nut bowl with pecans. Make plenty of candies, baked items, desserts, salads with pecans. These tasty nuts are in peak supply now and are a good buy.

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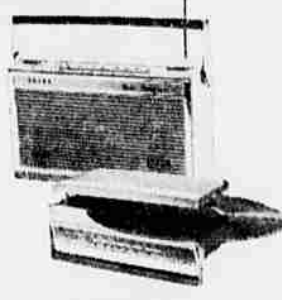
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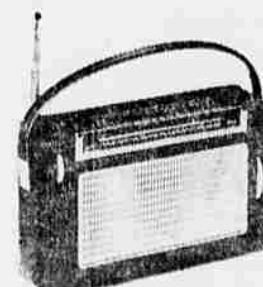
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