

Yule Dishes



"Please pass the Fattigmanbakkelse, please."

By FLORENCE JENKINS

With a little forethought, entertaining at Christmastime can be the most fun of the year. Experts advise sticking to tried and tested favorite recipes which are pretty sure to be all around favorites. Experimenting is done with greater safety and more satisfying results at a less demanding time of year.

Fortunately for the busy housewife, so many of the traditional Christmas-type cookies can be made weeks in advance of the holiday season.

Just as we have inherited many Christmas customs from Europe, so also have come down to us many recipes which were family favorites in the "old country."

Scotch shortbread, for example, is essentially a winter treat and should be "aged" several weeks before serving. It has the advantage of being easy to make.

1 1/2 cups butter
1 cup powdered sugar
4 cups cake flour

Cream butter, add sugar gradually, beating constantly, then work in flour with the hands. Press into three greased pie pans to one-half inch thickness. Prick with a fork at even, frequent intervals and bake in a 300 degree oven for about three-quarters of an hour. Cook, wrap in wax paper and store for at least a month. Also typical of the season and easy to make is eier kringel.

3 hard cooked egg yolks
1/2 cup butter
1/2 cup sugar
1/2 cup uncooked egg
2 cups all-purpose flour
1/4 teaspoon salt
1/2 teaspoon mace
1/2 teaspoon grated lemon rind

Put hard cooked egg yolks through a sieve. Cream butter and sugar together, add cooked egg yolks and uncooked egg. Sift flour, measure, sift with salt and mace and work into creamed mixture. Add grated rind. Knead to blend well. Roll about 1/4 inch thick. These cookies are usually cut into rings with a doughnut cutter. Bake in a moderate oven, 375 degrees. Makes about two dozen rings. Decorate your Christmas cook-

ies as brightly as you please. While the eier kringel cookies are still warm, they may be brushed with egg white mixture and sprinkled with colored sugar. (Make your own colored sugar by dropping a few drops of food coloring on lump sugar. Let stand 15 minutes, then crush to make coarse sugar.)

Holly and berries may be simulated by using candied cherries and green citron for the leaves.

Norwegian Kringel, Lebkuchen, Springerle, Pfeffer Kusse and Fattigmanbakkelse are also European favorites and are usually served with fruit punch or sweet wine to callers during the Yuletide.

Hot wine punch smells and tastes like Christmas. It is usually made by making (for each bottle of wine) a spiced mixture using 1 pint of water, 3 tablespoons sugar, 6 cloves, 3 small pieces of stick cinnamon and the rind of a whole lemon cut very thin. When this mixture comes to a boil, add one bottle of claret or burgundy and serve piping hot.

Recipes for eggnog are as varied as the people who serve them. Basically eggs, sugar, liquors (rum, cognac, brandy or bourbon), milk and cream, it is always served very cold in glass cups with a dash of nutmeg for that final touch.

Your guests will get nourishment as well as a lift from the old standby, Tom and Jerry. Esquire says to take as many eggs as persons served. Beat whites and yolks separately. Add 1 teaspoon sugar for each egg and mix whites with yolks. When ready to serve, take 2 tablespoons of this batter and put in a large mug or tumbler. Add a pony of rum and stir, then a pony of brandy, stirring constantly to avoid curdling, and fill to the top with hot water or hot milk. Add dash of nutmeg. (Bourbon may be substituted for either the rum or brandy or both).

Esquire adds a recipe for Thomas and Jeremiah which calls for 1 tall glass into which pour 1 1/2 fingers of rum — white preferred. Add a touch of lime or lemon juice. Add brown sugar to taste and fill with hot cider. Who mentioned experimenting?



RIFLEMAN TURNS TO SHOTGUN—Bill Salt, passing quarterback for the 1952 Pelicans, picks out a double-barreled shotgun at Hal's Sport Shop. Salt figures maybe the whole works would be nice for Christmas, so he tries on a hunting jacket and vest, and looks over shells and decoys.

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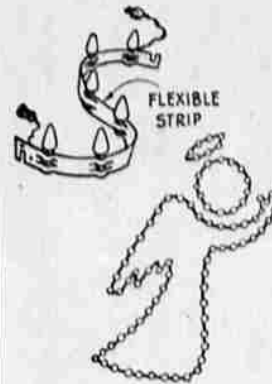
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There are just about as many ways to decorate the outside of your house for the holidays as there are people in the world. However, dreaming up an attractive design and figuring out how to do it often seems like a bit of a project to many homeowners who want outdoor lighted decorations.

There's good news this year, however, in a new type of Christmas lighting equipment especially designed to take the guesswork out of "how-to-do" it and speed up the job.

A simple technique including strips of bulbs, makes it possible for every homeowner to accomplish outdoor holiday lighting displays with the flair of an expert designer.

This newest lighting product, as shown in the sketch above, is available completely wired and ready to use. Strips which are two, three and six feet in length come in both rigid and flexible styles. Also on the market are other shapes including stars, circles, diamonds, approximately 14 inches in diameter.

Simply by combining these two pieces of equipment, dozens of lighting patterns are possible. The manufacturer even includes a number of patterns for stars, wreaths, greetings, festoons, bells and other designs.

Strips use regular C-7's, and circles, C-9's, outdoor Christmas bulbs.

Designs can be added to and changed from year to year. The equipment is as easy to store and handle as it is to put up.

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