

Novel Entertainments

Edited by MADAME MERRI

The Yarn Charm to Find Partners.

One of the oldest stunts for Halloween was to find one's future mate by the aid of a ball of yarn. A maiden was to take a ball of yarn and toss it through an open window and then hold the end in her hand and walk away. If she was to marry within the year the ball would be picked up by the man inside, who began to wind up the yarn and thus draw her back to him. A young matron should use this method of finding partners for her Halloween supper, which is to be served at 8:30. Knowing the performance of her guests, she will have the right man for each maid concealed in the garage. One at a time the girls will be given a ball of yarn, there being one ball for each girl, and she is to go about through the yard, which is to be lighted only with "jacks" in the trees. When the man winds up his maiden, who is instructed not to drop her end no matter what happens, they will go out a rear door of the garage and into the house by a side entrance. Then the next man is slipped into the hiding place and another girl started to meet her fate. There are to be ten couples, so this will add much to the fun and mystery. If the details as given here are not practical, the same scheme may be worked by throwing the ball over a transom or over a bannister down stairs.

Receipt for Chop Suey.

I give the recipe for chop suey which is fine to serve at Halloween feasts. The rice is to be eaten with chop sticks, which are to be retained as souvenirs, each pair being tied with red ribbon.

- One five-pound chicken.
- A pound and a half of tender beef
- One pound of celery.
- Two pounds of bean sprouts.
- One ounce of Chinese sauce, known as sol.
- One can of mushrooms.
- Salt, thickening.

Cook the chicken and beef together all they are very tender, take out all the bones, add the mushrooms, onions sliced very thin slices, the celery sliced in thin pieces, and do not cook very long; then add the bean sprouts

and the thickening, and last the sol. Enough for ten people.

To obtain the bean sprouts soak beans in water till they absorb it all, then keep them damp and in a very warm place. The sprouts come very quickly, so there is plenty of time to prepare them. Sol may be purchased at a large grocery or at a Chinese store; lacking these, use Worcester-shire sauce. Serve the chop suey in bowls with rice and the tea in cups without handles. For the table centerpiece have a witch kettle with incense burning inside.

Ghosts We all Know.

Last year a hostess noted for her originality gave this party. It is rather unusual and was loads of fun. I give a copy of the invitation:

Ye Witch of Hallowe'en Has promised to convene The Shades of many Notables To meet you Monday e'en. We'll look for you, you know, To help to make things go, And incidentally to mee' Some Ghosts you're sure to know.

There were only twenty guests, and over the telephone the hostess explained that she wished each to come dressed to represent some famous person now dead, pantomime, words, gestures and costume being used in the impersonation. Dressed as a witch, the hostess received her "ghosts" in a room draped all in white, even a canvas covering the floor. Cathedral candles on mantel, piano and bookcase furnished the light. For a while not a word was spoken; then a little scarlet dressed Imp passed slips of paper and white pencils on which the ghosts wrote "who was who". One ghost represented Diogenes vainly looking for an honest man. He carried a lantern made from a squash and sadly shook his head. There was Cleopatra with an asp, Shakespeare with a huge ruff of white paper, Napoleon in cocked hat, with folded arms. Columbus with a map in his hand. Queen Elizabeth and Sir Walter Raleigh in the famous coat and pool of water act, Milton and George Washington, Abraham Lincoln, etc. The prize to the ghost who recognized the greatest number of his fellow

shades was a handsomely bound copy of John Kendrick's "Ghosts I Have Met." A jolly supper, with ghost favors at each plate, followed.

New and Old Tricks.

"We are tired of bobbing for apples," said a young devotee of the department who was asking me for new stunts for October 31. But did you ever bob for them prepared in this way? In a light zinc tub which may be brought from the laundry put at least a dozen red apples and in four of them conceal a ring, a tumbler, a button and a coin. Just press the articles carefully into the fruit and the mutilation is not discernible in the water. The boy or girl getting the ring will be married or engaged within the year. The tumbler means no such luck; the one getting it must remain single or unmarried for another twelve months. The coin means wealth and the button means one must win fame or fortune by one's own exertions.

Who remembers the old trick of trying to get a coin out of a pan of flour with the teeth, the hands being tied behind the back? This is a laughable sight. Sometimes a wedding ring is concealed in the flour, and the one getting it will be married within the year. Of course, the coin denotes wealth.

Party Given in Barn.

I must tell you briefly of one party to be given in a barn, where the decorations will be branches of autumn leaves, which remain brilliant in the country far longer than in town. There are to be grinning "jacks" set on posts along the driveway, and inside the barn all the lanterns are to have electric lights to avoid possibility of fire. Cucumbers, squash and many other vegetables are to be made into lanterns and candle holders. The hostess is to dress as an old witch, and all the girls are to have witches' hats, surmounted by black cats, perched to them. The boys will wear hats of scarlet and adorned with horns.

A Chinese feast is to be served at a table where black and scarlet dragons will run rampant. The part of the barn reserved for the party is to be gay with Chinese lanterns, fans, screens and parasols.

A Hallowe'en Party Invitation. Use a Hallowe'en post card or a pumpkin-shaped card and write the following jingle for an invitation to a party on Oct. 31. It is appropriate for either children or grown-ups:

At our house on Monday night You will surely see a sight. Ghosts, and goblins, witches, too, Are busy preparing fates for you, The hour is 8, don't be late.

But come—be brave at any rate.

Hallowe'en Cakes.

Often a few novel recipes have to creep into the department, so now for these very unusual and seasonable rules. First for "Jack o'lantern" cakes: From a plain loaf cake baked in a sheet cut punkin-shaped cakes about two and a half inches wide and two inches thick and ice with frosting colored yellow, with the yolk of eggs or with saffron. While the icing is still moist, insert two small red candles for the eyes and nose and a row of them for the teeth.

For the "clock faced" cakes, buy a few vanilla wafers, coat with vanilla frosting and let them dry, with melted chocolate and a very small paint brush you make the numerals of the clock, the hands in the center pointing to midnight. "The witching hour."

Children adore these confections, which require only a little time and patience. I am sure every mother is more than willing to do this.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

To Give a Hallowe'en Party.

Will you kindly help me? This is the first time I am going to give a party, and I am at a loss to know what to do. I want to give a Hallowe'en party and wish to invite about twenty or thirty girls and boys ranging in ages from 18 to 25 years.

Now, do you think that bobbing for apples and biting at a large bag of peanuts suspended from the ceiling with a stick while blindfolded is only for little children? Or do you think that would be proper for this party? Also, would music and singing be good?

YOUR UNKNOWN FRIEND.

I think the department today will help you plan a successful party for Hallowe'en. Use the pastimes you mention. Grown people will enjoy them and music always adds to any occasion, and Hallowe'en is no exception.

Announcing an Engagement.

Your suggestions for entertaining have always been of such great interest to me, and I now write to ask if you will be so good as to assist me. Will you tell me of some novel way in which to announce my engagement to sixteen girl friends?

I am glad the department is of interest; words like yours make me think that it is worth while when I am discouraged.

Why not ask the girls to a luncheon or an afternoon, and tell the story by the decorations and favors? This is the way one girl did: The table had

pink hearts sprinkled over the cloth, the plates were outlined in heart-shape by tiny flowers (forget-me-nots, artificial); the nut-holders were slipper-ears of pink, the place cards were hearts; the centerpiece was a wedding cake with the two names and the date of the approaching nuptials, and the girls went to the dining room to the tune of Mendelssohn's famous march played by a member of the family who was a good musician. When luncheon was announced she started the march.

Party for Boys and Girls.

I want to give a boy and girl party. It would be the first among our crowd of girls and the boys are so very shy and bashful.

Could you tell us what to do to break the ice?

SCHOOL GIRLS.

I think in today's paper you will find several suggestions suited to your needs, and then to still further break the ice why don't you ask each one to bring a post card bearing a picture about which they know? You will find when each guest has a personal interest in the party that it will be a success. At one of the jolliest parties I ever attended the girls each brought an old hat with trimmings; they were placed on a table, from which the boys selected a hat to trim with the "findings." The girl to whom the hat belonged was his partner and had to wear the finished creation during refreshments. I assure you there was nothing dull or stupid about this affair.

Birthday Gift.

Will you kindly tell me if it is proper for a young lady to give a young man a birthday gift? If so, what is appropriate? I enjoy your department very much.

A CONSTANT READER.

So much depends upon how well you know the man whether you give him a present or not. Why not send him a home-made cake or box of candy, a good book or magazine subscription?

Try a Hardware Store.

Would you kindly inform me whether I could buy clothes poles ready made, or do I have to have a carpenter make them? At what kind of a store would they be found?

NEWLY-MARRIED.

I fancy clothes poles may be purchased at a hardware store, or if near one, try a department store. They usually have every conceivable article.

Better Serve the Salad.

Would it be proper to serve a mix-

ture of cut-up fruits in wine with small sweet crackers between the meat course and the dessert and not serve a salad?

MRS. H. P.

I never saw such a concoction served instead of salad. I would not advise it.

Card Etiquette.

You have helped so many others that I am sure you will help me, so I come to you for advice. I have been married but a short time and consequently am not fully informed as to etiquette. Recently I received an "at home" announcement and as it will take place in a distant city I cannot attend. I am puzzled as to the cards made from three points of view, the custom tariffs, the Swiss laws on the control of food, and the way tariffs, so that the exact effect which each of these factors has on the cost of living may be determined at an early date.

COUNTRY.

Enclose one of your cards and two of your husband's in a card envelope and mail to arrive on the "at home" day. Your cards should be engraved with names in full. An up-to-date stationer will submit correct samples of type and size.

Questions on any subject pertaining to this department will be cheerfully answered. A reply will be sent by mail if stamped and addressed envelope is enclosed; otherwise answers will appear in this column. Address, Madame Merri, care News.

NEW LIGHT ON LONG-AGO MURDER OF RULERS

Vienna Oct. 14.—Curious revelations about the conspiracy at Belgrade which ended in the murder of King Alexander and Queen Draga in 1903 are being published in the Serbian capital by M. Novakavitch, a lawyer? He says: that on the evening before the murders he obtained a quantity of chloroform, as it was the intention of the regicides to chloroform the Royal pair, and carry them off to his vineyard, where they were to have been kept prisoners until the plot had completely succeeded. The King and Queen were to have been finally disposed of either by exiled or put to death.

Will convey Rulers to India. London, Oct. 14.—The Peninsula and Oriental liner Hedina which will convey the King and Queen to India is now at Southampton. The vessel was joined by Sir Thomas Sutherland chairman of the company, and other directors, who had travelled by train from London. The ladies will be put in dry dock, and undergo final preparations prior to the royal embarkation.

SWITZERLAND TO INVESTIGATE HIGH FOOD COST

Geneva, Oct. 14.—The Swiss Government has ordered three separate departments to open an inquiry concerning the high cost of living in Switzerland and the ever increasing price of foodstuffs. The inquiry is to be made from three points of view, the custom tariffs, the Swiss laws on the control of food, and the way tariffs, so that the exact effect which each of these factors has on the cost of living may be determined at an early date.

There is general discontent in this country especially among the lower classes, whose wages have not increased in proportion to the cost of food. Professor Hubscher, in a lecture here lately, quoted figures showing that since 1906 the cost of living has increased on an average 28 per cent in all the large Swiss towns (25 per cent in Geneva) and the rent of one two or three rooms has augmented 36 per cent (37 to 41 per cent in Geneva).

Several public meetings of protest have been held recently at Geneva, Basle, St. Gall and Lugano to discuss the best way of combating the evil. Geneva proposes a general boycott and St. Gall asks the municipality to buy foodstuffs wholesale in the lowest market whether at home or abroad and sell to the inhabitants at cost price. Milk has become so dear that one large chocolate factory at Yverdon closed its doors yesterday? Butter, honey, flour, sugar, tea and even bread has increased from 15 to 35 per cent during the last four years.

Wine and coal merchants threaten to raise prices this winter and vegetables are very dear owing to the long and rainless summer.

One section of the Swiss demand the suspension of the tariff laws until the food market adjusts itself by free trade. The problem is an urgent and difficult one.

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WHAT OUR CUSTOMER AND BOSS DEMANDED

A few days ago we made a bid on a real big job, and we landed the order. The customer told the manager of the printing house that the job had to be out by a certain time. It was an unusually short time in which to get out a big job like it was, but the job was promised to be delivered right at the dot.

The boss told the manager to get the job out right on time by all means. The customer, the boss and the manager knew that it was an unusually short time, but the job came out—Right on Time. We had to do some real hard work but the job had to be finished.

As soon as the job came from the press, the customer saw a copy and the boss saw a copy, and they both told the manager that they didn't have any idea that it would be done in so short a time. They demanded it but hardly expected it.

That's a point we are making, to get a job out on time it matters not what kind of job it is, how short the time is or who the job is for. We are pleasing our many customers and can please you if you will become one of them.

REMEMBER---WE PRINT ANYTHING
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 29 S. TRYON STREET
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