

Explosion Puzzles Los Angeles



A mystery explosion wrecked a score of homes and stores in Los Angeles and officials are still searching for clues. One man is believed to have been killed in the wreckage shown above.

Hints From a Housewife's Kitchen Diary



Lenten Dishes That Satisfy

SCALLOPED SWEET POTATOES

Eggs play a very important part in the menu during this season, but however beneficial they may be, the family is apt to get tired of them if served in just one or two ways all the time.

Cook six large sweet potatoes until done and then cool, peel and slice them. Butter an enameled ware baking dish, fill with a layer of sweet potatoes, a layer of sliced hard-boiled eggs and another layer of sweet potatoes.

FISH—FOR HEALTH AND APPETITE

Although fish is really a valuable article of food, it is sadly neglected in the dietary of the average home. It is not easy to give a sensible reason for this because fish is known to be satisfying and healthful.

Many housewives are averse to cooking fresh fish because it is difficult to prepare and serve it intact, and also because of the odor which adheres to most utensils used in its preparation.

Fish baked in an enameled ware pan and basted occasionally with a mixture of water, butter and seasoning, can be served from the pan in which it is baked without hesitancy.

For boiling fish, the small oval enameled ware boiler which is equipped with a removable tray will be found most satisfactory, because it is easy to transfer the fish from the tray to a platter.

If cooked in salted acidulated water—that is water to which lemon juice or vinegar is added—the fish need not be wrapped in cheesecloth.

Bolled fish is most delicious served with a cream sauce to which a few tablespoonsful of chopped parsley have been added just before serving.

CHEESE FONDU

Cheese, which is the concentrated curd of milk, has been known as a healthful, nourishing food from early historical times, and is still used by even the most primitive people as a staple article of diet.

Owing to its compact form, a very little—even a few gratings or a small cube—has exceedingly high food value. For this reason this nutritious food, which comes in many forms, should be served occasionally during the Lenten season.

Of course, some cheeses should never be cooked, but those which can should be melted only at a low temperature so that the albumen will not harden and become rubbery and, naturally, more indigestible.

The following, although simple, is an adequate main dish which offers a welcome change at this season for the housewife and her family.

Melt one tablespoonful butter in an enameled ware double boiler, add one cupful of soft bread crumbs, one cupful of milk and one-quarter of a pound finely cut American cheese.

Cut strips of bread one inch wide and stand up around the inside of a well-buttered enameled ware baking dish. Pour in the cheese mixture and place in a hot oven to brown the bread fingers.

MUSHROOM BISQUE—SEASONABLE AND "DIFFERENT"

This soup is easily made and is particularly good to serve before a meatless main dish, because mushrooms contain considerable protein content.

Peel and wash one-quarter of a pound of mushrooms. Cut three large mushrooms into slices and sauté them in a tablespoonful of butter. Then run the remainder of the mushrooms through a meat chopper together with one onion.

Prepare a cream sauce in an enameled ware double boiler, by adding a tablespoonful of flour, blended with a little milk, to a quart of hot milk. Then add a tablespoonful of butter, the juice from the mushrooms and onion, and a cup of canned tomato soup or puree.

Financial Statistics of the City Government of Charlotte For 1925

Washington, D. C., March 12.—The Department of Commerce announces a summary of the financial statistics of the city corporation of Charlotte, N. C., for the fiscal year ending May 31, 1925.

Expenditures.—The payments for maintenance and operation of the general department of Charlotte, N. C., for the fiscal year ending May 31, 1925, amounted to \$1,199,051, or \$22.81 per capita. In 1924 the comparative per capita for maintenance and operation of general departments was \$20.54, and for 1918, \$10.08.

Revenues.—The total revenue receipts of Charlotte for 1925, were \$2,427,583, or \$46.17 per capita. This was \$547,205 more than the total payments of the year, exclusive of the payments for permanent improvements, but \$2,083,305 less than the total payments including those for permanent improvements.

Assessed Valuations and Tax Levies.—For 1925 the assessed valuation of property in Charlotte subject to ad valorem taxes for city corporation was \$103,883,015. The levy for all purposes for 1925 was \$2,202,320, of which \$1,158,490, or 52.8 per cent, was levied for the city corporation.

WORK OF PRESBYTERIANS IN NORTH CAROLINA. This Month is the Last in the Church Year of This Denomination. Leaksville, March 12.—This month is the last in the church year of the Southern Presbyterian Church, and churches all over the state of North Carolina have been engaged for the past weeks in planning for the new year to begin April 1st.

The most extensive preparations in the way of group conferences has been made this spring than ever before under the leadership of J. B. Spillman, of Charlotte, the synodical secretary of stewardship, who is just finishing up about sixty conferences that he has attended personally in the last two months and a half.

The purpose of these conferences which have been placed within reach of practically all of the churches in the nine Presbyteries of the synod was to bring the people of the churches to face the needs of the church as represented by the budget of \$850,000 adopted by the synod and Presbyteries.

This amount represents the share of this synod in the benevolent work of the church as a whole which has a goal of \$4,750,000. It includes all causes within the bounds of the synod such as the Orphans' Home at Raleigh, the support of ten educational institutions, the work of the synod's home missions employing for whole or part support about seventy-five workers as well as the local work in each of the nine Presbyteries.

This amount represents an asking of \$12 per capita from the membership of the church, although it does not represent the giving capacity of this church for in addition to their benevolent gifts they gave last year about \$1,400,000 to the support of the current expenses of the various congregations.

Following the direction of the general assembly of the whole church many congregations are planning to use the afternoon of March 21st for the annual every member canvass. The success of this canvass will indicate the extent to which the church as a whole will continue their extensive work both at home and abroad.

The latest compiled statistics of the Presbyterian Church in this synod show 73,213 members in 530 churches scattered through the nine Presbyteries. There are 292 ministers serving these churches and the total Sunday school enrollment is 64,467.

The per capita gifts of this church were exceeded last year by only one other denomination in the United States. At the same time it has been estimated conservatively that the annual income of the Presbyterians in North Carolina is considerably over \$100,000,000. These figures would indicate that the needs of the church for the coming year will be very much less than 5 per cent. of the income of her members.

Highway Controversy About to Be Settled. Charlotte, March 15.—Recent developments at conferences between representatives of the State highway commission, Catawba county and the town of Newton forecast an early settlement of the long drawn out controversy over the selection of a route for a paved highway through that county.

Marshall Trial Underway. Philadelphia, March 12.—(AP)—Testimony describing the finding of the dismembered body of Anna May Dietrich occupied much of the morning session today of the trial of David L. Marshall, charged with killing the woman in his chiropractic office here on January 19th.

Detroit will entertain the second annual National Motor Bus Show the week of March 29th.

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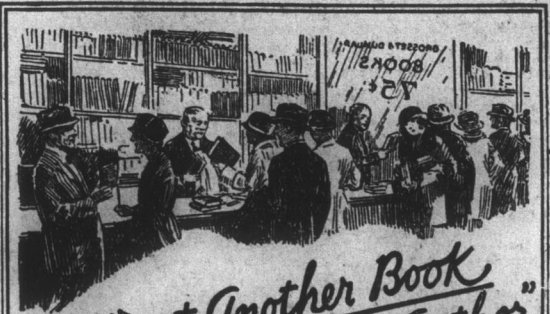
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AS the former Betty Becker this mermaid won the Olympic diving title in 1924, beating Alleen Rigin and Carol Fletcher among others. Recently as Mrs. Elizabeth Becker Pinkston, she topped the national fancy diving crown in high springboard competition at Tampa, Fla. Mrs. Pinkston represented the Cara Del Mar club of Santa Monica, Calif., and whipped a high class field. Her sensational performance was one of the big features of the get-together. During the last few years she has been stepping to the front rapidly in national circles and now ranks with the stars.

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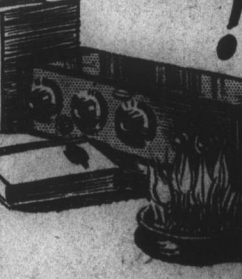
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