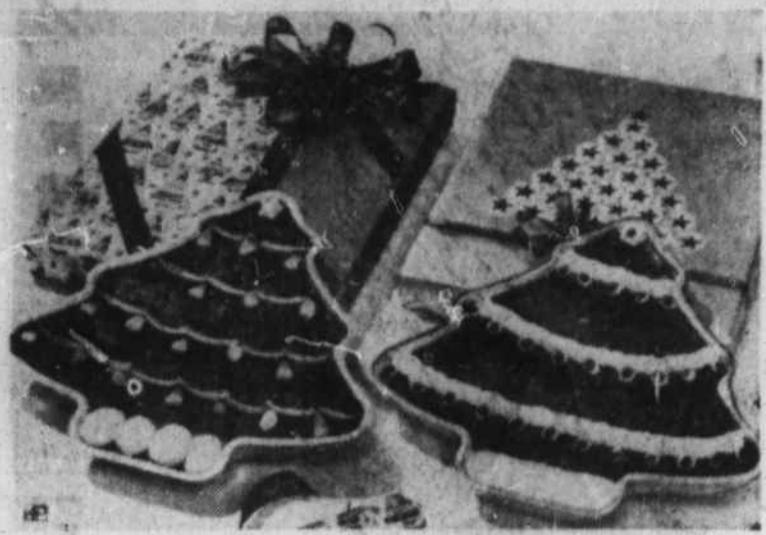


Chocolate Fudge For Holidays



CREAMY CHOCOLATE FUDGE CHRISTMAS TREES with festive candy trimmings are ideal for gifts.

By CECILY BROWNSTONE
Associated Press Food Editor

IF CREAMY, DREAMY CHOCOLATE FUDGE is one of the sweets your teen-agers like to have around the house for serving at holiday time, they may wish to try this recipe.

For gifts, turn batches of the fudge into Christmas-tree cake pans and decorate with candy. Then wrap the Christmas tree fudge in transparent film. Or put the fudge in a box and wrap it in gift paper of Christmas tree design; or wrap the box with silver paper and make a Christmas tree design on the paper using green star seals superimposed on round white seals.

CHRISTMAS TREE FUDGE

Ingredients: 2 1/4 cups sugar, 3/4 cup undiluted evaporated milk, 1/3 cup light corn syrup, 2 tablespoons butter or margarine, 2 packages (6 ounces each) semi-sweet chocolate pieces, 1 teaspoon vanilla, 1 cup chopped nuts.

Method: Put sugar, undiluted evaporated milk, corn syrup and butter in saucepan. Bring to a boil, stirring constantly. Cook over moderate heat for 5 minutes, stirring constantly. Remove from heat. Add semi-sweet chocolate and vanilla; stir until smooth. Stir in nuts. Turn into Christmas-tree cake pan or square cake pan (8 by 8 by 2 inches). Chill until firm. Press decorations into fudge using thin strips of gum drops, candy corn, miniature and large marshmallows, jelly beans, gum drop halves. Or trim with butter frosting put through pastry tube and stud with red cinnamon candies. Makes 2 1/4 pounds.

Note: Raisins or shredded coconut may be used instead of the nuts.

PANTRY SHELF GIFTS

Put pantry shelf-foods together in interesting combinations and

you'll have some gifts that food-loving friends will enjoy. Here are six ideas.

1. **CALLING ALL SALAD MAKERS**—A small bottle of olive oil and one of wine vinegar with a tiny jar of Dijon mustard.

2. **FOR SMALL FRY**—A small package of graham crackers, a small jar of peanut butter, a package of semi-sweet chocolate pieces, a tiny box of raisins, a few candied cherries wrapped in transparent film. Add directions: Spread crackers with peanut butter; make a face with chocolate and raisins for eyes and nose, pieces of cherry for mouth.

3. **FOR EPICURES**—A package of thin spaghetti, a fine brand of canned minced clams, a head of garlic, a small bottle of olive oil. Add directions: Cook spaghetti according to package directions; drain. Meanwhile heat some crushed garlic cloves with olive oil; add clams and their juice; reheat. Ladle spaghetti into soup bowls; pour clam mixture, with juice, over. Serve very hot with dessert spoons and supper forks.

4. **FOR DESSERT DEVOTEES**—A package of white or yellow cake mix, a can of sliced pineapple and a small bottle of maraschino cherries plus your favorite recipe for pineapple upsidedown cake.

5. **FOR A NEIGHBOR**—A half-pound package of cream cheese, a small can of flat anchovies, a lemon and a box of crackers. Add directions: mash cream cheese with enough drained anchovies to suit taste; season with a little lemon juice; add grated red onion if you like.

6. **FOR QUICK COOKS**—A large can of a fine brand of peach halves and a jar of mincemeat. Add directions: drain peaches and fill cavities with mincemeat; heat in oven or under broiler. Serve with whipped cream.



Just wishing you a Merry Christmas is not enough! We want to thank all of our friends and patrons who have helped make our year a prosperous one. May the true spirit of Christmas glow warmly in your heart and lead you into a New Year richly endowed with the blessings of peace and happiness.

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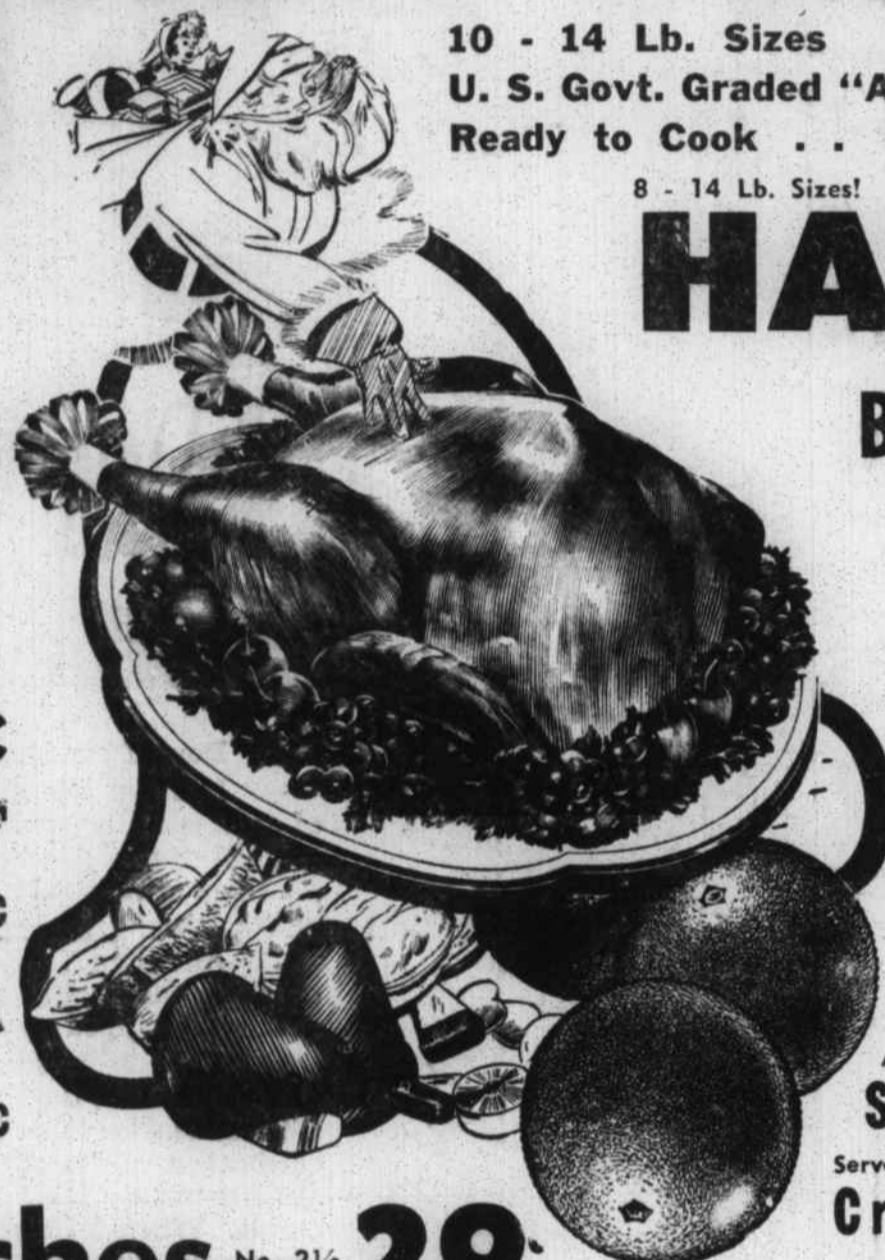
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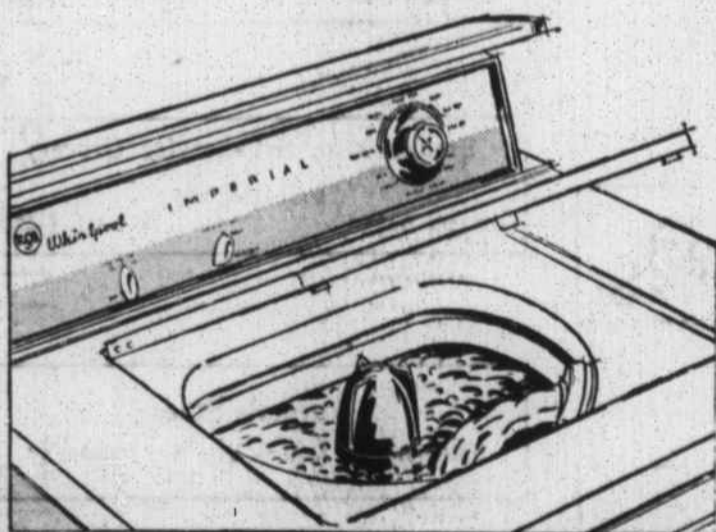
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