

TOT TALK

As far back as anyone can remember, it has been customary to have a small child draw the 18 names when a Craven County grand jury is being selected.

Other counties in the State use the same method, since it is obviously a fair way to do it. Few citizens like to be picked for jury duty, and fewer still want to land

on a grand jury that must serve for several months.

On one such occasion, a few years back, Joy Carpenter drew the names, but she brought no joy to her father, Primrose Carpenter. Instead, she brought him a measure of woe.

A busy florist who lives across the street from the court house, he was in the midst of preparing designs for two funerals when his 6 year-old daughter reached into the box and drew out his name.

Joy, her own particular job in court completed, scampered to the flower shop to keep her mother company, while her father started to work on a brand new assignment less than a hundred feet away.

Primrose, incidentally, made a good juror, and the grand jury he served on was responsible for some of the best work ever done by a group so functioning. Other jurors selected by Joy were busy men

too, like Carpenter, but having been chosen they forgot their momentary unhappiness over the matter, and took their responsibility seriously.

In Primmy's case, the floral designs got made and reached the two funerals in plenty of time. That's the way things usually get done, even when we feel we're indispensable. Grand jury duty is one method of finding that out.

HOMEMAKER'S CORNER

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None in the family, or at the party, is too young or too old to enjoy Peanut Brittle Whip Topping on a spicy pumpkin pie from the bakeshop. For masculine tastes, there is a Coffee-Honey Whip Topping for pumpkin pie. Youngsters will vote for Maple-Cream Cheese Topping or Almond Whip Topping.

Peanut Brittle Whip Topping

1/2 cup heavy cream
1 teaspoon confectioners' sugar
1/4 teaspoon vanilla extract
1/2 cup crushed peanut brittle candy

Whip cream, sugar and vanilla extract together with a rotary beater until thick. Fold in crushed peanut brittle. Allow to stand about an hour before spreading evenly over top of a bakers' pumpkin pie. Chill until serving time. Yield: 1 1/2 cups Peanut Brittle Whip Topping.

Coffee-Honey Whip Topping

1/2 cup heavy cream
1 teaspoon instant coffee
1 tablespoon confectioners' sugar
1/4 teaspoon vanilla
2 tablespoons honey

Combine cream, coffee, sugar and vanilla. Allow to stand in refrigerator about an hour; whip until thick. Spread evenly over top of a pumpkin pie. Chill until serving time. Drizzle honey over whipped cream and swirl with a knife or spatula at serving time. Yield: 1 1/8 cups Coffee-Honey Whip Topping.

Maple-Cream Cheese Topping

1 (3 oz.) package cream cheese
2 tablespoons maple syrup
Combine cream cheese and maple syrup. Serve with a pumpkin mince pie. Yield: 1/2 cup Maple-Cream Cheese Topping.

Almond Whip Topping

1/2 cup heavy cream

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Responsibility Lies with Man For Rodents on His Premises

The common rat has lived with man for so long until some people are ready to take him for granted.

But rats do not have to be taken for granted, according to Joe Lindsay, district agent for the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service. They can be eliminated.

"Each of us must accept responsibility for the rats we have on our premises," Lindsay said, "because we raise a good crop of rats for the same reasons we raise good hogs, cows or chickens."

"Rats, like these other animals, must have a sheltered place to raise their young. They must be protected from their natural enemies. They must have food and water."

To prevent having a good crop of

rats, Lindsay says a farmer must eliminate the things that will provide rats a good home. After making life difficult for the rats, there will usually be some that must be killed. County farm agents will gladly supply information.

Lindsay pointed out that rats have followed man around the world. The common barn rats came with early settlers from Europe. The native American species of rats rarely come into buildings, yet the species which came from Europe will rarely leave man's environment.

The common rat is man's greatest economic pest, and one of his greatest disease spreaders. Rats reproduce so fast that if provided good environment one pair of rats can produce a swarm of 350 million in three years; if they all live.

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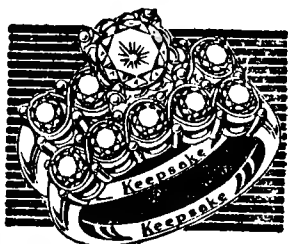
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