Creative Cooking From The

By MILDRED HUSKINS It's time to start thinking ahead to the Christmas season and to begin making the many delicacies that have become a tradition of the holiday season.

Preparing fruit cakes, plum puddings and many beautiful cookies takes a lot of time and energy. But the entire family will share the pleasure and anticipation in making and eating them, along with the fragrant goodness of the kitchen while all of this is going on, and make it more than worth the effort.

e an artist in the kitchen.

You're a teenager looking fc.

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always welcome at every holiday meal and they are perfect to give as gifts. Packed in containers bought in expectation during summer trips, picked up at bazaars or made with your own decorative touch to cans of various sizes and shapes, an annual cookie gift becomes an exciting surprise each year.

What would be nicer then to make cookies with the traditional flavors built in, yet made in half the time? So, today we'll give you the shortcut secret which is refrigerated Cookies for Christmas are slice and bake cookie dough

from the dairy case. These over the top for a finishing quickie recipes came to us from The Pillsbury Company. Choco For gift giving or storage wrap inside an air tight container so Squares, are elegant tasting large or small as they can be

served dessert-size, too. **Almond Brittle Sticks feature** a quickly baked base with a

Bourbon Balls are an appreciated neighborhood gift. the cookies are sure to stay moist. Another holiday favorite, One Step Meringue bars with a brown sugar meringue. Cut these cookies

buttery toffee topping. Crunchy sliced almonds are sprinkled

Meringue Squares
1 roll refrigerated Slice 'n Bake cookies 1 pkg. Coconut-Almond or

Coconut-Pecan Frosting 1 cup (6-oz. pkg.) semi-sweet chocolate bits

3 egg whites 1 cup firmly packed brown

Slice cookie dough into onefrosting mix and chocolate Library. pieces evenly over cookie dough. Beat egg whites until foamy. Gradually add brown sugar; beat until stiff peaks form, about five minutes. Spread meringue on frosting mix-chocolate layer. Bake at 350 degrees for 30 to 35 minutes Lofts. until meringue is browned and firm to touch. Cool; cut into

Almond Brittle Sticks roll Butterscotch Nut, Renault. Chewy Almond, Sugar or Peanut Butter Slice 'N Bake Phyllis Fenner. Cookies

1 cup butterscotch pieces

margarine

1/4 tablespoon salt

Sliced or slivered almonds Grease a 13 X 9-inch baking pan. Slice cookie dough in onefourth inch sliches; place in prepared pan. Bake at 375 Born by Peter Matthiessen. degrees for 15 to 20 minutes until golden brown. (Cookies by Abigail McCarthy. will be puffy when removed from oven.) Cool slightly. In medium saucepan, over low heat melt butterscotch pieces Irene Bowen. with remaining ingredients Frog and Toad are Friends by except almonds; stir mixture Arnold Lobel. until smooth. Spread butterscotch mixture evenly over Arnold Lobel. baked cookies. Sprinkle with almonds, Chill until firm; cut Rhymes.

These Festive Fruit Bars are Rhymes. reminiscent of fruit cake, but are much easier to make. The cookie batter, accented with hearty egg nog and rum flavorings, is baked in a Roblinson. rectangular pan, then dusted with confectioners' sugar and Fisher. cut into bars.

Festive Fruit Bars 1/2 stick butter

1 cup light brown sugar, firmly packed

1 egg 1 teaspoon rum flavoring 1½ cups sifted flour 1 teaspoon baking powder

¼ teaspoon soda ½ teaspoon salt 1 teaspoon nutmeg New Books At

Local Library fourth inch slices; place in New Books received at ungreased baking pan. Sprinkle Shepard-Pruden Memorial

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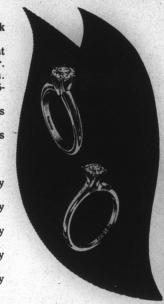
Tyrrell County Public Library records. Many of the titles are Clyde Watson.
in Columbia, and Washington old favorites which are new to The Emperor's Gift by County Library in Plymouth) each new generation of Gertrude Weaver.

1 cup egg nog 1½ cups candied diced fruit and peels

1 cup pecan pieces Confectioners' sugar Cream butter and brown sugar until light and fluffy. Beat ultimate height, growth habits, in egg and flavoring. Add sifted form, texture, rate of growth dry ingredients alternately with and cultural requirement. egg nog. Stir in fruits and nuts. Turn into greased and lightly floured 13 X 9-inch pan. Bake at 350 degrees for 40 minutes. Cool. Sift confectioners' sugar over top. Cut into bars. Makes about

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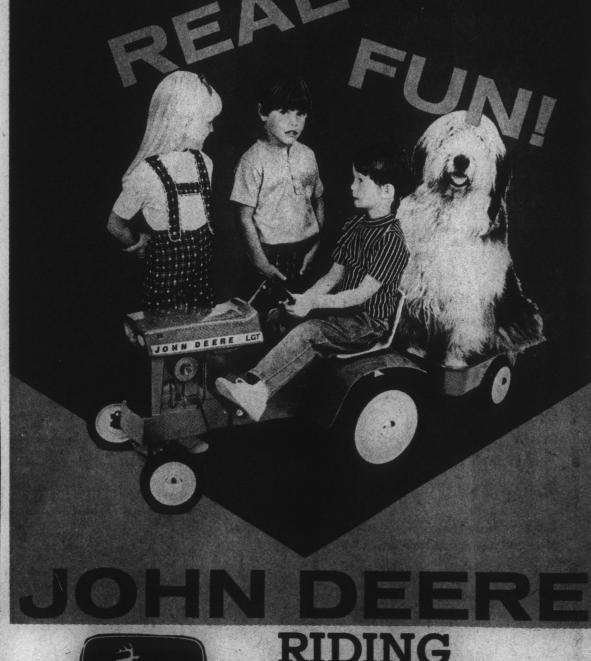
replaced regularly. The children's collection contains a large number of seasonal materials such as books and records for Christmas. Our adult departments have similar holdings which are being featured this month. There is nothing which enhances the Christmas spirit more than music and we have all kinds. SCREECHES

circulations, so they have to be

FAN CLUB - One of the more enterprising publishers of children's books has a clever gimmick that we have decided to try. It is a Frog and Toad Fan Club, complete with membership card to be awarded to any boy or girl who has read two charming books by Arnold Lobel. The books are from the I CAN READ series for young readers published by Harper and they are titled FROG AND TOAD ARE FRIENDS and FROG AND TOGETHER. Our problem is that we just have one copy of each book in each library and only 150 membership cards so it will take time for the formation

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