

Creative Cooking From The Chowan Herald Kitchen

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.

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 than 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 slice and bake cookie dough

from the dairy case. These quickie recipes came to us from The Pillsbury Company. Choco Bourbon Balls are an appreciated neighborhood gift. For gift giving or storage wrap inside an air tight container so the cookies are sure to stay moist. Another holiday favorite, One Step Meringue Squares, are elegant tasting bars with a brown sugar meringue. Cut these cookies large or small as they can be served dessert-size, too.

Almond Brittle Sticks feature a quickly baked base with a buttery toffee topping. Crunchy sliced almonds are sprinkled

over the top for a finishing touch.

One Step Meringue Squares
 1 roll refrigerated Slice 'n Bake cookies
 1 pkg. Coconut-Almond or Coconut-Pecan Frosting Mix
 1 cup (6-oz. pkg.) semi-sweet chocolate bits
 3 egg whites
 1 cup firmly packed brown sugar

Slice cookie dough into one-fourth inch slices; place in ungreased baking pan. Sprinkle frosting mix and chocolate 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 until meringue is browned and firm to touch. Cool; cut into bars.

Almond Brittle Sticks
 1 roll Butterscotch Nut, Chewy Almond, Sugar or Peanut Butter Slice 'N Bake Cookies
 1 cup butterscotch pieces
 1/4 cup light corn syrup
 2 tablespoons butter or margarine
 1/4 teaspoon salt
 Sliced or slivered almonds

Grease a 13 X 9-inch baking pan. Slice cookie dough in one-fourth inch slices; place in prepared pan. Bake at 375 degrees for 15 to 20 minutes until golden brown. (Cookies will be puffy when removed from oven.) Cool slightly. In medium saucepan, over low heat melt butterscotch pieces with remaining ingredients except almonds; stir mixture until smooth. Spread butterscotch mixture evenly over baked cookies. Sprinkle with almonds. Chill until firm; cut onto bars.

Festive Fruit Bars
 1/2 stick butter
 1 cup light brown sugar, firmly packed
 1 egg
 1 teaspoon rum flavoring
 1 1/2 cups sifted flour
 1 teaspoon baking powder
 1/4 teaspoon soda
 1/2 teaspoon salt
 1 teaspoon nutmeg



HOLIDAY COOKIES—These delicious cookies, ideal for holiday eating and giving, are made the short-cut way with refrigerated slice and bake cookie dough. Make the easy way out for holiday baking by using convenience products and be an artist in the kitchen.

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Owl Hoots And Screeches

By MRS. NELLIE M. SANDERS Director Pettigrew Regional Library

Memorial Library in Edenton, Tyrrell County Public Library in Columbia, and Washington County Library in Plymouth) and it is delightful to observe the enjoyment derived by the youngest library users from our newest purchases. One of our most popular services has been recordings for children and now we have some new combination

sets with books and matching records. Many of the titles are old favorites which are new to each new generation of children.

A perennial favorite has been works of Beatrix Potter, the author of Peter Rabbit. Each library has a set of posters based on illustrations from her books and we have just acquired new copies of fourteen of the titles in the series. The average life of such popular books for young children is 50 circulations, so they have to be 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
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 TOAD 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 of the club.



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