

My Favorite Stories

By CARL GOERCH

This story was passed along to me by Attorney General Harry McMullan, who read it in a book dealing chiefly with the Ross family of the Eastern part of North Carolina. Some time during the early part of the eighteenth century there lived a gentleman in the eastern part of the state who was a large landowner and a man of considerable means. He was very popular with the people in that section and visited around considerably. In those days ships used to ply the waters of the Pamlico River. Some of these came from overseas, while others traded between Eastern North Carolina and the West Indies. There used to be a large amount of shipping in those waters during that period. The gentleman in question—Harry told us his name, but we've forgotten it, so we'll just call him Mr. Harrison. Mr. Harrison drove up into the Martin County area one day to visit some of his friends in the community which later became known as Williamson. People thronged about him and asked him the news from other towns in that section. "Folks around Bonner's Plantations (now Washington) are all stirred up over the arrival of the ship from England a few days ago," he told them. "But, of course, you've heard all about that." They said they hadn't. "Well, then," he continued, "perhaps you'll be interested in the tale. The captain of the vessel announced shortly after his arrival that a peculiar situation had taken place in England. Some kind of an epidemic had broken out among cats and had resulted in the death of every living cat in the kingdom. "Naturally, after all the cats had

perished, the rats and mice increased in large numbers and are doing untold damage to property in England. The situation has become critical. His Majesty, King George III, has dispatched this vessel to our land with instructions to bring back as large a cargo of cats as it is possible for him to get aboard his ship. "The vessel is now at Bonner's Plantations, and everybody in that section is now engaged in hunting for cats and is selling them to the captain."

"Selling them?" someone in the crowd inquired. "Exactly!" said Mr. Harrison. "But, despite the efforts of all the people in that neighborhood, not enough cats can be found, and the cargo is still far short. That is why the captain asked me to spread the word up and down the coast, and that is also why he has raised the price which he is offering for cats."

"How much is he offering?" came the question. "A shilling for each healthy cat," replied Mr. Harrison. "A shilling! That was a lot of money in those days. Cats were plentiful. The crowd dispersed and the news spread through the community. It interested all who heard it. And it wasn't long before every mind was obsessed with one thought—cats!

Scores of people started a desperate search for cats, in some instances offering to pay a small amount of cash for them. They figured they could sell them to the captain of the ship at a profit. And within the course of a day or two a dozen or more wagons headed for Bonner's Plantations, loaded down with cats of every descrip-

tion. They drove to the waterfront and asked where the British ship was moored.

"What British ship?"

"The one that is loading with a cargo of cats."

"A cargo of what?"

"Cats."

The conversation continued and finally—to the intense delight of the people of Bonner's Plantations and to the equally intense chagrin of the folks from Martin County, the truth became known.

There was no British ship in Washington.

There had been no epidemic

among the cats of England.

No money was being offered for American cats.

The whole thing was a joke, concocted in the fertile mind of Mr. Harrison. And when the people from Martin County realized this fact they were as mad as hops.

However, there was nothing they could do about it. The majority of them immediately kicked their cats out of their wagons. The people of Bonner's Plantations objected to this, but it didn't do any good, and for many years after that there was a superabundance of cats in the neighborhood which later became the progressive little city of Washington.

Bess Truman Serves Up Her Famous Ozark Pudding

By JANE EADS

WASHINGTON — Local party-goers had a chance once again to taste Bess Truman's famous Ozark pudding when it was served at a recent shindig at the Woman's National Democratic Club.

The concoction, served in little bite-size squares topped with a dab of whipped cream, is the former First Lady's favorite recipe and is included in a cookbook of recipes put out by wives of members of Congress to earn money for their own Congressional Club.

The recipe gained a lot of pub-

licity when housewives all over the nation set about whipping it up for the family after seeing preliminary reports on the cookbook. In a flood of letters to the White House, they complained it didn't come out so well as it should.

The White House explained the recipe is a very old one and the beating of eggs and so forth in those days was done with a fork, or wire whisk, which took a long time, and a strong right arm. People using modern mechanical beaters wouldn't get the same results.

However the recipe was tried out both ways by the U. S. Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics.

"It doesn't matter how you mix it, the pudding turns out well," the bureau researchers announced at the time.

"Did you have trouble following the recipe?" I asked Mrs. Helen Van Allen, club manager, who had charge of refreshments at the party. I had sampled the sweet, a chewy nougat-like cake filled with chopped fruits and nuts, and found it delicious.

"Yes," was Mrs. Van Allen's sober answer. "It should be made like I did. It has to be with a fork. Making up 24 batches of it we just couldn't do it with a fork. We had to use an electric mixer."

Someone offered Miss Odum a piece, Miss Odum, Mrs. Truman's personal secretary when she lived in the White House. "How many hundreds of pounds of pudding?" Miss Odum asked. "She savored a nibble of recent batch."

You'll Welcome the Savings at our SPRING SALE!

BC BRINGS QUICK HEADACHE RELIEF
Tablets or Powder **23c**

Fast Relief from Spring Colds
SUPER ANAHIST
Maintains Resistance to Further Illness **98c**
20 Tablets

Beautiful Hair
BRECK SHAMPOOS
For Dry Oily Hair Normal **60c**

JOHNSON'S BABY OIL
Helps prevent chapping, chafing.
Medium Size **49c**

NOXZEMA
LOOK LOVELIER OFFER
40c SIZE Now Only **33c**

SQUIBB ASPIRIN
Mandy Trak-Pak dispenser free with each bottle of 100 aspirin **49c**
BOTH FOR

BROMO-SALTZER
Works Best for Headache and Upset Stomach **57c**

PROGINS SILK 'n SATIN LOTION
Makes every inch of you feel young. **49c**

We're blooming with Spring Sale Savings for you in every department throughout our store. See our garden of values on scores of your favorite health and beauty aids at low, low prices. Be an early bird. Come in today for first-of-the-season savings on things you need to feel your best — look your best — this Spring.

DEEP MAGIC **60c**
facial cleansing lotion

GASTILE SOAP **11c**

PAN-CAKE **\$1.60**
make-up by Max Factor

CUTEX NAIL POLISH REMOVER **15c**

PIN-IT **\$1.50**
pin curl permanent

Shining Examples of our **SPRING CLEANING VALUES**

- Air Wick 59c
- Moth Crystals lb 49c
- Hard Gloss Glo Coat pt. 59c
- O-Cell-O Sponge 69c
- Larvex pt 79c
- Lysol Disinfectant .. 99c
- Hazel Bishop Lipstick 1.10
- Woodbury Face Powder 59c
- Pond's Angel Face 1.00
- Tussy Dusting Powder 1.25

- Dr. West's TOOTHBRUSH 59c
- New Low Price—ALARM CLOCK \$2.95
- Squibb MINERAL OIL, Pint 69c
- Quality Buy—TOE NAIL NIPPERS 98c
- Chlorodont TOOTH PASTE, Giant 49c
- Dr. Scholl's ZIND PADS 39c

\$1.00 **SEAFORTH SHAVE LOTION**
2 for \$1.00

\$1.00 **Wind & Weather LOTION**
50c

Reg. \$1.59 **FOUNTAIN SYRINGE**
98c

1 Lb. **Rat and Mouse BAIT**
(Contains Warfarin) **75c**

BEST VALUES IN GROCERY BUYS

Plantation **FLOUR** **25 lbs \$1.69**
Selecto **PURE LARD** **4 lb Ctn. 63c**

JEWEL **SHORTENING** **3 lbs. 89c**
½ lb. FREE!

Marigold **OLEOMARGARINE** ... **2 lbs 35c**

Garner's **GRAPE JELLY** **12 oz 19c**

N. B. C. **PREMIUM CRACKERS** **1 lb 23c**

Duke's **MAYONNAISE** Pint **29c**

Sweetheart **SOAP** **4 Bars 27c**
Camay **SOAP** **4 Reg. 26c**

Dial **SOAP** **3 Bars 35c**
(2 Bath Size & 1 Reg.)
Maxine **TOILET SOAP** **10 Bars 59c**

Balentine's Superette
Emmett Balentine, Owner
Corner Branner Ave. and Depot Street

ESSO FUEL OIL
DIAL GL 6-5612
S. W. Whidden
RESIDENT DISTRIBUTOR
FOR
Waynesville - Hazelwood and Vicinity
Serving the area from Clyde to Balsam
Metered Truck Delivery
Office Plant Located on Sulphur Springs Road
Night Phone GL 6-5750

SMITH'S DRUGS

you save Safely

Home Owned and Home Operated Rexall Store

SPECIAL!
\$1.00 **Ball Point PEN**
59c

SPECIAL!
59c **Squibb Angle TOOTH BRUSH**
2/89c

BUY THE LARGE SIZE!

ANACIN
FAST PAIN RELIEF
HEADACHE, NEURALGIA, NEURITIS

SAVE 50%

GET TWICE AS MUCH FOR YOUR MONEY!
100 tablets... only **98c**

2 Cell (with batteries) **FLASHLIGHT** **98c**
Reg. \$3.98 (3 heat)
HEATING PAD **\$2.98**
Reg. 79c
RUBBER GLOVES **39c**

Special Sale!

Tussy After-Bath Lotion
big 12 ounce bottle...regular \$1.75 size
now only \$1.00

- Refreshing as an alcohol rub
 - Smooths the skin like a cream
 - Eases that dry, after-bath feeling
 - Helps girldle glide on easily
 - Ends nylon-catching roughness
 - Leaves a lovely all-over fragrance
- Buy several bottles of this luscious creamy lotion, at this special price. It's a big bottle...on sale for only a short time. Get a supply today!