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Among . . . Homemakers
Grace McKenzie

High on every mother's list of New Year's resolutions is that of continuing to keep America's energetic youngsters among the healthiest and happiest in the world. The school lunch manager, too, renews her pledge to provide attractive hot dishes tops in appetite appeal and food value even though her

slim food budget seldom increases along with food costs.

Most helpful food to both the cook in the home and the cook in the school is versatile enriched white flour. With this dependable ingredient she can transform thrifty dried fruits, economical cuts of meat and low-cost seasonal vegetables into glamorous, healthful feasting.

Meat Ball Pie, for example, combines the good flavor of that budget-helper, ground meat, with colorful mixed vegetables. Golden-crust flaky drop biscuits top this pie. Watch bright eyes shine when generous hands serve steaming Meat Ball Pie. Watch empty plates return to the kitchen as satisfied youngsters return to school desks.

Fruit-filled Pudding shows how enriched flour makes delicious use of dried fruits. The base of this flavorful dessert is scone dough rolled to make a rectangle and filled with sweetened stewed fruits. Slices of this fruit-filled sweet bread are then placed cut side down in muffin cups for baking. For serving, a fruity hot sauce is poured over each roll. Without the sauce these puddings are sweet hot breads.

Meat Ball Pie
1-2 pound ground beef
1-2 teaspoon salt
1 tablespoon chili sauce
1 egg
2 tablespoons fat or drippings
2 tablespoons enriched flour
1-2 teaspoon salt

1 cup vegetable liquor or water
1 cup cooked mixed vegetables
To ground beef add 1-2 teaspoon salt, chili sauce, and egg. Mix thoroughly and shape into 4 balls. Melt fat or drippings in skillet. Add meat balls and brown lightly. Remove meat balls and drain. To drippings in pan add flour, and 1-2 teaspoon salt and mix well. Gradually add vegetable liquor or water stirring constantly until thickened. Add mixed vegetables. Pour into 2-quart casserole and add meat balls. Drop spoonful of biscuit topping on each meat ball. Bake in hot oven (450 deg. F.) 10 to 25 minutes. Serve hot.

Biscuit Topping
1 cup sifted enriched flour
1-2 teaspoon salt
1-2 teaspoons baking powder
2 tablespoons shortening
1-2 cup milk
Sift together flour, salt and baking powder. Cut or rub in shortening. Add milk and mix until flour is well-moistened. Makes 4 servings.

Fruit Filled Muffin Pudding
Filling
1 cup stewed chopped apples or apricots
1-4 cup currants
1-2 cup sugar
1-2 teaspoon cinnamon
2 tablespoons enriched flour
1 tablespoon lemon juice
1-2 cup water
Combine fruit, sugar, cinnamon, and flour. Add lemon juice and water and mix well. Cook until thickened (about 7 minutes) stir-

ring constantly. Cool and spread on scone dough.

Scone Dough
2 cups sifted enriched flour
3 teaspoons baking powder
1 teaspoon salt
1 tablespoon sugar
1-4 cup shortening
2 eggs
1-4 cup milk

Sift together flour, baking powder, salt, and sugar. Cut or rub in shortening. Beat eggs and add milk. Add to flour mixture, mixing only enough to moisten flour. Turn out on lightly floured board and knead gently 1-2 minutes. Roll into rectangular sheet 12 inches wide and 1-4 inch thick. Cut into strips about 6 inches wide. Spread filling in center of each strip, fold over and seal edges. Cut into pieces 1 inch thick. Place two pieces, cut side down in well-greased muffin pans. Bake in hot oven (425 deg. F.) 12 to 15 minutes. Serve warm with hot fruit sauce. Make 10 individual muffin puddings.

Now Is Good Time To Hatch Chickens

To make the most money from egg production, commercial and semi-commercial marketers should have their chicks hatched during late January or early February, advises T. T. Brown, associate poultry professor at State College. Chicks hatched at this time, Brown explains, will come into

heavy production during the fall months, when egg prices are at their peak, and will therefore be more profitable than chicks hatched at other periods.

The poultry specialist warns, however, that pullets can be hatched too early for best results in such cases the layers not only come into good production before egg prices reach a high level, but they also are of small body size and lay smaller eggs throughout their first laying year.

Brown also points out that chicks hatched in January and February require special management, including the use of lights and wet mash or pellets to prevent molt. Farm flock owners and others not equipped or not interested enough to follow these special practices are advised to wait until early spring before obtaining their chicks.

According to Brown, birds hatched in January and February, if they are of good breeding and are managed and fed well, will begin laying in July. By early September they will be past the pullet or small-egg class and will be in good production, laying at a profitable rate. Egg prices usually are at their peak during September, October, November, and December, adds Brown.

Production of farm machinery last year exceeded the previous record, established in 1947, by about 15 per cent.

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