Homemade ice cream has always been popular

ROSEMONT, Ill. - Who can say just what it is that makes homemade ice cream such an incomparable delight?

Perhaps it's the energy used in cranking that creamy concoction to perfection. Or, maybe it's the taste of thick, sweet cream, beautiful berries or luscious fruit. It might even be the fantasies conceived about it while chipping the ice.

Whatever it is, there is little to equal the ambrosial delight called homemade ice cream. It's possible, even today, to sample its goodness. For that ice cream is as different as night from day from anything ever tasted.

Several types of ice cream makers are available. The newest is a small size (two quart) electric model which utilizes two to three trays of ice cubes and table salt. Two older models which made a gallon of ice cream are the manual crank type or the electric crank type.

Whichever type of ice cream maker one chooses, it will be easier than it was for Emperor Nero in the fourth century, who sent runners to the Alps for snow to be topped with fruit juices and honey.

When Marco Polo returned to Europe from China during the 13th century, he brought recipes for milk and water ices. These popular dishes were improved by the Italians who developed a cooling process for water by using saltpeter. It was Tortoni who introduced cream ices, as they were called, to the French and English toward the end of the 18th century. This was a treat reserved for royalty. with the recipe kept secret from common folk.

By 1776 it wasn't secret

years

experience



any longer and several confectioners in America made a speciality of ice cream. George Washington, Dolly Madison and Mrs. Alexander Hamilton served it on many occasions.

Probably the biggest boon in ice cream making came with the invention of rotary paddles in 1786. They kept the product smooth while it froze, thus making possible the creaminess for which it is known even today. This also made possible the manufacture of large quantities of ice cream so everyone could get a taste of the ambrosia.

If one is using the gallonsized home freezer, he should plan on having at least three cups of rock salt (approximately two pounds) and at least 20 pounds of crushed ice. Should one plan to harden and ripen the ice cream in the food freezer, it will take slightly less salt and ice in the ice cream maker.

In the older model it's important that the hole in the freezer bucket be kept open to allow brine to drain. After the ice cream has formed, a person drains brine by tilting the freezer and clearing ice and salt to about two inches below the cover. One should be sure to wipe the cover before opening so no brine drips into the celestial mixture.

There will be soft portions as well as firm ones in the ice cream. Blend the two, then ripen in the ice cream container or in plastic containers. This will take about three hours. If one is storing the ice cream after hardening, one can cover the top of the ice cream with plastic wrap, then seal the container

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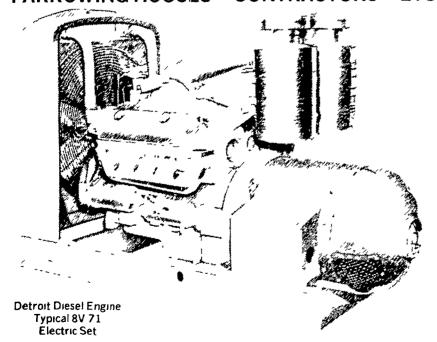
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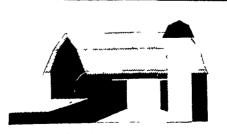


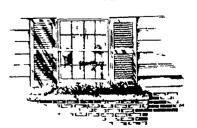
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