# "Microwave Magic"

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The holidays are fast approaching us and it is now time to start getting out our recipes for planning those delicious meals. If you'd look now through magazines and begin to gather recipes you might use for your holiday meals, holiday cooking might become much easier. For that turkey meal why not try a low-calorie cranberry sauce? Or a cream sauce for over vegetables such as cauliflower or those little white onions.

CRANBERRY SAUCE

1 cup fresh or thawed frozen cranberries

1 cup chopped apples

1/4 cup raisins

1/2 cup apple juice

1 teaspoon ground cinnamon

1 teaspoon lemon peel

6 packets sweetener (equal to 12 tsp. sugar).

1 baking dish - 11/2 -quart cas-

Time bake at HIGH for 5 to 7 minutes.

In a casserole dish combine cranberries, apple, raisins, apple juice, cinnamon and lemon peel. Cover loosely with waxed paper. Microwave at full power (HIGH) for 5 to 7 minutes or until skins on cranberries pop, stirring once. Add powdered sweetener and stir until dissolved. Cool. Cover and refrigerate. Each 1 tablespoon serving equals 14 calories and less than 1 mg. sodium.

#### **CREAM SAUCE**

4 teaspoons cornstarch

1 teaspoon no salt added chicken or beef bouillon cubes

1/4 teaspoon white pepper

1/4 teaspoon dry mustard

½ teaspoon dried leaf herb 1% cups skim milk

Glass measuring cup - 4-cup

Time bake at HIGH 4 to 41/2

Spray top portion of a glass measuring cup to coat with a nonstick coating spray such as PAM. Combine cornstarch, bouillon cubes, white pepper and mustard in measuring cup. Add dried leaf herb. Mix well. Add a little milk and stir until mixture is smooth. Whisk in remaining milk. Microwave at full power (HIGH) for 4 to 41/2 minutes until thickened and bubbly, whisking 3 times. Watch carefully so sauce does not boil over toward end of cooking time.

Sauce should be thickened and smooth.

Each % cup serving equals 44 calories with only 45 mg. sodium.

#### HOLIDAY PARTY **BEAN DIP**

1 can condensed bean with bacon soup

1 5-oz. jar processed cheese spread with bacon

2 tablespoons brown sugar.

1 tablespoon Worcestershire

1 tablespoon prepared mustard 2 teaspoons instant minced on-

1/4 teaspoon bottled hot pepper sauce

1 cup dairy sour cream Baking dish - 1 quart casserole Time bake at (HIGH) 4 to 5

Time bake at (LOW) 2 minutes. In a deep 1 quart casserole, combine soup, cheese, brown sugar, Worcestershire sauce, mustard, onion and hot pepper sauce. Cover. Microwave at full power (HIGH) for 4 to 5 minutes or until cheese melts, stirring twice. Stir ½ cup bean mixture into sour cream. Stir cream mixture into bean mixture in casserole. Cover. Microwave at (Medium Low heat) for 2 minutes or until heated through, stirring once. Serve hot with vegetable dippers and chips.

For the kids to make on a cool evening or after that soccer game.

HOT COCOA ½ cup unsweetened cocoa powder

½ cup sugar

½ cup hot water

7 cups milk

1 teaspoon vanilla extract 6 to 8 large marshmallows

In a casserole dish thoroughly blend together cocoa powder and sugar. Whisk in hot water until blended. Cover and microwave at full power (HIGH) for 3 minutes. Gradually whisk in milk. Cover. Microwave at full power (HIGH) for 13 to 15 minutes. Whisking 3 times. Whisk in vanilla. Ladle cocoa into mugs and top with marshmallows. Ārrange mugs in a circle in microwave and use (HIGH) power for another two

minutes or until marshmallows are

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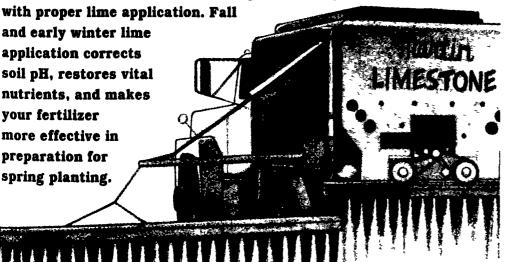
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