

When Ma Was Sick

Comprehensive Survey Gives Aid to the State

It was Sunday morning, Pa Jenkins wearing a kitchen apron, shirt sleeves rolled up, and his arms covered to the elbow with flour, stood at the kitchen table trying to make bread. Ma sat nearby and directed the operation.

"To think I had to go and slip and break that arm on a Saturday," he moaned Ma, gazing disapprovingly at her bandaged right arm, "and leave us without any fresh baking for Sunday."

"Well, your little old William is on the job," cheerfully quoth Pa. "Strong's 're got any muscle we'll have bread."

He knaded with energy.

"You must not work it as hard as that," declared Ma. "Now cut it into pieces and make loaves, and then I'll have to rise again. No—not like that. That won't make a nice shaped loaf."

"What's shape if it's good to eat?" inquired Pa. "You just stop worrying, Ma. Everything's going to be all right, and you'd better lie down a while. Soon's I get this dough stuff off my hands I'll make the bread."

"I do hope nobody'll come in today," fussed Ma, thinking of the undusted house and her inability to provide refreshments. Pa meant well and was more than willing to "do his darndest," but of course he couldn't do things right.

And company came! Word had gone abroad that Ma Jenkins had suffered an accident, so everybody called—all the neighbors and club ladies, and members of the Ladies' Aid, and the minister's wife and mother-in-law.

Some brought flowers and others brought such substantial as healthy looking veal loaf, two beautiful loaves of homemade whole wheat bread, a couple of pans of home baked rolls, a huge loaf of white bread, a plateful of luscious looking currant jelly tarts, glasses of jelly and jars of fruit and cookies galore. Besides the flowers and the "eats" all brought condolences and thrilling tales of accidents that happened in other families, related in much painful detail.

Finally the callers had all departed except one middle aged woman whose limousine was waiting for her. She was a member of Ma's church—a wealthy woman who seldom had anything to say, and who, rumor said, had started life in very poor circumstances. She had brought neither flowers nor cakes, and while others talked she sat silent, looking her sympathy for Ma. When they were alone—Pa had gone down cellar to attend to the furnace—she began to speak hesitatingly, as if it were difficult to find words to express her feelings.

"I didn't know there'd be so many callers, right away," said the rich woman. "And I didn't think of bringing anything—like the rest did. I'm rather slow thinking about things that way. But I did think that I might come in and fix up your house. I'm good at that."

"Now that's kind of you," answered Ma, "but Pa's awful handy around the house."

"But a man isn't like a woman to do things," answered the caller, "and I know how a woman feels about her house. Now, there's the kitchen floor. Couldn't I scrub that for you? Let me see of some use."

"I was simply dumfounded," said Ma to Pa, afterward. "But she really meant it. And she's going to send one of her maids over tomorrow to stay as long as we need her. Now, who'd think a woman as rich as that would want to scrub my kitchen floor for me?"

"Evens money can't keep a good heart down," sentimentally stated Pa. "Say that was a dinged good batch of bread I turned out all right, now wasn't it?"

A Careful Mother
"Now it's time for you to start for school, Reggie, darling. Good-by. No don't kiss me! How many times must I tell you that kissing is unsanitary."

"Oh, child, how could you pat the dog? Now, we must sterilize your hands all over, again and steam them and then use the antiseptic spray on them. There! Now, here are your antiseptic gloves. Get your hands into 'em quickly."

"And here's your individual car strap. Be careful not to touch any other."

"Have those shoes been baked since you wore them yesterday? No! Then you must change them. Here's another pair just out of the oven. And here's your state, dearie. It's been well boiled and afterward baked."

"Now, remember, put on your rubber gloves when working at the black board, and use your own cup to drink from and here's the antiseptic spray to use on your desk."

"And here are two cubes of germicide and a vaporizer. Gargle every one hour from this bottle, and sniff this one every odd hour."

"Here's your doctor's certificate in his antiseptic case. Show it to the teacher if he insists on cutting out your tonsils again, and tell him I'm sure your adenoids have not grown again since your operation last week."

"Now, run along, dearie. Don't breathe when the wind is blowing or any dust flying or any people passing. Don't breathe at all if you can help it. Good-by. No, don't touch mother's hand—just wave a farewell. But wave away from yourself, not toward you."

Worry gives the undertaker more business than work does.

VALUABLE FLOOD DATA AVAILABLE

Comprehensive Survey Gives Aid to the State

SEEK TO REGULATE RIVERS

Flood Waters Stored During Half of Year Can Be Used to Aid Navigation During the Other Half.

When the next state legislature begins to investigate the feasibility and desirability of undertaking river regulation works for the combined purposes of flood prevention and aid to navigation it will find a great deal of valuable data at its disposal. Such works have been successfully operated in this and other countries and many investigations have been made which will be of considerable value in approaching the task of finding the best method to pursue.

In Pennsylvania one of the most comprehensive and complete studies ever undertaken has been consummated by the Flood Commission of Pittsburgh, aided by the State Water Supply Commission. The engineers of the Flood Commission report in favor of the construction of storage reservoirs as the best means of preventing floods. Their studies developed the fact that these reservoirs would furnish an aid to navigation, the importance of which was equal to if not in excess of that of flood prevention. It was found that the floods usually occur between the months of November and April and that all the severe ones have taken place during that period. It was known that between the months of April and November there are frequent periods of drought when no navigation is possible and other periods when navigation is uncertain.

Investigation further showed that this condition exists even on the Monongahela river which has a complete system of locks and dams and that it would still exist after the Federal Government has completed its expensive task of canalizing the Ohio and Allegheny rivers, which projects are now in progress.

Store Flood Waters.

With these facts in mind the Flood Commission's engineers were impressed with the desirability of using the flood waters stored between November and April to relieve the low water conditions occurring between April and November and set about to ascertain if this were possible. The work of the surveying parties resulted in the location of several reservoir sites which afforded a sufficient combined capacity to store enough water to keep back the crest of the floods and by carefully compiling all the stream flow, flood and rainfall data available it was found that beyond doubt such reservoirs would be of immense aid to continuous navigation on the Ohio and that under regulated commerce on that important stream could not even be approximated in any other way.

A comprehensive survey of the Monongahela and Allegheny basins and those of the tributaries thereof was made by the Flood Commission as well as a complete investigation of the flood problem in the Allegheny and about Pittsburgh. This led to the conclusion that, while much could be done to protect the lower portions of the city from floods by raising streets and building walls, the fullest, most practical and most permanent relief would come only through source control by means of storage reservoirs, and such reservoirs would provide other public benefits, which would make their construction not only desirable but also necessary.

Natural Reservoir Sites.
It was found that natural reservoir sites existed at the headwaters of the two streams whose combined capacity is sufficient to hold back the crest of the largest known flood stage. With the crest of the flood retained, the local protection means recommended as a complement to the reservoir system would prevent the rivers from overflowing their banks and thus end the annual work.

The plan proposed by the Flood Commission is one of river regulation. To lower the stage when water is abundant and destructive and to increase the stage when water is scarce and needed. And in accomplishing this the incidental aid given by increasing the water supply of communities along the rivers during periods of drought and in making sanitary conditions in the streams better at the same periods gives added importance to the plan of storage reservoirs. There are many known instances of whole towns being practically without water supply in the summer time and with sewage pouring into empty rivers the menace to health was not only apparent but often actual. Along the properly regulated stream such conditions could not exist. It is known, too, that floods in the western part of the state are becoming more frequent and more destructive while the stream flow in the summer time is gradually growing less.

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The KITCHEN CUPBOARD

WEEK END MENU.

SATURDAY BREAKFAST.
Stewed Peas, Cereal, Corned Beef, Fish Cakes, Buttered Toast, Coffee.

LUNCHEON.
Macaroni Timbale, Stewed Peas, Cabbage, Turnips, Green Beans, Cabbage Salad, Creamed Egg Pudding, Hard Sauce.

DINNER.
Tomato Soup, Croutons, Roast Chicken, Fried Potatoes, Green Peas, Cabbage Salad, Creamed Egg Pudding, Hard Sauce.

THE CAKE BOX.

MARBLE CAKE.—One cupful of butter, two and a half cupfuls of sugar, three eggs, a cupful of milk, three and a half cupfuls of sifted flour, mixed with two teaspoonfuls baking powder, spice or flavoring to taste. Pour into your greased and paper lined pan to the depth of an inch. Put in a layer of dark fruit cake sliced a little thin; then pour in another inch of the cake batter and bake. Frost if liked.

Cheap Gingerbread.—A cupful of molasses, salt, ginger, a tablespoonful of lard, a cupful of hot water, a teaspoonful of baking powder, two cupfuls of soda, flour to make real soft.

Date Spice Cakes.—One cupful dates, one cupful brown sugar, one cupful cooking molasses, one-half teaspoonful salt, teaspoonful baking soda, one teaspoonful each of cinnamon and ginger and one-half teaspoonful grated nutmeg.

Cheap Cake.—A cupful of sugar, a spoonful of butter, half a cupful of milk, a spoonful of cocoa, salt, a teaspoonful of baking powder, two cupfuls of flour, or leave out cocoa and add a little more milk and a cupful of raisins or put in a little of all kinds of spice and have a spice cake.

White Fruit Cake.—One cupful butter, two cupfuls sugar, three cupfuls flour, whites of eight eggs, one-half wineglassful of white wine, two teaspoonfuls baking powder, one-fourth pound citron, one dime one-fourth pound chopped almonds, one teaspoonful coconut and a pinch of salt. Beat butter to a cream and gradually beat in the sugar, then the wine; beat the egg whites to a stiff froth and stir into the butter and sugar; add the flour, which is sifted four times, with the baking powder; last of all the fruit, almonds, citron and coconut.

Anna Thompson.

Facts Versus Fallacies

FACT is a real state of things. FALLACY is an apparent statement or really illogical statement or argument.

PROHIBITION continues to labor under the FALLACY that all that is necessary to stop the sale and use of intoxicating liquors is to enact a prohibitory law.

YET THE FACT remains that all experiments made by States to suppress, or to lessen the traffic in stimulating drinks, have shown that Prohibition laws have proven a failure in enforcement—that any Statute not respected by citizens of a community falls of its own weight—that the only result of prohibitory laws against personal rights has been the driving of men into the lawless making and selling of alcoholic beverages.

AN ILLUSTRATION is furnished by eight States in the South where total or partial Prohibition obtains—Alabama, Georgia, North Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, Florida, Kentucky and South Carolina. In spite of the most earnest efforts of Internal Revenue agents of the United States Government to enforce law, there have been uncovered and seized during the last four years in the States mentioned above nearly 10,000 illicit stills.

IN 1885, just previous to the time that Prohibition ideas in the South had gained some footing, there were only 255 lawless liquor-making stills detected. In 1903, the illicit stills raided had increased to 1053. In 1910, there were 1911 lawless stills uncovered, and last year the "moonshine" liquor-making dens ferreted out had grown to 2677—and this, too, with the exception of 21, merely in the eight Southern States before mentioned.

INTERNAL Revenue statistics show that the number of legal distilleries—those that operate in strict conformity with the Government laws and regulations—has never exceeded 1000 in any given year.

THEN this startling FACT becomes apparent—there are raided every year more than twice as many illicit distilleries as there are legal distilleries! And the FALLACY of Prohibition is shown by the Government reports that over 99 per cent of these illegal distilleries are confined to States where Prohibition obtains.

Pennsylvania State Brewers' Association

1000 Legal Distilleries
2677 Illicit Stills

ADVERTISE IN THE COURIER