

# Household Suggestions

### **A Homemade Ice Chest**

In certain districts of Europe, particularly in Russia and Brittany, buckwheat forms the staple part of the diet. In our own country, however, it is used wholly in the making of pancakes. Buckwheat flour is very nutritious, and is rich in the carbonaceous or heat and energy-producing elements. The exact proportions of the various elements are: Protein, 6.4 per cent; fats, 1.2 per cent; carbohydrates, 77.9 per cent, with 1,620 calories to the pound. The use of butter on the cakes makes up for the low percentage of fats, and for this reason is more healthful than syrup or molasses, which add a higher proportion of carbohydrates to a food already highly

gestible because of the frying process. Workingmen speak of them as "sticking to the ribs"-merely another way of saying that they remain undigested in the stomach for several hours, and thus stave off the approach of hunger. Omit the frying-but then, pancakes would not be pancakes prepared in any other

How can I lower the cost of the family

ful housekeepers are trying hard to answer. And as the meat bill is usually one of the largest, our attentions

In her desire to find a remedy the housewife may decide to try the cuts of meats which retail at low prices. Failing to produce a palatable dish she goes back, discouraged to the well known and easily prepared tender steaks, chops

er cuts, unless properly handled, are generally lacking in flavor, possess long and coarse fibers, and a large amount of connective tissue which the small boy

cuts may be cooked with vegetables and

the tail pieces of the porterhouse steaks, and even plate meat we can fashion delicious combinations as Salisbury steak, mock duck with dressing and garnish of vegetables, cannelon of beef, or beef

we do not care to grind, can be broken by pounding with the edge of a heavy

An ice box can be made for almost nothing that will take the place of a refrigerator in keeping the baby's milk cool.

An ordinary wooden box can be used. It must be about a foot one way, a foot and a half the other, and it ought to be a foot deep. The bottom of the box must be well covered with sawdust. On the sawdust is set a can or pail of tin or granite about eight inches in diameter, and high enough to hold a quart bottle of milk. The bottom of the pail must not touch the box. The sawdust must be thick under the pail.

A cylinder of tin a little larger than the pail must be placed around it. Sawdust is then packed between the cylinder and the walls of the box. No sawdust is permitted to fall between the cylinder and pail.

It would be well to have the cylinder extend a little above the pail, as the sawdust is packed almost to the top of the cylinder.

A heavy pad of newspapers is tacked over the lid of the box. This makes a perfect method of keeping milk cool. A bottle is set in the pail and cracked ice is packed around the bottle.

This homemade refrigerator will hold two quart bottles of milk, or four eightounce feeding bottles.

It, will not cost more than three cents a day to supply this box with ice. If a tin can is used, it will not rust if a little soda is put in with the ice each day.

## Rye

Rye flour contains from four to six per cent less nitrogenous, or cell-building, material than does wheat flour, but on the other hand it contains from two to six per cent more of the carbohydrate, or energy-producing, element. This excess of carbohydrates would seem to make rye bread more valuable to the workingman than the wheat bread, but this advantage is offset by the fact that it is more difficult of digestion than wheat bread.

In Germany two, and in Russia three, times as much rye is produced as wheat. Bread from rye, however, is coarser of texture than white bread, and consequently is slightly laxative, and so may be eaten with good effect when one is constipated. Rye bread has also this advantage, particularly in the summer months that it is slightly hygroscopic-

that is, it gathers moisture from the surrounding atmosphere and does not dry out so quickly as wheat bread.

# **Barley**

Barley is a little more nutritious than rye, being richer in proteins and fats, though containing six per cent less car-bonaceous material. In general favor among the housewives of early New England for bread, barley flour is to-day used almost not at all for this purpose. Barley bread, however, offers a change in the diet, and while, like rye bread, it is more difficult of digestion than wheat bread, it is, at the same time slightly laxative, and for this reason persons subject to constipation can use it to advantage.

In making barley bread be careful to mix with the flour a small quantity of wheat flour, in order to make good a deficiency of gluten in the barley flour. ribs, boned and rolled; rolled flank; Likewise, a little barley flour added to the ingredients for wheat bread improves the flavor of the bread, and because of its hygroscopic qualities, enables the loaf to retain its moisture.

Pearl barley is barley from which the outer shell, or husk, has been removed, and which has been polished by a mechanical process. It contains rather less nitrogenous material than barley flour, but has a higher percentage of carbohydrates.

The two recipes which follow are simple, and as pleasing as they are simple.