

The Wife's Portion

Mr. T. R. James, Middlesex Co., Ont.

At the best, one can do little but theorize upon this subject. It would be a comparatively simple matter to solve individual cases. What would be applicable to one, however, would not apply in the least to some others. Upon this hinges, to a large extent, the ever-present question of the wife's portion.

Let us look at the question from the standpoint of the poor man's wife. For the poor man, taken in the sense of the laboring or hired man, the best working method that has

been devised is to hand over to the wife practically the whole of the earnings and allow her the pleasure of all the spending. Instances are numerous where this has worked out satisfactorily. On the other hand, there are many men who would not care to follow this practice, though in the majority of cases, such would be in their best interests.

With the farmer starting out in life, or to one who has not made a signal success of his business, to allot a portion to his wife would seem the height of folly. Where the mortgage is to be paid off, and other major expenses are to be met, as well as

improvements upon the farm and about the house, the position of man and wife should be one of equal partnership rather than for either one to receive a portion. Here one should use whatever is required for necessities, and, as far as possible, practice denial with many of the luxuries. In this way and in this way only can ultimate success in the shape of a mortgage-free farm be secured.

With the rich, the settling of the wife's portion is wholly a different matter. There need be but little, if any effort to save, or to "make one meet." A portion large or small, in accordance with the desire of the wife, can be allotted in equal ease. The same is true concerning the children. But this very fact of having an allowance is, in a large measure, accountable in the origin of the oft-repeated and all too true axiom, "Degenerate sons of noble sires." In having to do without many of the things that luxury would provide and in having to practise self-denial to some extent, one is fitted for larger things in life. Having gone through these experiences one can appreciate luxuries to the fullest at such a time when practices of self-denial are unnecessary.

Probably the most satisfactory solution of this question is that of equal partners between husband and wife. The same principle should apply, in so far as possible, with other members of the family, i.e., having a common purse. In addition to this, some of the allowance principle, where circumstances would seem to indicate it, will be found necessary. With the farmer of ordinary tact and resource this system, which recognizes joint-ownership and does away with any semblance of one being a hireling, will work satisfactorily.

cherries and serve on bright plates on leaves of lettuce with dressing.

PUMPKIN PIE

Steam the pumpkin until soft, dry and rub through a sieve. Add one and a half tablespoonsful of brown sugar to a cupful and a half of pumpkin, two eggs, beaten slightly, one teaspoonful of cinnamon, one-half teaspoonful of ginger and a little salt, one and a half cupsful of milk and a half cup of cream. Bake until golden brown in a pan lined with rich pastry.

Fish Dainties

Remnants of fish picked into bits may be added to twice the bulk of cold, boiled potatoes, chopped fine, for fish hash. Moisten this with a little drawn butter sauce, left over, or use hot water and finish with a piece of butter.

Mix half a cup of cooked fish, picked into bits, through a cup of mashed potatoes; shape into small flat cakes, roll these in flour, and fry in salt pork or bacon fat. Or, when rolling in flour, set on to a buttered pan, put a teaspoonful of butter on the top of each cake and set the dish in the oven, to make the cakes hot and brown.

The skimming of fat from off soups and so forth, should be saved for frying purposes.

An egg that is cracked can be boiled by placing a teaspoonful of salt in the water, as the egg will then cook without losing any of the white.

Milk, cream, or butter should not be put in an ice box or chest with other articles of food unless in closed vessels as they absorb odors very quickly.

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CREAMED ONIONS

In boiling onions change the water very frequently to destroy their strong flavor. When tender, cover with a cream sauce highly seasoned.

Cranberry jelly is the natural accompaniment of the turkey, but it is particularly pretty if served on slices of orange-peel. Put the jelly to harden and turn out on each slice.

FRUIT SALAD

This requires equal portions of cut, crisp celery, cherries and white grapes, with nuts. Cut each grape at the side to remove the seeds and press in half a pecan nut. Use canned

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