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EMPEROR OF JAPAN HONORS THE PEARL KING

"Kokichi Mikimoto, known as the Pearl King of Japan," was decorated with the ribbon of the sacred treasury by the Emperor of Japan, the other day. This is a high and rather unusual honor for a business man who does not belong to the world of great industrialists and financial magnates.

"Mikimoto, who knows how to advertise goods, is using the decoration actively for purposes of publicity," says a writer in Vossische Zietun, Berlin.

"He is an efficient business man and practically started the new and profitable branch of exportation industry which sells artificially reared pearls. This industry brings from 1,000,000 to 2,000,000 yen to Japan every year. He is a self-made man.

Child of Poor Parents

"In 1858 Mikimoto was born in the fishermen's village of Toba. He was the child of poor parents and earned a living for a long time by selling fruit beans and the like. How and when he got the idea of gathering and selling pearls nobody knows.

"At all events he received a prize in 1922 at an exposition in Tokio, but probably only for real pearls.

"Pearl fishing, which is rather pearl diving, and is practiced by women and young girls, is nothing new in the home district of Mikimoto. The waters of the bay near his home are unusually clear and calm and moreover are warmed by the Asiatic gulf stream, the 'Black Stream,' which comes up from Formosa.

"Cultivating" Pearls

"At the exposition in Tokio, two university professors seem to have become interested in the 'cultivation of pearls, an art which is said to have been known in China in times past. It consists of introducing a grain of sand or any foreign body into an oyster shell so to compel the animal in it to fight against the intruder.

"The animal defeats the invader by forming membrane around it, which gradually grows harder. As soon as one thinks that the pearl is perfectly shaped one opens the oyster and takes the pearl.

"While the Chinese practiced this industry mostly in fresh water ponds, where the pearls remained small, Mikimoto started the thing systematically on a larger scale in sea water, with the result that he obtained flawless round pearls which could not be distinguished from the best 'genuine pearls.'"

Don't let the ashes pile up in your basement while you wait for the mechanical man to be perfected.

SCRAPS OF PAPER CARRIED FORTUNES

Near Aix-la-Chapelle, Germany, lives a family of seven weavers and dyers which for centuries has been supplying the Vatican at Rome with the brilliant crimson cloth of which the Cardinal's robes are made. The fabric and coloring are produced by methods said to be written on an old piece of parchment handed down through the family from one generation to another.

Curiously, considering the long business relationship with the papal household, the family is Protestant. Its precious trade secrets were the invention of a Huguenot ancestor. This formula is one of the several in existence that would be generous ransom for a king, says the Mentor Magazine.

England's Cherished Paper

In England is held the coveted recipe for producing the especially tough paper used by the Oxford Press Syndicate in making wear-proof Bibles. Of all the carefully guarded scraps of paper bearing old British formula none is more treasured than the one holding the secret for making the paper on which the notes of the Bank of England are printed.

Often the owner of a valuable trade recipe is not awake to the real worth of the knowledge in his possession. Such a one was the inventor of a famous scent made in Cologne. The recipe he would have disposed of for a few thousand dollars has earned during the period of its manufacture over a quarter of a billion dollars.

An English company not long ago paid \$50,000 for a bit of paper revealing a cherished process for curing hams.

The butler of an old county family disclosed for a fee of a few pounds the rule for making a famous meat sauce, which became the foundation of a prosperous establishment. The ingredients for the latter are written in code on an age-yellowed piece of paper which it is safe to say could not be bought for any price.

Hundreds of years ago a mendicant monk invented a process for making two liquors that were to become world famous and of inestimable earning value. The Carthusian monk's recipe was originally on a single sheet of paper, and this was kept within the gabled monastery of the Grande Chartreuse, near Grenoble, France. For a protracted term of years the ancient script lay secure in the monastery strong room.

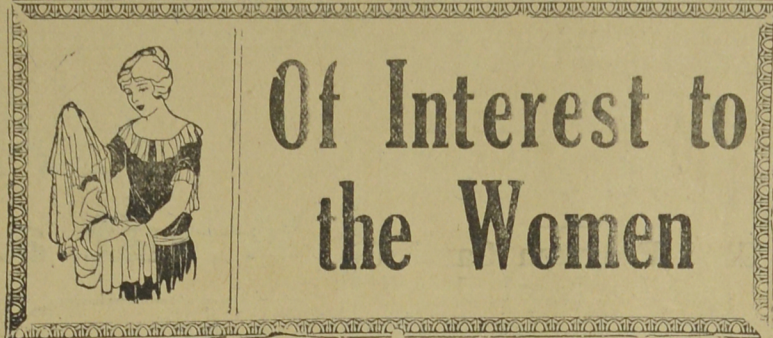
The friar who first conceived the combination of the ingredients of the famous green and yellow chartreuse thought little of his creation, and certainly had no conception of the vast business that, unconsciously, he had founded.

Most Valuable Volume

The piece of paper on which he made his casual notations was eventually elaborated into a book of a hundred pages detailing the complex process of manufacture, which included the preparation, maceration and distillation of balm leaves and hops, mixed with orange peel dried hyssop tops, peppermint, wormwood, angelica seed and root, cinnamon, mace cloves, tonquin beans and cardamon seeds.

When the Carthusian monks were driven out of France in 1903 the senior abbot carried with him a tiny casket of tempered steel which never left his possession for a single instant. Other treasures—pictures, tapestries, even jewels—might go by ordinary conveyance, but not the treasured casket. For therein reposed the recipe for the liquors that was in after years to fetch the almost incredible sum of 33,000 pounds, or about a million and a half dollars.

This sale would appear to establish the book of the Carthusians as the



Of Interest to the Women

VICTORIAN NIGHTGOWN
COMES BACK VIA PARIS

Woman is going under cover this spring. After many successive springs of exposed knees, slashed skirts, low necks and sleeveless frocks we find her covering her knees discreetly with longer skirts and sheathing her arms in long, tapering sleeves of voluminous capelet effects.

Even at night her modesty sends her to high necked nightgowns that are patterned exactly after Victorian modes. They even draw snugly around the throat and sweep the floor. Nice, seemly hemstitching is the only ornamentation—although little flourishes are not considered too worldly.

SWEDISH COFFEE CAKE.

1 quart milk or
1 quart water (we use the water and one small tin of evaporated milk, as it keeps better than when made with all milk).

1 compressed yeast cake
1-2 cup sugar
1-2 teaspoon salt
1-2 cup butter and lard
2 eggs
Mix stiff and let rise. Put in pans and raise again. Bake 20 minutes. Cinnamon may be added, also nuts or raisins.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY LAYER CAKE.

Someone has asked for this recipe which we are very glad to print:

2 eggs
1 cup sugar
1-3 cup corn oil
1-2 teaspoon lemon extract
1-4 teaspoon almond extract
3-4 cup water
2 cups pastry flour
3 teaspoon baking powder
3-4 teaspoon salt

Beat eggs and sugar until light and thick. Stir in corn oil. Mix in flavoring. Add water, alternately with sifted dry ingredients. Bake in two oiled layer tins, 25 minutes in oven 357 deg. F.

Use this filling colored slightly with green vegetable coloring:

1 cup sugar
2 1-2 tablespoons flour
1-4 cup lemon juice
2 egg yolks
1 teaspoon butter
Grated rind of 1-2 lemon

Place ingredients in a double boiler and cook until thick. To finish, make the seven minute icing, colored slightly with green vegetable coloring and flavored with one fourth teaspoon lemon extract and a few drops almond. The cake may be decorated with shamrocks cut from gumdrops.

SCALLOPED TOMATOES

2 cups tinned tomatoes
3 pieces stale white bread
Salt
Pepper
1-4 cup sugar
2 tablespoons butter
1-4 cup buttered crumbs

If tomatoes are very juicy, reserve part of the liquid. Pour hot water over bread and squeeze dry. Mix all together, except bread crumbs. Pace in a buttered baking dish. Top with crumbs. Bake a half hour.

most valuable volume of any kind ever offered on the market.

Sore Knee Joints Made Well Quickly

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CHEERRY AND CHEESE SALAD.

3 green peppers
1-2 cup canned cherries
1-2 of a cream cheese
2 tablespoons chopped nuts
Cut green peppers in halves and remove the seeds and membranes. Mash half a cream cheese and add one half cup of drained canned cherries finely chopped sufficient of the cherry syrup to slightly moisten the cheese and two tablespoons of chopped nut meats. Pack the mixture into the halved peppers chill on the ice and with a sharp knife cut in thin slices lengthwise. Serve two slices as a portion laid on three leaves of romaine. Dress with French dressing.

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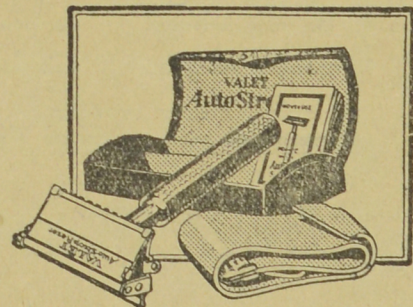
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