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## THE HOSPITICE OF ST. BERNARD IS STILL DOING GOOD WORK; MANY LIVES HAVE BEEN SAVED

To the average citizen in this country, especially those above the Mason and Dixon line, winter means that invigorating period of the year when skating, coasting, and sleighing are in season, when the furnace or fire needs stoking, and the motor car radiator needs a little antifreeze. But not so in the Alps in Switzerland and Italy, with the severe winter lasting from three to nine months of the year. There it takes a little more than antifreeze to rescue the perishing travelers who become lost in the blinding snowstorms. It takes the courage and stamina of the Augustinian monks and the great St. Bernard dogs of the world famous Hospice of St. Bernard, who rescue thousands of near-frozen travelers each year, says Pathfinder Magazine.

Situated on one of the highest and most dangerous Alpine passes between Switzerland and Italy is this famous hospice, which in reality is a monastery-hospital-hotel. This world famous institution, almost on the very crest of the pass of the Great St. Bernard across the Pennine Alps, is on the mountain road leading from Martigny to Aosta. It is at the highest point in Europe that is inhabited the year round. The pass, one of the earliest known routes across the Alps and remained one of the most important until recently when a railroad, taking advantage of tunnels and other modern devices left it somewhat off the beaten path.

### Funded in Tenth Century

Nevertheless, the Hospice of St. Bernard carried on its great work of saving thousands of lives annually. According to some authorities the hospice was founded by Bernard de Menthon, an Italian ecclesiastic, in 923 (some say 962), while others say a hospice was established on the same spot in 859, but was destroyed, and later was re-established by Bernard de Menthon. The usually accepted

story of its foundation, however, is that at the time of Rome's rise to spiritual importance with the spread of Christianity, the pass was frequented by pilgrims passing from Northern and Central Europe and England to shrines and pilgrimage places in Italy. But bandits infested the pass and preyed upon the pilgrims. Also hundreds of them were caught in the snowstorms and perished. St. Bernard, then monk living at Aosta, at the southern end of the pass, was stirred by the plight of the pilgrims and founded the hospice to give them shelter and protection. And the hospice has been serving in this capacity for more than 1000 years.

The monastery is nearly 8500 feet above sea level and in a climate similar to that of ice-bound Spitzbergen. The mean annual temperature is said to be about thirty degrees Fahrenheit, while the mercury never rises above forty-eight degrees in summer, but frequently drops to forty below zero in winter. As further proof of the intense cold in these mountainous regions the little lake beside the hospice frequently remains frozen over all summer.

The buildings of the hospice are great barn-like structures of stone which make no pretensions architecturally. But they are strongly built, and despite their black surroundings, they are enthusiastically hailed by weary travelers. Inside they are warm and comfortable, and within their walls many persons have been thawed out and nursed back to life. These buildings easily accommodate from seventy to eighty travelers and should the occasion arise, something like 300 could be given beds and shelter. The hospice has frequently fed and treated from 500 to 600 travelers in a single day.

The famous old institution is tenanted by about a dozen monks or brethren of the Order of St. Augustine. Only young men are accepted for the service, and because of the difficulty of respiration at the high altitude, their service is limited. In fact few of them survive their vows which call for fifteen years of service from the age of eighteen, when they enter the service.

For the first 100 years of its existence travelers reaching the hospice were frequently treated, fed, and sheltered. But autos, good roads, and the excellent work of the celebrated St. Bernard dogs increased the number of visitors to such proportions that the hospice's own revenues, voluntary contributions and various donations were found too small to meet the expenses. So in 1924, the monks turned a part of the building into a hotel to be placed in charge of a manager. Now travelers in these bleak regions have modern accommodations for which they can pay, as at any other hotel in Europe. But this does not mean that the brethren of St. Bernard have in any way discontinued their humane labors in which they are so greatly aided by the great St. Bernard dogs.

### Heroic Dogs

These dogs are well known the world over for the great work they do in the face of cold and blinding snowstorms of almost unbelievable proportions. The dogs are kept and trained by the monks in the work of rescuing travelers who often lose their way in the storms.

These powerful dogs are sent out in pairs, bearing cakes of spirits and sometimes cloaks attached to their collars. When they come upon a traveler they offer him the spirits to revive him and then lead him to the hospice. If the traveler is down and covered with snow, their keen scent de-



## Of Interest to the Women

### 2-PIECE SILK SUITS DISPLAYING WOOL.

Paris.—Two piece suits made of silk instead of wool are included in many important dressmaking collections for spring wear.

Most of them have short jackets and are made like tailors of wool, without reinforced shoulders or stiffened collars. Heavy silk faille and silk ottoman are often used.

A favorite model has a short jacket with a group of tiny inverted tucks to indicate the waistline in back. Others have fitted jackets of finger tip length.

### FIRST AID TO THE BUSY HOUSEWIFE

Discriminating housewives are matching their table linens with the table and the china which are to be used. The general effect of beautifully colored linens is often ruined because their color does not harmonize with either the china or the table. In most instances where there is more than one color in the china, either may be used in the linen, in the same shade or in a lighter or darker tone.

Light colored walls make a room look larger than it is, while dark colors make it appear smaller.

A heavy grade of unbleached muslin when properly dyed to match the china may be used in place of expensive linen, if it is properly laundered. Press the muslin on the wrong side, over turkish towelling and the effect on the table will be very satisfactory.

### BAKED COTTAGE CHEESE CUSTARD.

- 1 cup cottage cheese
- 2 cups milk
- 2 eggs
- 1-3 cup sugar
- Pinch salt
- Cinnamon

Mix the cottage cheese with the milk, sugar and salt, then add the well beaten eggs. Brush custard cups with butter, pour in the mixture; sprinkle with cinnamon. Place the cups in pan of warm water, put in moderate oven and bake until set, about twenty minutes.

### CUSTARD PIE.

- 2 cups milk
- 3 eggs
- 1-2 cup sugar
- Pinch salt
- Flavoring to taste

Beat the eggs, add the sugar, salt, flavoring and milk; mix well. Line pie plate with crust, pour in the custard and place on bottom rack of moderate oven; bake thirty to thirty-five minutes or until set.

The crust is made as follows:

- 1 cup flour
- 4 tablespoons lard
- Pinch of salt

Sift the flour and salt into bowl, add the lard and rub in very lightly with the tips of the fingers; then add just enough cold water to hold together. Roll out on floured board and line pie plate.

tests his presence and their loud barking informs the monks of their find. The barking of one of these dogs has been heard considerable more than a mile away. Frequently some of the monks accompany the dogs in their search for lost travelers. And besides assisting in rescuing the whole is the best of the different perishing these animals assist the monks in keeping the road and in finding their way back to the hospice. Frequently monks and dogs alike give their lives in their efforts to rescue travelers.

When the monks find the body of a traveler who has perished, they carry it to the "vault of the dead."

### COCOANUT CUSTARD PIE

- 1 cup shredded cocoanut
- 1-2 cup sugar
- Pinch of salt
- 1 1-2 cups milk
- 2 eggs

Beat the eggs, sugar, salt and milk together; add the cocoanut. Pour into pie plate that has been lined with crust. Bake in moderate oven on bottom rack thirty to thirty five minutes, or until set. Try with silver knife; if it comes out dry, it is done. If the cocoanut and custard separate, it has baked too long. This amount fills a seven inch pie plate of regular depth.

### FROZEN CUSTARD

- 1 quart milk
- 3-4 cup sugar
- 3 eggs
- 2 tablespoons cornstarch
- 1-2 teaspoon vanilla
- 1-2 teaspoon salt

Beat the eggs and sugar until well mixed, then add the cornstarch which has been mixed with a little cold milk. Add all to the hot milk in a double boiler; cook thirty minutes, cool and add the salt and flavoring. Freeze as usual using three parts ice and one part salt.

### ARBOREAL NOTE.

Weeping willow, oft I wonder why you cannot be Fearless and domineering like your brother, tall pine tree; Or wide spreading and majestic like the oak, and yet I see That few women could perfect your art of weeping gracefully.

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Another thing—when television becomes general there will be fewer radio announcers to get away with it

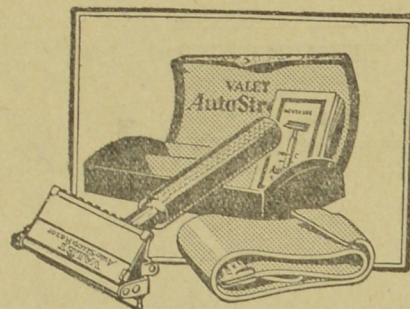
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