

CANDLEMAS DAY FALLS ON THURSDAY OF THIS WEEK; WINTER MAY BE HALF OVER

As a day of special note, February second is associated with religious observances. Its name shows that, for it is called Candlemas Day—a word obviously derived from candle and mass, and appropriately named, because at the special services held in ancient times on that day the churches were brilliantly decorated with lighted candles. In the public mind today February 2 is less associated with religious observances than with weather-signs and the position of the day as the half-way date between autumn and spring. When Candlemas Day is reached winter is held to be half over.

Winter Half Over.

If this date be the half-way mark we know, when we have reached it, what the first half of winter is like, because we have experienced it; but what about the second half that lies before us and must be passed through before we can welcome the flowers that bloom in the spring? The naturally inquiring human mind seeks an answer so as to add so much to the stock of human knowledge; and by the time that February 2 is reached about everybody of good sense is pretty well "fed up" with winter and wishes to know when will dawn the close season for shovelling snow and sifting ashes. In order to obtain this legitimate and useful information, man has called in the aid of the animal kingdom, and especially pressed into his service three of its members noted for their wisdom and the lazy manner in which they pass the long nights and short days of winter. These three are the bear, the badger, and the ground-hog, more familiarly known as the woodchuck. It seems that they can read the signs hung out by Candlemas Day as no other creatures can, be they men or four footed beasts.

Signs of the Time.

These three animals, along with several others of easy going ways, hibernate; that is they escape the heavy household expenses of fuel and food by sleeping several months. And they seem to dream of spring, because on Candlemas Day they come forth from their snug dens in hollow trees or beneath over-hanging rocks to take a short walk and see how the old world still wags, and inspect the sunshine.

All that seems quite natural, proper and harmless; but in reality it is a calamity; in fact, it is about the worst thing that could happen, as every weather observer knows. Although somewhat emaciated and correspondingly hungry as a consequence of their voluntary hunger-strike, the body of the sauntering bear or woodchuck casts a shadow as it ambles in the clear sunshine over the February snow. The animal sees it—and then the damage is done. All hopes of an early spring die instantly in their tracks, and winter's cruel reign continues.

Woodchuck Scared.

Why on this occasion the bear or the woodchuck or even the badger is frightened at his own shadow has never been satisfactorily explained by

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the scientists, but that such is the case is beyond the least possible shadow of doubt. Possibly this fright at the sight of its own shadow is proof of the affinity of the bear and the woodchuck with a considerable portion of the human race.

However that may be, the shadow decides the issue of the day. Having seen it, the animal turns in its tracks, hurriedly retracts its steps, crawls into its den, again goes to sleep, and only wakes forty days later. And in the meantime winter hangs on while spring holds aloof.

Ominous Sunshine.

To be sure, not all of us have the privilege of seeing the bear or the woodchuck, either when it crawls out rubbing its eyes on Candlemas morning, or when he sees the ominous shadow and at once "beats it" for home, but we can all see on that fateful day whether the sun is shining or not, and if shining, we can all draw the conclusion that forty days more of winter lie before us. It is a comfort to know even that; to possess the certitude in a world in which so few things are certain, except death and taxes.

Scientific Truths.

These valuable but unexplained scientific truths are not new nor is their acceptance local. In fact, these truths are grey with age, moss-covered, so to speak, and generally accepted throughout the western world. In Scotland and Northern England, these truths are set forth in verses older than Spencer's Fairie Queen, and they would be quoted here except for the effect that the writer has forgotten the spelling of most of the words. The Germans express the truth in their usual strong, blunt fashion, for they hold that a shepherd had rather see a wolf enter the sheepfold, than see the sun shine through the door of Candlemas Day. Therefore, the sum of matter is to this effect—if the sun shines on February 2, reconcile yourself to forty days more of winter, but if on that day the sky be so clouded that the sun casts no shadow, be assured that spring is treading on the heels of winter.

Besides possessing this prophetic quality, Candlemas Day renders another service which may be likened into that of an economic guide. This may conflict somewhat with the former, but that does not matter because great truths do not always harmonize. If on February 2 the householder finds in his woodshed or in his coal-bin half of the fuel he stored there in the autumn, he may rest assured that he has enough to carry him through until the fires in stoves and furnace can be let die and the ash-can disrespectfully kicked into an obscure corner.

FREDERICTON MOTOR LTD., APPOINTED FORD DEALERS.

The Ford Motor Company of Canada Limited has appointed the Fredericton Motor Sales, Limited, as local representatives for the New Ford Car in Fredericton and district.

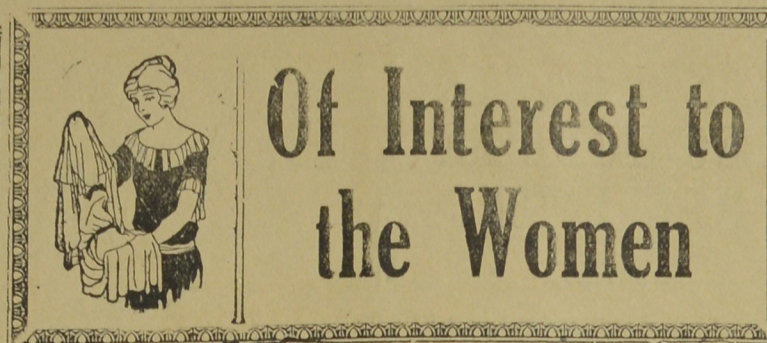
The Fredericton Motor Sales, Limited, has now opened up a Sales and Service establishment on Queen Street opposite the Court House where various models of the New Ford Car are now on display. This dealership is managed by Mr. J. Ray Burpee well known to all members of this community. The Ford Service furnished by this dealership will be under the capable management of Mr. Watson Jamer who is associated with Mr. Burpee in this enterprise.

"Going to the devil" remarked the Man on the Car "is down grade all the way."

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MACARONI AND OYSTERS

2 cups macaroni
1 cup milk
1-4 cup catsup
25 oysters
1 tablespoon butter
1 teaspoon grated onion on onion juice

1-4 teaspoon salt
1-4 teaspoon paprika
2 tablespoons breadcrumbs
1 tablespoon finely chopped parsley
Boil and blanch the macaroni as usual. Brush glass or earthen bake dish with butter and put in half the macaroni, then the oysters that have been drained and carefully looked over for bits of shell; add half the sauce then cover with the rest of the macaroni and the remainder of the sauce. Sprinkle the top with buttered crumbs; place in a moderate oven and bake 25 to 30 minutes or until nicely browned sprinkle with parsley and serve in the dish in which it is baked.

Sauce—Put the milk on to boil; when boiling add the flour which has been mixed with a little cold water or milk; boil slowly 5 minutes; add the onion juice, salt, pepper and then the catsup; mix thoroughly.

PRUNE SHORTCAKE

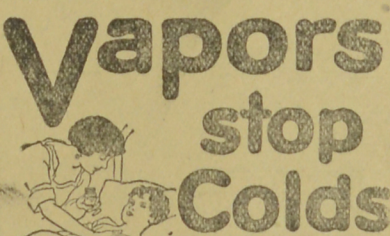
2 cups stewed prunes
2 cups flour
2 teaspoons baking powder
1-2 teaspoon salt
2 tablespoons shortening
2 teaspoons butter
1-4 cup milk
1-2 cup sugar

Sift the flour, baking powder and salt into bowl; add the shortening and rub in very lightly with the tips of the fingers; add milk enough to make a soft dough. Put on floured pie tin and spread 1 inch thick; place in hot oven and bake 20 minutes. Split and spread both sides with butter; on the bottom piece spread the prunes which have been stoned and mashed fine; sprinkle with sugar. Serve warm with milk and sugar. A little lemon or orange juice may be added to the prunes if desired.

MINCE PIE.

1-2 cups flour
1-4 cup lard
1 level teaspoon salt
1 tablespoon milk
2 lbs. mince meat

Sift the flour and salt into bowl, add the lard and rub in very lightly with the tips of the fingers; add a little cold water, just enough to hold together; dust pie plate with flour. Roll out dough on floured board, line pie plate and fill with the mince meat; wet the edge with cold milk; put on top crust; press the edges firmly together. Brush the top with milk; make three or four cuts in top crust; put into



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hot oven and bake thirty minutes. The milk is put on to give the pie a nice glaze.

JELLY ROLL.

1 cup sugar
5 eggs
1 cup flour
Pinch of salt
Favoring to taste
Beat the sugar, salt and eggs for 15 minutes or until light and foamy then fold in the flour which has been sifted twice. Line bakesheet or very low pan 12-18 inches or thereabouts with paper (no grease) pour on the mixture and spread evenly. Place in moderate oven for 12 to 15 minutes; sprinkle the cake with powdered sugar and turn out on paper or cake cloth.

BANANA TOAST.

8 thin slices toasted bread
3 ripe bananas
1-2 glass red jelly
3 tablespoons powdered sugar

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1-4 teaspoon salt.

Skin and scrape the bananas mash through coarse strainer, add sugar and salt; spread the toast with jelly then cover with the banana mixture, garnish with a very small piece of red jelly; serve at once. A tablespoon of whipped cream over the banana mixture will make a pleasant change.

AMBER MARMALADE

1 large grapefruit
2 oranges
1 lemon
6 pounds (12 cups) sugar
Cut the fruit into quarters remove the fibre and seeds from the centre; then shave very fine the pulp and rind together. There should be four cups of fruit. Put into bowl and add ten cups cold water. Stand it aside for twenty four hours then add sugar; boil slowly three hours or until it is the consistency of jelly and is clear.

In their quest of a mate some girls draw only a common seaman.

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Assessment Notice

The Board of Assessors of Taxes for the City of Fredericton hereby require all persons liable to be rated for the year 1928 forthwith to furnish to the Assessors true statements of all their Personal Estate and Income, which is assessable under the City of Fredericton Assessment Act, 1926, and true statements of wages or salaries paid to employees, and hereby give notice that blank forms on which such statements may be furnished, may be obtained at the office of the Chairman of the Board of Assessors, and that such statements must be perfected under oath and filed in said office on or before the 15th day of February, 1928. Dated this 12th day of January, 1928. PETER FARRELL, Chairman of the Board of Assessors of Taxes.

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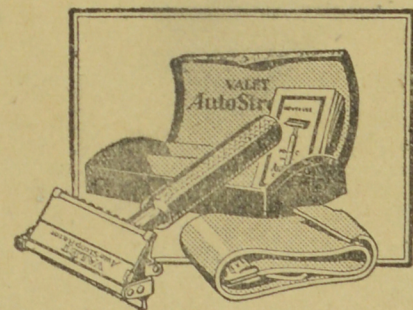
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