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THE NEW EMPEROR OF JAPAN IS HOST AT A BANQUET WITH INVISIBLE GUESTS

Kyoto, Japan, Nov. 15—Emperor Hirohito was host last night at a banquet to an unknown number of invisible guests—the strangest of all the unusual rites that have attended his enthronement.

Shinto gods of heaven and earth sat at the meal served by the ruler of 75,000,000 subjects as the final act of his enthronement.

The Daijo Sai, or great new food festival, was celebrated in the Shinto faith by an Emperor clad in simple robes and sitting barefoot on the floor of a bare, wooden hall. The food was of the simplest type, steamed rice and millet, fresh fish, fruits, seaweed broth, the broth of a shell fish called awabi and thin rice wine called sake. All except the wine were served in wooden boxes, and eaten with chopsticks held only in the right hand.

His Imperial Majesty, as head of the Shinto religion, had undergone spiritual purification for the meal for nearly a year. He bathed in a sacred tub called the "onu no fune" or sacred bath boat, and was cleansed again with holy water before sitting down to the communion. Millions of persons throughout the country bowed in prayer as he broke bread with the spirits which founded the semimortal Nipponese dynasty more than 25 centuries ago.

Faith Humility

Three words of the Shinto faith describe the banquet:

"Faith, humility and reverence."

The faith of the Japanese people in the gods which guard over the island; their humility in the fact that the Emperor himself donned a hempen gown and walked barefoot; their reverence in the vast preparations for the impressive ritual.

The Emperor left the Imperial Palace late in the afternoon and passed between lines of soldiers to the shrine. There he was joined by the Empress Nagako and members of the Imperial Family. Fires were kindled

and the invited guests were seated at a respectful distance from the seats of the invisible gods.

After the Emperor and Empress had undergone the purification ceremony, they put on hempen robes.

Court musicians started an ancient song of the "pounding of the rice", a signal for ritualists in the kitchen to begin preparation of food over a fire made by rubbing together pieces of wood from a sacred hinoki tree.

Preceded by the master of ceremonies, Prince Ito, and followed by ritualists bearing torches and the sacred sword and jewels, the Emperor walked in a central lane—a lane "between heaven and earth" on which no other man may walk.

Mat of Rushes.

The ground below was not exposed to his sacred feet and his head was not exposed to the air above. A mat of rushes was unrolled in front of him and rolled up again as he passed over it. Over his head was carried an umbrella of sedge grass of brilliant green, yellow, red and white clouds—clouds of good omen. A phoenix, with wings outspread for flight, was mounted on top of the umbrella pole.

The procession of the Empress entered a moment later from another door.

While the musicians played ancient folk songs the ceremony proceeded with elaborate ritual.

After the food offering had been made the chief maiden attendant of His Majesty, a virgin carrying a wooden box containing an ancient form of tooth brush, passed before the Emperor. She was followed by an assistant with a box of towels for drying the Imperial hands.

At last a shrill cry of warning and the start of a wierd song signalled the end of the ceremony. The Emperor offered a Shinto prayer to the gods and waited politely until they had time to start eating before he picked up his chopsticks.

WOMEN'S COLUMN

MRS. RITCHIE'S MARMALADE CAKE.

Rub together one pound of sugar and one pound of butter until perfectly light; beat the yolks and whites of six eggs well; sift one pound and a half of flour into the butter, sugar and eggs; a teaspoonful of mixed spices (cinnamon, nutmeg and mace); half a glass of rose water; stir the whole well, and roll out on a bread board about half an inch thick; then cut out the cakes and bake them a few minutes. When cold spread the surface of each cake with peach, quinces or raspberry marmalade; beat the whites of eight eggs very light; add enough powdered sugar to make it as thick as icing; flavor it with lemon, and with a spoon put it on each cake, high in the center; put the cakes in the oven and as soon as they are a pale brown take them out.

A RICE PUDDING FOR SUNDAY DINNER

1 cupful of cold boiled rice
5 tablespoonfuls of sugar
2 tablespoonfuls of powdered sugar
2 cupfuls of milk
3 eggs
1-2 lemon
Beat the sugar and yolks of the eggs until light. Heat the milk in a double boiler and add the rice. Then stir in eggs and sugar. Stir until the mixture begins to thicken. Take from the fire and add the juice and grated rind of the lemon. Turn into a baking dish. Beat the whites of the eggs until they are stiff. Add gradually the powdered sugar and beat until glossy. Heap this by spoonfuls over the pudding. Bake thickly with sugar and brown in the oven.

DATE GEMS

2 eggs
1 1-2 cupfuls flour
1-4 pound dates chopped rather fine
1 tablespoonful butter
1 cupful milk
1 1-2 teaspoonful baking powder
Separate the eggs; beat the yolks; add the butter and then the milk. Then stir in the flour sifted with the baking powder. Beat well; fold in the dates floured and then the well beaten whites of the eggs. Bake in gem pans in a quick oven 20 minutes.

HOME DECORATOR

Torn wall paper may be mended with strips of adhesive tape. Get the width of tape suitable to the particular condition cut into the length strip required and affix neatly. Color the tape with colored chalks to tone in with the wall paper.

An unused doorway between two rooms is an excellent place for putting up book shelves.

Floors should always be darker than walls whether one is considering the floor itself or its covering. Two artists once discussing this subject decided that the safest general rule to follow was to keep the floor down to the tones of the earth in forest wood browns, soft deep greens the shaded reds of fallen leaves and the rusty browns of pine needles.

The Great Orator's only explanation, the morning after, was that the radio must have misquoted him.

Dry, Hacking Cough Was Caused By A Bronchial Cold

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LITTLE BITS OF FURNITURE

(From the Vancouver Province)

Within prosaic walls of a drab room
Where I abide;
Off have those little bits of furniture
Despair defied;
For on each old worn and faded piece
I seem to see
The wraiths of joys that long time
Thrilled my soul
To ecstasy.

My desk and on a table close beside
Books in a row;
Oh! it would be a wild mad moment
When
I'd let them go;
The easy chair of which in that dim past,
We were so proud;
I'm sure if I would ever part with it
"Twould cry aloud.

Such foolish things; to cling so
closely to
Through all these years
When often they have brought to my
tired eyes
A mist of tears.
Ah! well I know the truth—I do not
doubt—
I am not blind;
They'll all be cast away some day
by those
I leave behind.

—LILLA NEASE

Nightmare of the Song Writer Who
Drank Strong Coffee

I love Ramona—
Chiquita loves me!
Go ahead and laugh, Clown—
He's leffing at me!
My melancholy baby,
I love her somehow;
My sugar bon-bon—
That's my weakness now!
But under the moonlight
How happy we'll be;
'Cause I love my Diane
And Charmaine loves me!

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Mars recently. Either the ether is
jammed or Professor Robinson's wife
still has one foot on his Adam's
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