

Food Packaging Helps Shopper to Serve Self

Packaging food in consumer-size units has helped to make the self-service supermarket system possible.

Shoppers reach the checkout counter in shorter time with a greater variety of food items than ever before. Although food in packages sometimes costs more than food sold in bulk, the advantages of packages generally outweigh the disadvantages.

The advantages of food packages are many, but generally they are to protect quality and to provide sanitary handling; to offer convenience and save shopping

time; to carry helpful label information; and to reduce marketing costs in some instances.

THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF Agriculture recently announced that for every \$20 spent on groceries, \$1.50 to \$2 paid for the packages.

Studies show that food packaging costs vary greatly with the type of food and package. For example, the package cost as an average percent of manufacturer's label in 1959 was three percent for a 100-pound bag of sugar; 50 percent for sugar packed in single packages.

Consumers surveys indicate that shoppers are most concerned about size and convenience of food packages.

AN INTENSIVE study in three large cities in 1958 showed that 9 out of 10 women were satisfied with can sizes in the market, but only 2 out of 3 women were satisfied with the size of frozen food packages. Since then, more sizes have been added and convenience features are improved.

The Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act states that food packages may not be made, formed or filled so that they are misleading. It prohibits packaging food under unsanitary conditions and specifies that containers may not be of any substance which will render the contents injurious to health.

The food industry is constantly improving food packaging to protect the quality and to meet consumer wishes.

Retail prices of fluid milk in single-quart containers delivered to homes, as reported by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, averaged 0.2 cent higher in 1961 than in 1960. However, more consumers changed to ways of buying milk at lower cost—from home deliveries to store milk, from milk in quarts to milk in larger containers, and from premium milk to standard milk. As a result, the average cost of milk to the consumer changed little.

Whenever you dine out, study the menu and you'll get lots of ideas. Don't let the fancy names fool you. The cost may be in the labor market, not the super market.

Aspics and molds eliminate the last minute rush in the salad course, as do desserts that can be served without trouble.

Garden Class Slated

The Birmingham Community House will sponsor a Garden Class beginning Monday, April 23, at 9:30. The instructor will be Alice Wesells Burlingame. The emphasis in instruction will be design and every meeting of the five classes will be held in local well planned gardens when the weather is favorable. There will be an opportunity for the enrollees to have their personal garden problems answered.

Parents Urged To Keep Youths Away from Drain

Officials of the Southeastern Oakland County 12-Town drain project have sent a letter cautioning parents to keep their children away from the construction sites. The letter was distributed to all schools in the southeastern part of the county.

Officials pointed out that any project the size of the 12-Town cannot be constructed without causing temporary inconvenience not only for the people in the area but also for the general traveling public.

They pointed out that construction work is a major attraction to both children and adults but most children are feeble and do not fully comprehend the dangers existing around construction sites. Children playing along the banks of excavations or in the bottom of deep trenches could easily be trapped and smothered by unexpected slides of tons of earth.

The letter concluded that parents strict orders to children to keep entirely away from the construction site would be more effective than any measures which others could possibly take.

Peace Corps Schedules Local Tests

Placement tests for the Peace Corps will be given at the Federal Building in Detroit, 8:30 a.m. Saturday.

This new round of tests will have a special significance as applicants are now being invited to train for 30 new Peace Corps projects in Africa, Asia and Latin America. Training will begin this summer on college campuses throughout the United States.

Peace Corps opportunities abroad cover many fields including, teaching, nursing, engineering, plumbing, carpentry, medicine and physical education.

Applicants must be American citizens 18 years of age. Married couples without dependent children may apply, providing both qualify.

Serviceman Promoted

Gordon B. Clark, son of Mr. and Mrs. Talton R. Clark, 1047 N. Woodward Ave., Birmingham, Mich., recently was promoted to specialist four at Fort Stewart, Ga., where his is serving with the 11th Artillery Group.

Visits Pensacola

Midshipman fourth class Kenneth R. McGruther, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph E. McGruther of 28940 Normandy Drive, Franklin, along with others of his Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps at Dartmouth College, Hanover, N. H., was a guest recently of the Naval Air Basic Training Command at the Naval Air Station, Pensacola, Fla.

Take it Easy With Simple Home Parties

First rule of gracious entertaining is to make everyone comfortable and at ease . . . to make everything run smoothly. The Hostess who is constantly jumping up to attend to something makes her guests feel that they should be doing something to help.

Serve things that can be prepared in advance and served with a minimum of work. And, believe it or not, too elaborate parties can make guests feel uneasy, lest their budgets suffer when it is time to entertain you.

THERE'S a host of simple foods that make wonderful party fare when given that extra master touch, served with a flair and pointed up with a bit of colorful garnish.

Meat loaf becomes important with a special mushroom sauce, spiked with lemon and a dash of gravy flavoring. Baked chicken in wine sauce, lamb or chicken curries, to mention a few, are not expensive, can be made in advance and dished up with pride.

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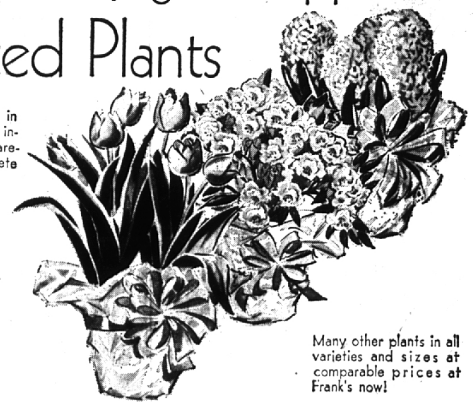
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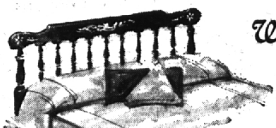
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