

'Dated' Recipe Turns Up

By ELLY

A pound of dates left over from Christmas baking and getting a little dry around the edges was responsible for a great recipe search last weekend.

We hadn't had oatmeal date squares in years and nothing is easier to make. So the dates were boiled and sugared and cooled. The rolled oats, flour, butter and brown sugar were assembled, but I couldn't remember the amounts.

There was nothing in the recipe file. Looking through the Os for oatmeal and the Ds for dates in five cookbooks did not reveal the elusive recipe.

Finally, under mincemeat squares, there it was, "Dates may be substituted." Just what we'd been looking for. In the process of the search many old favorites were brought to mind that are just too good to be forgotten. Perhaps you would like to remember them too.

DATE SQUARES

1 1/2 c. dates
2/3 c. water
3/4 c. sugar
1 c. brown sugar
1 1/2 c. rolled oats
1/2 c. flour
1/2 t. salt
3/4 c. shortening

Cook dates with water and sugar until thick. Cool thoroughly before spreading. Combine brown sugar, rolled oats, flour and salt. Mix well. Blend in shortening with pastry blender until it is the consistency of coarse crumbs. Spread half the mixture in a shallow, 7x11x2-inch baking pan. Pat down until it is even and smooth. Spread with the date mixture. Cover with the remainder of the oatmeal mixture. Bake in a 400-degree oven for 20 to 25 minutes. When cool cut into squares or bars. Must admit ours were half gone before they were cool.

BETTY'S HAWAIIAN DESSERT

1 can Eagle Brand
1/4 c. lemon juice
10 marshmallows, quartered
1/2 c. crushed pineapple, drained
10 maraschino cherries, quartered
1/2 c. heavy whipping cream, whipped
Ladefingers

Combine milk and lemon juice and stir until thickened. Add marshmallows, pineapple, cherries and whipped cream. Line angel food pan with waxed paper or use a spring mold. Separate ladefingers and stand on edge, lining outer perimeter of pan. Fill with fruit mixture. Cover top with split ladefingers. Chill in refrigerator for at least six hours before serving. Delicious.

LEMON SPONGE PUDDING (Another old timer)

1 c. sugar
1 t. butter
2 t. flour
Juice and rind of one lemon
2 eggs

Cream butter and sugar. Separate egg yolks from whites. Add yolks to butter and sugar and mix well. Add lemon juice and grated rind, then sifted flour and milk. Beat egg whites until stiff and fold into first mixture. Pour into baking dish. Place this in a pan of water and bake for 30 minutes in a 350-degree oven. Serves four.

JOAN'S PECAN TORTE

3/4 c. sugar
1 c. graham cracker crumbs
3 egg yolks
3 egg whites, stiffly beaten
1 c. whole pecans

Combine sugar, crumbs and egg yolks. Blend in the beaten egg whites. Add the pecans. Pour into a well-buttered 10-inch pie tin. Bake for 30 minutes in a 350-degree oven.

Our Bubble and Squeak recipe was all wrong. A call from Jo Zukovich who lives in Livonia and works at the Melody House in Plymouth told us we had been misinformed.

According to Jo, Bubble and Squeak is delicious and this is how it's made:

Mash together cooked mashed potatoes and brussels sprouts. Brown in bacon fat in a large skillet. Turn carefully with spatula to brown both sides. Serve on toast or with eggs and/or sausages.



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