

FINED FOR SPEEDING AT 8 MILES AN HOUR

Young Kirkpatrick Macmillan was working on an idea as he helped his father to shoe the farmers' horses in the tiny roadside smithy at Courhill, in Dumfriesshire.

This young country lad—called him "Pat" for short—was in France and other Continental countries were propelling themselves along the roads on scooter-like machines called "hobby" or "dandy-horses." But these travellers wasted energy by pushing with their feet on the ground.

Surely, thought Macmillan, some method could be devised, whereby a man could move along the Queen's highway on two wheels without touching the ground. He spent every spare minute working on his idea.

"The boy's mad," said the smithy and saw him engaged on his self-imposed task. "It's indecent!" exclaimed others. "Poor draft Pat Macmillan!"

But the young Blacksmith was not to be discouraged. He made trial runs on his home-built hobby-horse, then constructed a strange looking machine with wooden wheels and iron tyres. He attached to it two long axles and a pair of stirrups or pedals. It was a completely new and astonishing idea.

"It's no human," said the neighbours, as Macmillan whirled out on the contraption one summer night. They gaped in horror as he sat boldly astride the saddle and rode away, his feet not touching the ground.

Down the lanes around Courhill "draft Pat" rode at breakneck speed. People stood and marvelled at this strange creature riding past. Till that summer of 1838 no man in the world had ever ridden supported only by two wheels. This was not the local Blacksmith's son, they believed, but the Prince of Darkness.

Young Macmillan — he was twenty-six—grew bolder. He began to race the village coaches and showing off his invention there.

All along his route people stood aghast. Mothers called their children indoors. Cottagers barred their doors as news spread

that the Prince of Darkness was approaching, riding on a pair of wheels.

"Look over there, Jock!" called out one man, as Macmillan whirled through a country town. "It's a man run awa' wi' pair o' an engine!"

At the foot of the hill that leads into the Avshire town, of Old Camock, a young tailor was courting his sweetheart. Suddenly, in the gloaming, a tall figure appeared, silhouetted against the skyline, madly rotating on two wheels. The lover and his lass took to their heels and fled across the fields into the town. Years later their evidence helped to establish Macmillan as the inventor of the pedal-propelled bicycle.

As he sped dashing into the outskirts of Glasgow, more crowds congregated. Many wanting to run him down. The congregation became so great that the inventor was forced to ride on the pavement and in his anxiety to escape the mob he knocked down a little girl.

She was only slightly hurt, but Macmillan was promptly arrested and hauled off to the police station, spending the night in a chilly cell.

Next morning the magistrate, told that the accused had averaged eight miles an hour, sharply reprimanded him for "this modern crowing for speed," and imposed a fine of five shillings. According to one newspaper report, Macmillan was "placed at the Gorbals public bar, charged with riding along the pavement on a velocipede to the obstruction of the passage, and with having by so doing, thrown over a child."

According to the inventor's son John, who as a retired policeman died at Liverpool a few years ago, the magistrate who tried the case asked for a private demonstration of the world's first pedal bicycle. He was so impressed with "draft Pat's" skill in riding a figure-eight course the court-yard that he paid the fine himself!

Macmillan's spectacular trip to Glasgow and back proved a vindication of the peaceful life of a rural blacksmith, and spent his spare hours pulling out teeth for sheep and animals, inventing ploughs and playing the violin at local weddings and dances.

Spring Gloves Accent Slender Look

BY EDNA MILLS

LEADING off the spring glove parade this year is the new, short (wrist-bone length) glove with the slim, narrow look. Even dress-up gloves have a clinging, elegant look that's in keeping with the straight silhouette in ready-to-wear.

Styling of gloves this spring is so definite that there's a type for every occasion, daytime into evening. And there are many pretty patterns, pink, yellow, blue as well as the vivid corals.

One brand new glove with real fashion impact is wrist-length and elasticated at the inside of the wrist for perfect fit and comfort. It comes in double-weave cotton, nylon and silk. Called the short-stop, it's in sparkling white.

The call for white is always heavy during spring and summer months, and for those who like their white relaxed by a touch of color, there's hand-stitching in almost any color. Further, there's the new interest of white-on-white, to create texture.

In dress gloves, close fit has been assured by the use of tiny pearl buttons at the inside of the wrist or by a tiny bill of fabric. More and more, women are choosing dress gloves in cotton or rayon because they're so easy to maintain. Like the shorter gloves, they come in white, pastels, vivid and dark colors.

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TABLE TALKS

by Jane Andrews

Today, some "main dishes" — none of them really new, but each with that different twist which adds variety to your table.

STEAK AND KIDNEY PIE
1 pound round steak
1/2 pound lamb kidneys
1/2 cup flour
1/2 teaspoon salt
1/2 teaspoon pepper
4 tablespoons hot fat drippings or other fat
1 cup chopped onion
1 bay leaf
2 tablespoons celery leaves
1 tablespoon chopped parsley
2 cups water
1/2 cup sliced mushrooms
1/2 cup sliced carrots
1/2 cup fresh or frozen peas
1 recipe plain pastry

Cut steak in 1" cubes. Remove tough membrane from kidneys and cut each in about 4 pieces. Combine flour, salt and pepper; sprinkle over meat. Heat fat over moderate heat and brown meat. Remove from skillet and cook onion until lightly browned. Add meat, bay leaf, celery, parsley and water. Cover tightly and simmer 1 hour. Add mushrooms, carrots and peas. Roll out half the pastry on a lightly floured board and line a shallow 1 1/2-quart baking dish with it. Pour in meat mixture. Roll out remaining pastry; cut in 3" circles. Place around edge of baking dish as shown at right.

BAKED FILETS
1 pound fresh or frozen fish filets
1/2 cup canned tomatoes
2 tbsps. butter or margarine
4 thin slices lemon
4 thin strips green pepper
1/2 teaspoon oregano
1/2 teaspoon salt
1/2 teaspoon pepper

Defrost filets and divide into four portions. Cut four 9" circles of kitchen-weight aluminum foil. On each circle place a portion of fish, 2 tablespoons tomato, 1/2 tablespoon butter, lemon slice and strip of green pepper. Sprinkle each with oregano, salt and pepper. Fold edges of foil over fish; seal. Place in a shallow baking pan. Turn bake in a hot oven, 425°F., 10 minutes. Remove from oven; garnish with water cream. Makes 4 to 6 servings.

MEAT AND CORNMEAL PIE
1 package frozen broccoli
1 pound fresh broccoli
2 tablespoons butter or margarine
1/2 cup chopped onion
1 cup sliced fresh or canned mushrooms
4 tbsps. all-purpose flour
2 1/2 cups milk
1/2 teaspoon pepper
1/2 cup shredded Canadian cheese

Cut five 1/2" slices from the narrow side of the loaf of luncheon meat. Reserve until later. Cut rest of meat into 1/2" strips. Cook broccoli until tender. Melt butter in a skillet over moderate heat. Add meat strips, onion and mushrooms; cook until lightly browned. Stir in flour; add milk gradually, stirring constantly. Continue to cook until mixture thickens. Add salt, pepper and cheese; stir until cheese is melted. Arrange broccoli over bottom of a 2-quart casserole; reserve a few sprigs for top and keep warm. Top with creamed mixture. Cut meat slices in halves and arrange around edge of dish. Prepare corn muffin batter as directed on package. Drop half things of batter in center of meat mixture as shown in picture. Pour remainder of corn mixture in between muffins and fill pans. Bake both in a hot oven, 425°F., 30 to 35 minutes for the casserole, about 20 minutes for the muffins. Decorate muffins with hot broccoli sprigs. Makes 4 to 6 servings.

FISH FILLETS
1 pound fresh or frozen fish filets
4 tbsps. soft butter or margarine
3 tbsps. chopped toasted almonds
1 tbsps. grated lemon rind
1/2 teaspoon salt
1/2 teaspoon pepper

Defrost fillets, separate and arrange in a greased baking pan. Combine remaining ingredients; spread on fillets. Bake uncovered in a moderately hot oven, 375°F., 10 to 12 minutes. Serve with lemon wedges dipped in paprika. Makes 4 servings.

Winston Has Monday A.M. Blues?

Amid much talk about the possible retirement of Prime Minister Sir Winston Churchill— which "inside information" sets for May, when the Queen returns from the Commonwealth tour—comes a characteristic Churchill story as one might hope for.

A paper which has been urging his retirement printed recently a cartoon showing Sir Winston looking very feeble and washed out, the argument being that he is no longer physically fit for his job. Some of his aides debated whether to show this to him. He really should know about it, so they thought. But others feared the reception they would get if he saw the cartoon.

At last it was decided that however devastating the explosion of Prime Minister Churchill's health would be, it was worth this offensive item. Sir Winston looked at it and then identified himself with thousands of busy and important men who are by no means thinking of retiring yet. For, said he, with a chuckle, the cartoon showed a pretty accurately, how he felt on a Monday morning.

DRIVE WITH CARE

... Care