1937

Short but Sweet

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the words “State of Matrimony” around the edge.

* The centerpiece is made of lettuce, tomatoes, beets, onions, and other vegetables placed on the table covered with pale green cellophane paper. Around the centerpiece is a wreath of smilax. The first course is a hot bouillon. On the side of the plate are two saltines tied together; these the guests separate and find a slip of paper which says, “Lettuce look further.” If the second course is the meat course around the rolls which are placed on the table is another slip which says, “Lettuce wait a little longer,” and so on until the dessert course is served. This is a parfait. Sticking on top of the parfait is a tiny roll of paper, which when opened bears the names of the affianced pair.

* The Valentine tree rests in the center of this table which is covered with red cellophane paper and white taffeta cloth. This little tree is decorated with paper hearts of every color. Large red cardboard hearts and Cupids are scattered over the table. Just before the dessert course is served, the guests are asked to pick the hearts from the tree. Some of the hearts contain words, which when pieced together form the names of the prospective bride and groom.

* Another beautiful table can be arranged by covering it with dark blue cellophane paper. In front of each plate is a large silver star to be used as a doily. Smaller stars are under the centerpiece. The ambitious hostess would enjoy constructing a Lincoln's cabin out of cookie dough. Use a very stiff dough, such as is required for sugar cookies, and roll to one-fourth inch thickness. Cut six pieces the desired size, two for the front and back, two for the sides, and two for the roof. When these are baked they may be covered with a dark chocolate frosting to give the effect of logs and fastened together by covering the edges with a thick sugar and water syrup.

Place the cabin in the center of the table, together with green gumdrop trees.

A Lincoln's birthday entertainment is also an occasion for patriotic decorations. White candles in blue holders, and a blue bowl containing red and white carnations make an attractive centerpiece.

On Valentine's Day, following soon after Lincoln's birthday, hearts rule the day. A miscellaneous scattering of hearts over a white cloth creates a gay atmosphere. The centerpiece for such a table might be a simple large red heart, or a nicely-dressed Pierrette doll.

A dainty centerpiece may be arranged with two silver doves surrounded by pink and white flowers on a mirror. Four pink candles in silver holders may be placed at the mirror's center.

A Valentine thought suggests an old-fashioned bouquet made of candy hearts for a centerpiece, with smaller bouquets at the place of each guest.

An informal Valentine luncheon, large paper doilies may be cut into heart shapes. Used in place of the usual luncheon doilies, they are attractive either on the dark surface of the table or mounted on red cardboard.

Washington's birthday may be celebrated with a table set with a miniature spinning wheel in the center. From this streamers of yarn lead to place cards for each guest.

Whatever the limit of budget or time, there need be no limit to the possibilities for entertaining in February, the month of holidays.