Old-Fashioned Vegetable Soup

Preparation: 30 min.
Cooking time: 30 min.

Serves: 4

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 1 bunch leeks (3 or 4), thinly sliced
- 1 cup thinly sliced celery
- 2 Tbsp. butter or margarine
- 1 green pepper, cut into thin strips
- 2 cans (14½ oz. **each**) chicken broth
- 2 medium potatoes, sliced
- 3 medium carrots, thinly sliced
- 1 tsp. salt
- 1/4 tsp. dried marjoram leaves
- 1 bay leaf
- 2 cups milk
- 1/4 cup chopped parsley
- 1 cup frozen peas, thawed Freshly grated nutmeg, optional

Recipe may be halved or doubled. For 8 servings, use only $3\frac{1}{2}$ cups milk.

PREPARATION:

- Saute onion, leeks and celery in heated butter in a 5-quart kettle or Dutch oven. Cook until onions are tender.
- 2 Stir in green pepper. Cook 1 minute longer. Add broth, potatoes, carrots, salt, marjoram and bay leaf. Bring to a boil. Cover. Reduce heat and simmer 20 to 25 minutes, until potatoes are tender.
- 3 Stir in milk, parsley and peas. Heat uncovered, stirring occasionally, until soup is steaming hot. Season with nutmeg, if used.

Tips: This thrifty soup will be even more economical made with $3\frac{1}{2}$ to 4 cups of your own chicken broth. When you cut up a chicken or bone chicken breasts, freeze bones and trimmings (wing tips, backs, necks) until you have a quantity. Then simmer with chopped onion, carrot, celery, salt, whole peppercorns, a pinch of thyme, parsley sprig and water to cover, for several hours until liquid is flavorful. Strain, cool and freeze.

All nutritional information is per single serving.		Calories330
Protein13 g	Carbohydrates47 g	Fat5 g
Calcium243 mg	Sodium693 mg	Cholesterol15 mg