Banana Pudding

Pudding

1/4 cup sugar
2 tbsp flour
1/2 tsp nutmeg
1 lemon's zest
4 oz vanilla wafers
3-4 sliced bananas
Meringue
1 whole egg
2 egg whites
1/8 tsp salt

1-½ cups milk ¼ cup sugar 1-½ tsp vanilla ¼ tsp vanilla

Whisk sugar, flour, nutmeg, and ¼ tsp salt. Whisk in whole egg, egg yolks, and ¼ cup milk until smooth. Heat remaining milk to 165° and whisk slowly in. Cook over low heat, whisking constantly, until mixture coats a heavy spoon, about 165°. Remove from heat and whisk in 1-½ tsp vanilla, nutmeg, and lemon zest.

Arrange wafers and bananas in layers in a buttered 1-½-quart casserole, with wafers on the bottom and bananas on top. Pour custard over the layers.

Beat the egg whites and ½ tsp salt until soft peaks form. Beat in ¼ cup sugar a table-spoon at a time. Continue beating until stiff peaks form. Beat in ¼ tsp vanilla. Spread meringue over pudding. Bake at 325° until browned, about 15 minutes.

Adapted from the Spice Cook Book (1964).