



Home Chats

By MARGARET ANN BEST

Asparagus Time
It wasn't so very long ago that asparagus was considered a luxury, but now nearly every gardener who boasts any kind of a garden has his little asparagus bed, from which such thick, juicy stalks spring as quickly as the mushroom.

The housekeeper is wise who uses asparagus when they are cheapest to bring down the high cost of living. They are always best when cheapest, too, because they are cheapest when they are the most plentiful. Of course, coming right from the garden to the table, they are their best and taste very different to the vegetables which have been standing in the air all day long.

One can prepare asparagus so many different ways that it can appear in some form each day throughout the season without monotony.

Cream of Asparagus
Here is a place where the tougher stalks can be used from which the tops have been removed. To make a delicious soup out of a bunch of asparagus stalks into one-inch pieces. Boil until tender and put through a sieve; add to it the liquid that goes with it a quart of milk. Season with salt and pepper. Heat, then pour slowly into two tablespoons of flour creamed with the same amount of butter, stirring constantly. Allow to come to boil and serve with croutons.

Asparagus and Peas
Cook canned peas and asparagus in separate saucepans, drain and use two cups of asparagus tips and the tender part of the stalks, cut in half-inch lengths, to this add one can of peas, a quarter cup thin cream and butter, pepper and salt.

Boiled Asparagus
Perhaps it is best served all by itself either with a white, rich sauce or a dressing of melted butter and sea-salt after it is cooked tender in water. Never cook it longer than the required time to make it tender. Serve without breaking the stalks. A good way to cook it to avoid breaking the tips is to stand a bunch on end in a dish. Since the tips do not need much cooking fill the dish with water up to three-quarters of the way, and the steam will cook the tips. It should always be boiled in salted water. After it is carefully removed to a platter melt one tablespoon butter, to which add one cup bread crumbs. Stir over the fire until brown then cover asparagus on platter.

Asparagus With Eggs
Cut asparagus in 2-inch parts and boil in salted water till tender, drain, put in a casserole, sprinkle with melted butter, seasoning and add 3 well-beaten eggs, bake until brown in a hot oven.

TWILIGHT HOUR STORY

Chapter 22
About Wee Chicks and Other Little Friends

I'm sure you remember last week we named one of the little chicks. We called her Squatty, didn't we? Because she was so short and fat and had such funny short bill. Then, of course, we named Jimmie Chick a long time ago, didn't we?

Well, how about the other two? Since they had grown so much bigger they certainly did look very different for, do you know, one of the other two sisters left wasn't like Squatty one bit. She had a long neck and long legs and, instead of her beak being short like Squatty's, it was long and pointed. She was a little cross, too, and bossed all the others around. How would it be if we call her Bridget? She ate just as much, even more, sometimes than Squatty who was so fat, but she just stayed thin. I wonder why that is, don't you? Are you fatter than your little sister? Or perhaps you are the thin chick. Well, anyway, we have only one chick left, haven't we? We haven't said anything about it, but you know I wanted to

leave the best till the last for Oh, she was a lovely chicken. She wasn't too fat or too thin. She was just right, and she had such a pretty head and then she had especially beautiful white feathers. I don't know where she got all that beauty, but there she was. Mamma Lady loved to show her off and now she picked her up and said to Billy, "Isn't she a beauty? and son, besides being so beautiful her body is made just right, so she will lay far more eggs than Bridget or Squatty, perhaps more than both of them put together. How is that for a chicken. In fact, Billy, she is such a fine chicken I believe we will show her to, along with Jimmie, at the show when she grows a little bigger."

Billy looked at her with admiring eyes, then said, "Well, we will need to have a pretty nice name for her. I tell you, Mamma, she's so white let us call her 'Lily, white as a lily.'"

"That is a fine name, I'm sure she'll be a good chick with a name like that," smiled Mamma. "But now I'm sure I know a little boy who is very, very sleepy, for he has done so much to-day. How about your good old bed that has been wondering where you have been for such a long time?"

Sonnet for a Day

Wasted Indoors

Lord, I have missed so many things today;
The birds' first splendid song across the dawn
Reaching to greet Thy rose-flushed
Joyous dawn
That crept soft-footed from night's
Fading grey;
I did not see the silver sunbeams
play
Nor rippled water and on wind-
swayed lawn.
Nor yet the tree-spun shadows,
quietly drawn
Where dew-hung, wildflower-patterned
carpets lay;
I did not see the sure returning tide
Stretch out to clutch again the
pebbled sand
With those swift waves of jade
which one by one
Came tumbling shorewards; and I
missed the wide
Cloud-stippled sky above the day-
green land.
And, Lord, I lost the setting of
the sun.
—A. R. Ubbeldil, in the Fortnightly
Review.

French Births Exceed

1930 Deaths by 100,000

Paris.—There were 100,000 more births than deaths in France during 1930, government statistics published recently revealed. There were 342,698 marriages in 1930, against 333,841 in 1929, but there were 20,400 divorces last year, against 19,353 the year before.

The Paris press hailed the margin of births over deaths as indication that a long period of a declining French birth rate was past.



"I want a man with a higher calling."
"Then you'd better marry a chimney sweep."

What New York Is Wearing

BY ANNABELLE WORTHINGTON

Illustrated Dressmaking Lesson Furnished With Every Pattern.



Perhaps you'd like a youthful caplet one sees on so many of the smart frocks these days.

However be certain you choose the right caplet. This one is a beauty and suited to miss or matron. Fastening at the front as it does with a button, gives it a sportive air. Its scalloped bound edge furnishes a lovely theme for contrast. The buttoned belt and circular hem smartly agree with the scalloped cape. The hipline also favors scallops to narrow its breadth.

The frock was originally carried out in pale blue eylet batiste with blue binding.

Style No. 3050 may be had in sizes 12, 14, 16, 18, 20 years, 36 and 38 inches bust.

Peach-pink linen with brown binding, yellow shantung print with plain yellow, pale blue flat washable silk, reple with pale pink, red and white batiste print and green pique print with white pique collar and binding are charming suggestions.

Size 16 requires 3 3/4 yards 35-inch or 39-inch.

HOW TO ORDER PATTERNS.
Write your name and address plainly, giving number and size of such stamps or coin (coin preferred); wrap it carefully for each number, and address your order to Wilson Pattern Service, 73 West Adelaide St., Toronto.

Verities

Don't cry over spilt milk; call the cat.
Gossip is the mother-in-law of invention.
Never hit a man when he's got you down.
The unfairness of the fair sex is proverbial.
The redeeming feature of a pawnshop is the ticket.
Women with the most cheek don't always do the most blushing.
Character is what you are; reputation is what people think you are.

Valor

God of men who trust
When clouds of gloom obscure,
Help each and everyone
Bravely to persevere.
—Grenville Kleiser.

Sunday School Lesson

May 31. Lesson IX—Jesus in Gethsemane—Luke 22: 39-54. Golden Text—Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me; nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done.—Luke 22: 42.

ANALYSIS.
I. The Agony on the Mount of Olives, 22: 39-46.
II. The Arrest, 22: 47-54.

What is meant by saying that Jesus went, "as his custom was," to the Mount of Olives? It might be that he was wont to retreat thither for prayer and meditation, but more probably it was not safe for him to sleep in the city. Jesus did not refuse to die when the time came, but he refused to be assassinated before his hour. Whether he slept in the open air or with friends, perhaps at Bethany, is not quite certain.

The disciples are to pray, that they enter not into temptation. We are reminded of the conclusion of the Lord's Prayer. The word translated "temptation" seems to mean rather "fiery trial," such a searching test as Peter underwent when accused of being a disciple, or as many Christians underwent in times of persecution. How do we know the words of Jesus' prayer? The disciples, apparently were asleep. Who, then, overheard the prayer of Jesus? The only possible person seems to be the young man of Mark 15: 51, whom some have supposed to be Mark himself. This is interesting guess-work, but we cannot tell. The prayer itself is reminiscent of two other passages: First, the question, "Are ye able to drink of the cup that I drink?" Matt. 20: 22. Second, the petition in the Lord's Prayer, "Thy will be done."

Why should the disciples fall asleep through "grief"? v. 45. Grief tends to keep people awake. No doubt the disciples may have been more or less aware of the storm that was about to burst over their heads, but it looks as if "from grief" was put in by the Evangelist as some sort of excuse. It is on the whole, more likely that the disciples, assuming that Jesus proposed to spend the night on the Mount of Olives and to sleep there himself, had simply lain down in the ordinary way, and fallen asleep. What was it that caused the great distress of Jesus? We are very much out of our depth when we attempt to define the thoughts and feelings of Jesus at this time.

*We may not know, we cannot tell
What pains he had to bear.*

We can but indicate some of the elements which may have entered into his desperate distress. No doubt Jesus, who was but some thirty years old, may have shared man's natural shrinking from death, and the death to which he must look forward was one peculiarly painful and normally very slow. But others before and since have faced a painful death bravely and quietly, and we may be sure that this does not account for Jesus' "Agony." It may well have come to Jesus with overwhelming horror that he, a Jew, the lover of his people, was to be executed by the Romans. Better far, perhaps, that he might die like the prophets at the hands of his own people. Moreover, death by crucifixion, the "hanging upon a tree," seemed to bring with it the curse of the Law, and therefore of God, the Divine Author of the Law of the Law. Could he really be the Son of God, if God allowed this to befall him? Again, if he were handed over to the Romans, it would mean that he had failed. His religious revolution, symbolized by the cleansing of the Temple, would have collapsed, and he would be done to death as another political fanatic, misunderstood, contemptuously removed.

In the dark, dark hour of Gethsemane we may see "desperate tides of the whole world's anguish" (and the whole world's sin "forced through the channels of a single heart.") It was usual for men to linger two or three days upon the Cross. It has been said that Jesus

New Combinations

Vegetable meals are becoming more and more popular. Although they have the drawback of demanding that several vegetables be cooked individually and served simultaneously, they can be managed, and there are many combinations besides the mound-of-spinach, mound-of-carrots and mound-of-mashed potatoes one.

These plates offer more variety and are but little more trouble to prepare.

1. Cauliflower with Hollandaise sauce, string beans, baked potatoes, buttered beets.
2. Fresh broiled mushrooms on toast, broccoli, creamed potatoes, grilled tomatoes.
3. Baked green pepper stuffed with tomato and rice, beets, creamed celery, green peas.
4. Spinach with cheese sauce, buttered onions, fried egg-plant slices, celery hearts.

"What makes Smith so superior in manner?"
"He has bought a new encyclopedia and can't help thinking about how wise he will be when he has read some of it."

did quickly because his heart was broken. Finally, it must be remembered that Jesus walked by faith, as we also are called to do. His arrest and death, just when he seemed to be succeeding, must have been utterly baffling to faith. It is easy for us after the event to see how, through his death, he triumphed, but we must not assume that this was easy for him to see. Jesus is set before us, in the epistle to the Hebrews, as the great example of faith; the leader who tested to the uttermost, as alone he faced absolute disaster. We dare not think what it would have meant for the world if his faith had failed, but it held firm.

II. The Arrest, 22: 47-54.

Luke says that chief priests and elders came to arrest Jesus, but they would surely have recognized him, and there would have been no need for the traitor's kiss. The arrest was more probably effected, as Mark indicates, by servants. Exactly what happened is not clear. There seems to have been some sort of a scuffle, but Jesus did not attempt to escape arrest. It is rather surprising to find one at least of the disciples armed, but Jesus knew that "two swords" would be of no avail, once Pilate was invoked.

Wind-Whipping By Plane Believed Good For Alfalfa

The wind whipping given an alfalfa field in full bloom by an airplane flying low over it is thought to have resulted in an increased yield of 140 pounds of alfalfa seed an acre. This test was conducted on the farm of Jay Larkin, Cook County, Oregon.

In July when the alfalfa being left for seed was in full bloom the county agent arranged with Charles E. Hahn and Jonas Bass to demonstrate the effectiveness of the airplane propeller blast in tripping the alfalfa blossoms. A strip forty feet wide the entire length of the field was selected. The county agent and a group of farmers counted blossoms tripped and not tripped on marked areas previous to the airplane treatment. The airplane was then flown over the strip at a low elevation almost clipping the top of the alfalfa with the landing gear. The blossoms were again counted and it was found that 30 per cent additional blossoms were tripped as a result of the airplane.

Yields at harvest time proved that the strip thus treated yielded 200 pounds of seed an acre in comparison with the yield from the untreated portion of the field of only 60 pounds an acre.

Organ Industry Grows

The great number of motion picture theatres that have sprung up in Germany have furnished a welcome extension of one of the country's industries, though but a comparatively small one—that of organ building. The yearly output is about 400, almost double the number of pre-war time, but the greater part of these instruments are commissioned for the cinemas, writes the Berlin correspondent of "The Christian Science Monitor." An average-sized church organ takes four to five months to build while one for the picture theatre takes half that time. Although many organ building firms have amalgamated with large industrial concerns of late years, a goodly number of smaller firms have remained independent, the reason being that, while in the manufacture of the instrument and the tuner, this is not the case in the organ industry. The mechanism of an organ is so complicated and delicate that only one who has thoroughly learned the construction is able to tune that instrument.

Britain and India

Calcutta Englishman: A huge concession was made in 1917 on certain conditions. Since that date Great Britain has gone on giving one concession after another, although the original conditions were never observed by Indian politicians, and as time has passed have been totally jettisoned. Had the abandonment of the conditions laid down in the preamble of the Government of India Act been followed by political peace and prosperity, there would have been much to say in favor of abandonment, but the state of India during the last ten years and the alluring prospect of a "civil war for a little time" held out by Mr. Gandhi suggest that perhaps a mistake has been made in making so many advances without security.

America Inhabited Long Ages Ago

Early Man in Arizona Lived in Pleistocene Age—New Evidence

Cleveland, O.—Discovery in Arizona of a "butcher shop" more than 20,000 years old was reported at the recent meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science by Dr. Harold J. Cook, of the Cook Museum of Natural History, Agate, Nebraska.

Bones of the huge elephant-like mammoth that had been hacked with flint knives by the ancient butchers, and some of the knives themselves, were found in Yuma County, Arizona, by Perry and Harold Anderson, Dr. Cook said. The knives buried with the bones show men must have lived there at the same time as the mammoths, Dr. Cook believes. Some of the mammoth bones showed evidence of having been hacked while still fresh, or tough and green. A bison bone evidently used in flaking off particles of flint in making the stone knives also was discovered.

"Some of the bison and mammoth bones found here also appear to have been gnawed," Dr. Cook said.

Delares Romance Need of the Time

"Makes Life Worth Living" Says President of American University

Romance—"the spirit of adventure, the joy of spiritual achievement, the putting of so-called realities in their proper place"—is esteemed by President Walter Williams of the University of Missouri, the chief of four things needed in all educational endeavors today.

Addressing members of the Ozark Press Association, he outlined these four needs as follows:

"The first is readjustment. We are living in a different world today than the world in which we were living yesterday, and our children will be living in a different world to-morrow than we are living in today. We live so close together physically that we have little or no elbow room. The shuttle of the city is weaving a new pattern for to-morrow's civilization. We must have in our scheme of education a recognition of the readjustments that are taking place all around us.

"We will need for to-morrow a knowledge of things, and of the science of things, of business and the economics of business, of government and the scope of authority of government—whatever counts in the making of a living for the physical man. We must come to grips with reality, a necessity to man always, whether he likes it or not.

"As one contemplates the distress, the poverty, the unemployment, the widespread revolution and increase of death-dealing inventions, the depression and sickness of the world today, shall we, dare we, be unprepared? It is true that the race is between effective education, righteous education and overwhelming catastrophe, for the capture of the city of man's soul, of the citadels of civilization itself.

"We need readiness to meet the conditions of today and to-morrow, in thought and deed and life; recognition of the realities of human existence, and the right attitude of mind thereunto. Preconceived opinions in predilections and prejudices, like the underbrush of the jungle, must be cleared away if we are to see the truth that is to make us free. We must learn to look upon education, not merely from the viewpoint of individual culture or personal success, but from the viewpoint of society as a whole. It is not enough to build a Grecian state to contain a few wise men in the midst of a helot mob.

"Most of all, we need romance. Romance it is said, died in the trenches in the war days. It is our business, our journalists, our teachers, preachers, merchants, lawyers and all—to keep it alive in the hearts of men. Without reality there would be no life, but without romance there would be no life worth living."

Desperate Measures

In Egypt, the doctor in charge of the Cairo Anti-freedom Institute notified a curious frequency of dog-bite cases from a particular village, but in no case was there any record of the dog. Cross-examination of one patient elicited the following admission:

"We who are coming here are drug addicts. We have lost everything and there is no one to help us. Some months ago one of our villagers, a drug addict, was bitten by a mad dog. He came here for treatment and was sent back to our village cured not only of rabies, but of drug addiction. So the rest of us went to our barber, who is the Government sanitary agent, and asked how we could go to the mad dog place in Cairo. He told us to come back in a week. When we did so he showed us how he had fitted the jaws of a dead dog with a steel spring; and with this, at reasonable intervals, we were bitten in the leg to simulate the lacerations of a live dog's bite. Then the public health doctor sent us here, where we are sure to be cured of desire for dope."—The United States Daily.

A Tree Lover

In Athens, Ga., stands a magnificent old oak, surrounded by a chain hung from blocks of granite. Within the circle stands a stone inscribed: "For and in consideration of the great love I bear this tree, and the great love I have for its protection for all time, I convey entire possession of itself and all land within eight feet of the tree on all sides.—William H. Jackson."

They will tell you in Athens that Colonel Jackson was a large landholder there before the Civil War, and that on his daily walks he became much interested in this promising young oak. The thought that the tree might some day be cut down gave him so much anxiety that he got his lawyer to draw up a deed in full title, making the tree owner of itself and the land on which it stands. This deed was duly put on file in the county court house.—Charles W. Gilkey, Woman's Press.

Where the Flying Fishes Play.

The more we know, the better we forgive. Whoever feels deeply feels for all who live.—Madame de Staël.

Pass the Megaphone.—Tess—"You can't believe everything you hear." Tess—"No; but you can repeat it."—Answers (London).

MUTT AND JEFF—By BUD FISHER.

