

### TO COOK ASPARAGUS.

Various Ways of Preparing This Very Tender and Succulent of the Vegetables.

**ON TOAST.**—Wash the asparagus in cold water, tie again in bundles, and cook standing upright, with the tender tips uncovered, in a kettle of boiling salted water. Boil half an hour, or until tender, which will depend upon the age and freshness. Then drain, untie and spread on small slices of hot buttered toast. Pour over cream sauce, and serve at once.

**MOLD.**—Make a cream sauce with two tablespoonfuls each of butter and flour, half a teaspoonful of salt, a dash of pepper and one cupful of cream. When boiling, add one and one-half cupfuls of cooked asparagus tips and four well-beaten eggs. Turn into a pint mold which has been thickly buttered and lined with cooked asparagus. Set the mold in a pan of hot water in the oven, and bake until the center is firm. Let stand a minute or two; then invert the mold on a hot dish. Garnish with asparagus tips and little heaps of cooked green peas. Pour around a butter sauce made as follows: Cook together two tablespoonfuls each of butter and flour, and gradually one cupful of cold water, let boil six or eight minutes, and season with salt and pepper and the juice of half a lemon.

**IN AMBUSH.**—Remove slices from the tops of stale biscuits, scoop out the inside, brush all over with melted butter; then place each biscuit and cover in the oven to brown lightly. Cut cooked asparagus in small pieces, season to taste, add two beaten yolks of eggs, and cook over hot water until it thickens; then add one tablespoonful of butter, fill the hot biscuits, adjust the covers, and serve at once with cream sauce.

**A LA FRANCAIS.**—Mince boiled asparagus with a knife, add a little finely-chopped onion, the beaten yolk of an egg, and salt and pepper to taste. Let it become thoroughly hot, place in a deep dish, and garnish with croutons.—Country Gentleman.

### TO DO WITH CHERRIES.

**Pickling the Fruit—A Refreshing Summer Beverage—Some Very Nice Preserves.**

**Pickled Cherries.**—Five pounds of cherries, not too ripe; stone, or not; one quart of vinegar, two pounds of sugar, half ounce of cloves, half ounce of mace. Boil the sugar and vinegar and spices together (have the spices ground and tied in a bag) and pour hot over the cherries.

**Cherry Vinegar.**—Slightly wash two quarts of cherries and pour over them one quart of best vinegar. Put in an earthen jar and set in a cool place for two days. Strain through a muslin bag, and for each pint of the strained juice add three-quarters of a pound of sugar. Place on the fire and let boil for 15 minutes. Strain again, set aside to cool for 15 minutes and bottle for use. This will be appreciated as a cooling summer drink.

**Preserved Cherries.**—Stone the fruit or not, as preferred. Take sugar in the proportion of three-fourths pound to one pound of fruit. To every pound of the sugar use one pint of water; let it warm and thoroughly dissolve the sugar, add the fruit and let boil fast for 20 minutes, or until it begins to jelly. Put in jars or cans hot. Put paper over the top and paste down around the edges, seal or cover closely, and set in a dark, cool, dry place.—The Commoner.

### MISCELLANEOUS.

Dry buckwheat applied liberally to grease spots on carpets will readily remove them.

To clean zinc dip a piece of cotton rag in paraffin and rub the zinc with it until all dirt is removed. Rinse well with clean water and dry with a clean cloth.

If a tablespoonful of black pepper is stirred into the first water in which gray or buff linen is washed it will prevent its spotting; it will also prevent colors running in cambrics and muslins, and is well to affect the softness of the water.

**TO PREVENT RUST.**—Heat the articles well and rub in thoroughly common beeswax. Then rub well with a cloth until the wax is well rubbed in. Knives, tin or iron kettles or any article which will rust have been kept for years in this manner.

The loofahs or dried vegetable sponges which one buys at the druggist's for a small sum, make excellent wash cloths. With a sharp pair of shears cut the loofah in two crosswise, and again through the middle. The outer surface is smoother than the inner, but some people like a rough face cloth. The little sponges are good also to wash fine glass and china.

White chiffon washes perfectly, but a better way to clean it is by a dry method. Use two quarts of finely powdered starch to one of powdered borax. Spread the chiffon on a clean muslin, and rub the mixture well into it. Shake this out, and sprinkle liberally with clean flour and borax; cover and leave overnight; the next day brush and shake every particle of powder from the chiffon. It should be found quite spotless.—Good Literature.

### Crepe for Kimonos.

Japanese crepes for kimonos and dressing sacks have cherry blossoms and dragons, quaint little Japanese maidens and butterflies in a confusion of gay colors, with a disregard of proportions and probability that is as attractive as the soft, crepey cotton stuff they are printed on.

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WANTED—SEVERAL INDUSTRIOUS PER-  
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to call upon merchants and agents for suc-  
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in cash each week. Experience not essential.  
Mention reference and enclose self-addressed  
envelope. THE NATIONAL, 324 Dearborn St.,  
Chicago Ill.

WANTED—FAITHFUL PERSON TO  
TRAVEL for well established house in a few  
counties, calling on retail merchants and  
agents. Local territory. Salary \$124 a year  
and expenses advanced. Position permanent  
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House, 324 Dearborn St., Chicago.

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Any person who will secure six new  
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This offer expires Oct. 1, 1906.

Wanted—Several industrious persons in each state to travel for house established eleven years and with a large capital to call upon merchants and agents for successful and profitable line. Permanent engagement. Weekly cash salary of \$18 and all traveling expenses and hotel bills advanced in cash each week. Experience not essential. Mention reference and enclose self-addressed envelope. THE NATIONAL, 324 Dearborn St., Chicago Ill.

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### WOMAN'S KNITTED SWEATER

Every Girl and Woman's Wardrobe Should Contain One of the Comfortable Wool Sweaters.

One pound of German knitting yarn, 1 pair No. 4 bone or rubber needles, 1 pair No. 11 steel needles. With steel needles cast on 80 stitches and knit 2 plain, purl 2 alternately for 1 1/2 inches. This is the back. Now add 1 stitch and put in coarse needles. The stitch is as follows, always 4 rows.

1st row—(\* 3 plain, purl 3, repeat from (\*).  
2d row—(\*—purl 3, 3 plain, repeat.  
3d row—(\* 3 plain, purl 3, repeat.  
4th row—(\* 3 plain, purl 3, repeat.  
Work this stitch till you have worked the pattern 16 times (4 rows to a pattern). Now knit the pattern twice more, narrowing 1 stitch on each end of every other row. Work 13 more patterns without narrowing, which brings work to neck.

1st shoulder row—Knit the first 25 stitches in pattern and put them on to a safety pin. Knit and bind the next 19 stitches and on the remaining 25 stitches knit the pattern rows once, then knit them twice more, increasing 1 stitch at the inside end every second row, 3 stitches in all. The last row knit should end toward the inside. At the end of it cast on 23 stitches. There are in all 51 stitches on the needle. Knit without increasing or decreasing for 2 patterns. Again knit the pattern rows 2 times, increasing 1 stitch at the outside end of the first and fifth rows, then knit 7 patterns, increasing 1 stitch at the outside end of every second row. Let the last row end toward the outside and at the end of the needle cast on 17 stitches, having in all 84 stitches on needle.

Knit in pattern until the front is as long as the back. The last row made should end on the front edge. Turn and knit to within 18 stitches of the underarm seam, turn and knit back to the front again. Work back and forth, always letting 6 extra stitches stand on the needle towards underarm seams, until no stitches remain on the first needle to be worked. With fine needle knit 2 and 2 across entire width, until ribbing is as deep as that at the back, and bind off.

Take 25 stitches from the safety pin on to the needle again and on them work the second front, being careful to increase and decrease at the proper ends of the needle to make the fronts opposites. Sew up the underarm seams, then with the fine needle pick up a row of stitches round neck, and knit 1 row, narrowing sufficiently to bring it to the proper size. Number of stitches divisible by 4. Knit 2 and 2 until collar is height desired—about three inches—and bind off loosely. For the sleeve cast on 18 stitches and knit in pattern, increasing 1 stitch at each end of each needle until there are 66 stitches in all on the needle. Then knit 2 rows, casting on 8 stitches at the beginning of each row. Knit back and forth in pattern until the sleeve is long enough. With fine needles knit 2 and 2 for cuff. The waist may be finished with a crocheted edge if desired.—Eva M. Niles, in Boston Budget and Beacon.

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### NAMED MISSISSIPPI.

Representative Williams Gives Some Interesting Historical Data Concerning Famous Ships.

In a recent convention Representative John Sharp Williams, of Mississippi, gave some interesting historical incidents of warships which have borne the name of that state.

"One of the ships engaged in the blockade of the Mexican coast during the Mexican war, under the command of Capt. Connor," said Mr. Williams, "was named the Mississippi. She was afterward under the special command of Capt. Forest, with the fleet that secured the neutrality of Yucatan and captured the Mexican flotilla at Tobasco. It was the name of the American battleship which flew Admiral Farragut's pennant when he broke through the obstructions from the mouth of the Mississippi to New Orleans on the expedition which led to the separation of the cis-Mississippi from the trans-Mississippi confederacy. It was the name of a confederate cruiser, then being built for Admiral Sommes, and not yet quite completed, which was taken by the federal forces when they captured New Orleans, and which, if completed, might have taken the place which the confederate cruiser Alabama subsequently took in the history of the naval affairs of the world. It was the name of the battleship of Admiral Perry when, in 1852, by the wise exhibition of a 'big stick,' he procured from the old Japanese government the conditions under which the twentieth century, opened its ports to the commerce of the United States, and, as a result, to the commerce and fellowship of the world. It may be said, therefore, to have been, in a way, the opening wedge whereby the trunk of old prejudices and Chauvinistic isolation in Japan was split and destroyed. From its guns, belched the seed which, when grown to fruition, has developed into the present empire of Japan the most stupendous exhibition of the rebirth and rapid growth to national manhood of a people, which the world has ever witnessed.

"It was upon the same ship, Mississippi, that Capt. Perry afterwards visited Halifax and Cape Breton, on account of the seizure of our fishing vessels by British cruisers. The result of that visit was the reciprocity treaty with Canada, in 1854. And last, but by no means least, in my estimation, it is the name of a state second in the union to none—a state whose great men have illustrated the virtue of American citizenship on the bench, in the cabinet and in legislative halls; a state whose men have illustrated the virtues and greatness in life-rendering of American soldiery on the field. May the good ship Mississippi, when she is commissioned, go forth in herself an object lesson to the world of the excellence of American naval architecture, and in her crew and her officers an object lesson of the fact that American intelligence and daring are all as fully to be found now as in the most heroic days of the republic!"

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Take 25 stitches from the safety pin on to the needle again and on them work the second front, being careful to increase and decrease at the proper ends of the needle to make the fronts opposites. Sew up the underarm seams, then with the fine needle pick up a row of stitches round neck, and knit 1 row, narrowing sufficiently to bring it to the proper size. Number of stitches divisible by 4. Knit 2 and 2 until collar is height desired—about three inches—and bind off loosely. For the sleeve cast on 18 stitches and knit in pattern, increasing 1 stitch at each end of each needle until there are 66 stitches in all on the needle. Then knit 2 rows, casting on 8 stitches at the beginning of each row. Knit back and forth in pattern until the sleeve is long enough. With fine needles knit 2 and 2 for cuff. The waist may be finished with a crocheted edge if desired.—Eva M. Niles, in Boston Budget and Beacon.

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