

make no claim that I am in touch with the world but I do try to know a little about our own country and its relation with other countries and to that end I read farm papers from Washington, Idaho, California, Alabama, Florida and several from the Mississippi Valley besides our own local farm papers.

In my capacity of rural teacher I read many descriptive books of our own and foreign countries and never miss a chance to talk with a foreigner or a traveler from a distance. Our training class teacher used to say, "The surest way to become educated is never to be ashamed to ask questions."

I know a dear little farm woman some distance from any neighbor and with no telephone who says her only connection with the rest of the world consists of letters and papers, yet she is happy and contented.

MRS. E. M. ANDERSON.



A FILLET CROCHET SCARF FOR SUMMER EVENINGS

Questions and Answers

**"WHAT causes the hands to be red?"**  
Usually rough red hands come from careless washing and drying. If very hot or very cold water is constantly scrubbed over the hands it will enlarge the pores, make the texture of the skin coarse and red and cause the hands to become flabby. Gloves should be worn for doing outside work. Badly soiled hands may be cleansed thoroughly with tepid water and mild soap, dried thoroughly and then have rubbed in a very little white vaseline or good cold cream. An excellent soap for whitening the hands may be made of two cakes of castile soap mixed into a half cup each of lemon juice and lavender cologne. Lemon juice alone is as good as soap for cleansing the hands of stains and has great bleaching properties. If a little piece is kept on the washstand many stains may be quickly and safely removed.

**"Would long or short sleeves suit anyone with long, small arms and large hands best?"** My dear, wear the kind of sleeves you like, regardless of your arms and hands. If your arms are very thin, get outdoors and play games and exercise and they will grow more beautiful. Do not make the mistake of wearing very tight cuffs on long sleeves as that will accentuate your small wrists and large hands. You know your hands and feet grow first and you will probably "grow into" them.

A Variety of Ways to Cook Asparagus

**BOILED Asparagus.**—Cut off lower parts of stalks as far down as they will snap, wash and tie into bunches with soft string. Cook in boiling salted water 15 minutes or until soft, leaving tips out of water first 10 minutes. Drain immediately, remove string and spread with soft butter and eat at once. Asparagus is sometimes broken or cut in inch pieces for boiling, cooking tips a shorter time than stalks.

**Asparagus on Toast.**—Prepare as-

paragus same as in boiled asparagus. Spread upon a platter slices of buttered toast; drain the asparagus and lay it in a neat pile on the toast. Just before sending to the table pour a white sauce over it. An excellent plan is to pour this sauce only over the green ends of the stalks, leaving the white ends uncovered.

**Asparagus Salad.**—Prepare asparagus same as in boiled asparagus. When cooked, drain and set aside to get very cold. Just before serving arrange stalks on a bed of lettuce leaves and pour over them the following dressing: Put 3 tablespoons salad oil into a bowl and stir into it 1 tablespoon vinegar, 1 salt-spoon salt, 1 dash white pepper and 1 dash paprika pepper.

**Surprise Asparagus Tips.**—Cut the tops from square breakfast rolls and scoop the crumbs from the insides, leaving box-like crusts. Butter the outside and inside of these hollowed rolls and set them with the tops beside them in the oven to dry and brown lightly.

Boil asparagus tips until tender in salted water and drain. Have ready a white sauce made by cooking together 3 level tablespoons butter and 3 level tablespoons flour and adding to this 1½ cups milk. Stir into this sauce the asparagus tips, and pepper and salt to taste. Fill the hollowed rolls with the mixture, replace the tops and set in the oven just long enough to become very hot.

FROM TWELVE TO TWENTY

"No Lovein'er Couple in Georgia"

I HAVE been reading with great interest the young folks ideals of future life companions and have laughed over many of the letters. They deal with visions, I talk facts. Fourteen years ago we made our choices. I want to tell you about it!

I chose the "Deacon" not because he was handsome! Gracious no! He's as homely as Abraham Lincoln. And I am positively sure he didn't choose me for my beauty for I am short, fat and Irish!

I didn't marry him for money for he was \$900 in debt and I never brought a dollar with me from home.

He didn't marry me with the idea that he was to be Lord and Master because he knew I had so much spunk and 'Irish temper I wouldn't be "bossed."

I married him for five big reasons. First, I love him so much that a minute without him gives me a lost, half-gone feeling that has grown rather than lessened as the years have passed.

Second, he is a good Christian, as pure and clean and square as any girl could ask or imagine. He never drank, never used tobacco in any form, never gambled and never flirts.

Third, he is reasonable. He feels that marriage is a partnership and he has always talked over all of our business freely with me. All money is not my money but ours.

Fourth, he is a good father. I knew he would be before I married him. Our five children feel just as close to Daddy as they do to Mother.

Fifth, he is a thoughtful, affectionate husband. Thank Heaven, my honeymoon still lasts. For 12 years we have proved that love lasts. Meal times, or out on the farm there has always been time for a kiss or a hand clasp.

I feel sorry for the children who grow up without an affectionate father and mother. It gives a child the wrong idea of home life and the marriage relationship.

Now let me tell you some of my own good qualities. It won't take long and for every good one there are 47 faults.

First, I am well-educated and in addition to looking after my home I am interested in outside matters.

Second, homely as I am, I am neat and straight and have been careful to keep my figure.

Third, I am absolutely honest and truthful even when it might seem better and kinder to "twist" things a little.

Fourth, I am trying every day to be a good Christian. I miss my standards



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miles and miles but my family know I am making an effort.

Sixth, Deacon knows I'm absolutely true to him. He can trust me with everything. I can keep a secret. I have sense enough to know what to repeat and what to withhold.

And seventh, I am of a sympathetic and loving disposition. But nobody on earth would do for me but the Deacon. He knows I am snappy, that I say mean things when my feelings are hurt or I am angry, but he knows that underneath I am kind at heart and he does not pay much attention to my tantrums. Usually he will put his arms around me and say, "Well, I believe she's mad! She looks mad." Now imagine staying mad under such circumstances.

Then I'm a driver. There never is anybody who gets enough done in a day. It's discouraging to live with anybody like that. Every once in a while I realize I'm pushing myself and everybody around me and I settle down. And I'm nervous and fly all to pieces at little things which frighten me.

The Deacon's wings haven't sprouted. Things go wrong and he "rares" around every once in a while. He is particular about his eating. He won't always clean up to go to town. Sometimes he doesn't shave for a week. He snores awfully. And it's real hard to get him to do things toward repairing house or furniture.

We've learned not to expect perfection but to give and take.

And about divorce, we don't uphold it a minute. People ought not marry without knowing each other mighty well, but I wouldn't live with a bossy, conceited man, with a lot of personal vices any longer than I could get to town and hire me a good lawyer. And I know just as well that if I were to be untrue to Deacon or take advantage of him in a business way after his generosity he'd leave me to-morrow. People get along in the marriage partnership just as in any other partnership, by being big hearted, honest, loyal and square.

MRS. R. P. CRIPPS.

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