

ANOTHER FROM ESSEX

Dear Dame Durden:—Having seen Lenora's letter of June 1st in the Ingle Nook, I have at last persuaded myself to join this happy circle of correspondents, especially as I notice what a kind welcome Dame Durden always extends to new members.

I have so enjoyed the Ingle Nook since we have taken the ADVOCATE, and hope at some future time I may be able to offer some help to some one in the circle.

I see Lenora asks if any of the members are from Essex County. Yes. Here is one right from the town of Essex. My husband was a merchant in Essex for many years. We came West three years ago this spring and started farming, which we have found beneficial to our health, although not much so to our bank account as yet. It is no wonder Lenora felt discouraged after losing the crops, but don't give in too soon, Lenora. This year will make up for all the bad ones, at least so we hope. Well, this is getting pretty long for a beginning, so will close as it is churn morning.

Dame Durden, do you know Mrs. A—S—, of Ruscomb? She is the only person I know there. Well, good morning, with best wishes to all the Ingle Nookers.

MARY A.

(You addressed your letter all right. I knew the lady you mention slightly, but some others of the same name much better. Come again.—D. D.)

THE FIRST WEDDING IN THE VALLEY

Dear Dame Durden:—I must write to thank you most sincerely for the prompt attention you gave my inquiry about egg boxes, and I also want to thank "Mere Man" very much for the address he sent me through you. This is the second kindness I have to thank him for, as he answered my questions for mending enamel ware also. It is nice to feel how very close together we members of the Ingle Nook are, and how Dame Durden manages to attend to all our wants so promptly is a wonder, unless she has a large staff of helpers. Some time ago one of the members asked for directions for making Norwegian potato cakes. I thought that recipes would be pouring in on you, as usual, and that it would not be much good for me to write, but I have not seen an answer to that yet, so I will enclose it herewith in case you wish to make use of it. Either the Norwegian membership of the Ingle Nook is narrowed down to yours truly only, or the other members are more modest about standing up and speaking out in meeting. The majority of the members who write, seem to write from Alberta and Saskatchewan. My husband has had loads of letters from those provinces, from people inquiring about conditions here and many contemplate coming in to look around. We read about terrible weather last winter, in all parts of the world, and here we had the most delightful winter possible, the finest since the valley got settled. We had it not colder than 6 degree above zero and that only for one day. We had a very mild winter and just enough snow to make good sleighing.

Our young men and girls have made this year quite gay with weddings, no less than four marriages in about as many months, and no bride past 20 years of age. These festivities show us plainly that our pioneer days are over. I well remember the first wedding I attended in Bella Coola. It is about fourteen years ago. Everyone was invited; but as there was no house big enough to hold us, a large tent was put up on the place in which the ceremony was performed, and the bride looked very nice in her simple white muslin dress, the best the stores here could supply at the time, and we knew nothing about the large mail order houses at that time. Another tent was put up, in which to serve the dinner, and we all had a nice, enjoyable time, even with the thought in our minds that some of us had twelve or thirteen miles to walk to get home, after the celebration, for horses were not plentiful then. I think the place boasted of one or two horses in these early days. Now the marriage ceremony is solemnized in a pretty little church and the brides are attired in silks, satins and lace, and we

have the commodious Farmers' Institute Hall, in which the receptions are usually held and refreshments served to from 100 to 200 guests. We all drive now, in our buggies or sleighs, as the time of year necessitates, some with one and others with two horses. We can not boast of any Thoroughbred horses as yet; the majority are still Indian ponies, but it affords a more convenient transportation than our own two feet. Our telephone system has been in working order now for several months and it is a great comfort. Not infrequently when I go to the telephone to call someone up, I find that some young man or other is serenading some young lady over the wire. Sometimes it is an accordion that is being played, sometimes an organ, violin or even a gramophone. It is quite a new mode of entertaining and quite harmless, but annoying if you are anxious to get the use of the line in a hurry.

NORWEGIAN POTATO CAKES.

Boil as many potatoes as you wish to use until they are well cooked, in salted water, as for table use. Then drain and mash smooth as a paste and if they are very dry a small quantity of the potato water might be added. Then let them stand until nearly cold, when knead as much flour into the mashed potatoes as they will comfortably hold and until you have a nice-working dough. Roll out about one-quarter inch thick and cut with a five-lb. lard-pail cover, into cakes, or do as they do in the old country, take enough dough for the one cake and roll out each one separately. Wash the top of stove nice and clean and bake the cakes on top of it, turning them first on one side then on the other till quite done.

BELLA COOLA.

(In the face of the explanation and apology I have to make to you and Bronze Crown and West Maid, I hated to let the part of your sentence stand where you said that I "attended to things promptly." But I left it to punish myself. You will no doubt have changed your mind about it by now. Just about the time the letters came from you three I got some new shelves and pigeon holes to keep my big correspondence in good order. The letters came in one day and were put on a certain shelf—the wrong one, as I see now. Other things were laid upon them which were not required for immediate use and another shelf was used for Ingle Nook stuff. Imagine my dismay when, in hunting for some papers for reference, I came across the three letters dated so far back I was almost afraid to look at them. But your letter was so good that only the references to the weather had to be cut out to bring it up to date.—D. D.)

SEND VIEWS ABOUT RIDING HABITS

Dear Dame Durden and Friends:—As I have been out for two years or more perhaps the best I can hope for is a lukewarm welcome. As my friends were writing I sometimes sent my ideas through them.

May I ask you, Dame Durden, to add to the help you have already given in regard to dresses and other clothing, to invent a ladies' riding habit? Don't you think a neat princess suit would be both suitable and becoming? If I were a dressmaker I would try to build a princess suit with a divided skirt expressly for riding. Where we reside a great many young ladies—also some advanced in years—ride constantly. My work as a rancher's wife frequently calls me to the saddle, and as riding astride is the recognized mode I would like to see something suitable to wear. My two daughters also ride. If you can only get hold of a good divided skirt pattern we will all grab for it.

While I delight to hear of people prospering and thriving I don't approve of the "down ones" getting snubbed. When a Nook sister comes to our circle with the troubles we should try not to give her more to bear, even if we cannot help her. I don't bring my domestic troubles (if I have any) to the Nook,

but at the same time others may need consolation. Those who have always had a peaceful domestic life can't realize where they stand compared with a less fortunate sister. I have been a good deal from my mother's side. I have lived in six different countries and have seen many different homes. Sometimes the fault is on one side, sometimes on both. We cannot judge. But we can go to God; there we are understood and can ask for comfort and advice.

If it is not too late I would like to express my opinion on the dower question. Man does rule, in some cases with a rod of iron. He gets help for extra work; calls upon his wife to do chores, cut wood, etc. He goes to town and spends the money. If he has been asked for some little thing for the house, he will perhaps curse his wife for her trouble. I don't say all men do such things, but I have seen where the husband has even kept the money hidden lest his wife get five cents. Can it hurt any good man to give at least a portion of what she has helped to accumulate? If he has a wife who has done her best all their married life for him and his home he should not mind leaving her the best he can. On the other hand, the one who keeps her miserable is usually the one who leaves her unprovided for in the end. It does not encumber a man in life to know he is saving for his wife and children.

If any of the members would care to write me I would be glad to reply, though I do not have much time. With kind wishes to all.

WEST MAID.

(There's a share in that apology due to you, too, if you will accept it from an ashamed woman. If you three forgive me I will know it by your writing again and giving me a chance to do better. I'm writing our pattern firm to find out about divided skirt patterns if it is not too late to help you.—D. D.)

PHOTOGRAPHERS—ATTENTION

Dear Dame Durden:—Will you admit one who, though not a housekeeper, enjoys reading the Ingle Nook and comes to ask a favor of someone of the Nookers.

A friend gave me quite a number of photograph plates and film negatives which have already been developed. As I have never had any experience in making pictures I come to the Nook for help, as I am sure there must be a few photographers in its band. I would be glad if someone would send me full directions for printing pictures, with names of articles needed and how to use them, and where the same may be obtained. In return, if my photos are a success, I will send a number of views for the favor. Would Dame Durden also tell me if she knows of any school where one could learn photography, or if it is the custom to go to a studio?

BRONZE CROWN.

(Will you please accept a share in the apology attached to Bella Coola's letter. I am so sorry for the delay. I think any information regarding photography and all the necessary supplies can be obtained from Robert Strain & Co., 281 Smith St., Winnipeg, Man. I am sure any of our members who have knowledge of the subject will help.—D. D.)

The Ingle Nook

LATEST FASHIONS FROM OUR DESIGNERS

Price ten cents for each pattern. Order by number, give size, name and address.

Allow from ten days to two weeks to fill the orders.

Send to Fashion Department, Farmer's Advocate Winnipeg, Man.



6644 Costume for Misses and Small Women, 14, 16 and 18 years.



6632 Sailor Suit for Misses and Small Women, 14, 16 and 18 years.



6647 Tucked Blouse, 32 to 42 bust.



6314 Child's One-Piece Apron, 2 to 8 years.



6659 College Blouse, for Misses and Small Women, 14, 16 and 18 years.



6273 Child's Rompers or Coverall, 2 to 8 years.



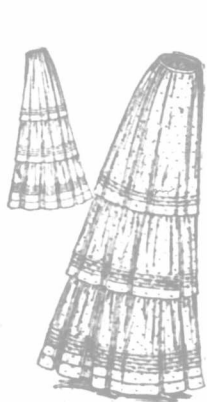
6660 Boy's Reefer Suit, 8 to 14 years.



6690 Child's Rompers, 2, 4 and 6 years.



6664 Child's One-Piece Dress, 2, 4 and 6 years.



6658 Tucked Sectional Skirt, 22 to 30 waist.