

ASPARAGUS A LA CREME is one of the most delicious of soups, yet is seldom found except on tables where the cook is an accomplished chef. It is not difficult to prepare. First cut the points off a bunch of asparagus and lay them aside. Cut up the remainder of the asparagus in small pieces and add to it a pint of white stock, with a fried onion, and cook the whole till it is tender enough to pass through a puree or flour sieve. After straining the soup add a pint of boiling milk and two table-spoonsful of butter, mixed with two table-spoonsful of flour, and finally the asparagus "points". Let the soup cook ten minutes longer, stirring carefully all the time. If the "peas" are large, it is better to parboil them in a little stock before adding them to the soup for this boiling. Add a cup of boiling cream last of all, and serve the soup, if you wish, with dropped eggs. It is more delicate, however, with croutons of dry toasted bread.

THOSE who know say that the famous East Indian soup, Mulligatawny, is better made with a rabbit than anything else, but it is more frequently made with a firm and plump fowl. Begin by slicing up six small onions; fry them brown in butter. Cut up the lean and fat parts of two small slices of ham; try it out in the soup pot and add the fowl or rabbit; cut in pieces and let the meat brown in the pot with the ham till it is slightly coloured. Add the fried onions and a clove of garlic, and finally two quarts of rich brown stock. Simmer the whole till the meat is tender. Rub two table-spoonsful of English mustard powder to a paste with a little stock, and add it to the soup, with an ounce of almonds, powdered to a paste, and a little grated cocoanut if you wish. Strain the soup. Take up the pieces of meat, turn them into shape, and put them back into the tureen. Squeeze over the soup a few drops of lemon juice and serve it as hot as possible. It should always be accompanied by a dish of boiled rice. English housekeepers serve an East India mango pickle with this soup.

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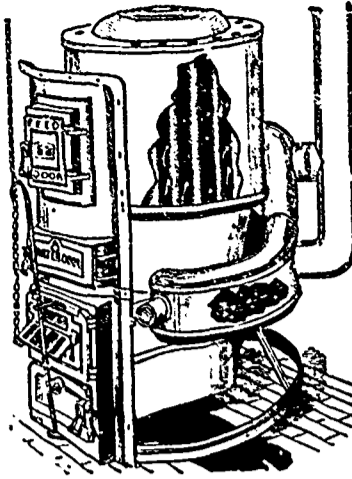
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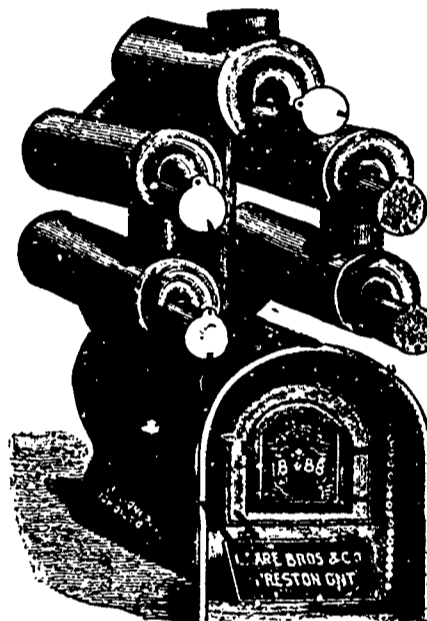
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