

(continued from previous page)

table and firmly grasp the other end of the e. between thumb and forefinger, back gently away from the table, still holding the e. between thumb and forefinger. You would find to your astonishment that the e. stretched and followed you! Nowadays, the safety-pin has largely supplanted it.

FULLY-FASHIONED pure silk stockings—Some contend that this was a notice frequently displayed in drapery shops in years gone by. Others say that it is, like *House-to-let-apply-within* (q.v.) a fragment of one of the Old English singing-games favoured by 19th century children. There is, however, some foundation for the belief that this notice once did signify that the shop in question had for sale women's hose (not to be confused with *garden hose*), or stockings made from pure silk (a textile now used exclusively in the manufacture of parachutes) and so shaped that they would fit the leg of the wearer, even round the ankle. In the course of my researches into the subject I was told also that some women, at the beginning of the current war, experimented with moderate success in preserving f.f.p.s.s. using ordinary preserving jars with screw-top lids; but that they had to desist when they could no longer buy preserving rings made of rubber (q.v.) to ensure that the jar was airtight.



GUM-BOOTS—Boots made from the gummy or resinous secretion of trees, but not eucalypts. By clever treatment the material loses its sticky properties—except when it comes in contact with mud—and thus the boots may be worn without fear of loss by suction or adhesion on various surfaces with the exception above noted. To-day they are mainly in use in cow-yards.

GUM (chewing)—Substance of putty-like consistency with its flavour as its only elusive quality. Remains malleable if persistently chewed; but rapidly hardens if deposited. Has been used to mend extemporaneous hole in kettle and (by George Raft, see G.M.'s review of *Background to Danger* in recent issue) to affix secret and dangerous maps to under-surface of table in emergency.

HONEY—Term of endearment used by U.S. servicemen and others; most common synonym is sweetiepie; abb. is Hon., pron. as in pre-Nazi name for German. Source: viscous sweet juice filling the elaborate structure built by colony of bees, notoriously busy creatures, for obscure purpose. Was prob. at one time available for human consumption, c.f. old nursery rhyme:—

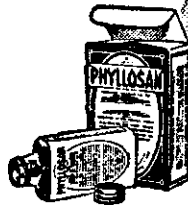
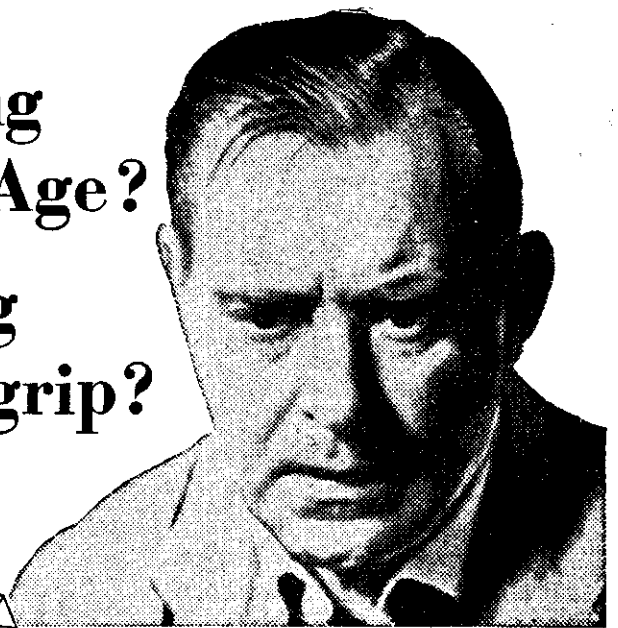
"The King was in his counting house
counting out his money,
The Queen was in the parlour eating
bread-and-honey."

HOT-WATER-BOTTLE—Bottle made of thick glass or earthenware with secure stopper commonly used in cold latitudes as bed warming-pan. It is filled with hot, not boiling, water, wrapped carefully in several woollen garments

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