

FROM THE MAILBAG

Lemons for England

Dear Aunt Daisy,

"Mere Man," who wrote you about the best way of sending lemons to England, may be interested to know the following: A few years ago, when I was living in Auckland, I picked green lemons from my trees, wrapped each in

POTPOURRI

Gather as many petals of sweet-scented flowers as possible, such as roses, pinks, carnations, mignonette, little thyme, etc. Sprinkle the petals with salt, and lay them on trays to dry thoroughly. They may take a week or two to dry properly. Turn them two or three times a day. Mix them well with a quantity of dried lavender, when they are completely dry; and also add—as desired—some spices, such as cinnamon, mixed spice or ground cloves, even a few whole cloves. Also add 20 drops or so of attar of roses, from the chemist. Put into a jar and keep covered.

newspaper, packed a case full and took them to England with me. Myself and lemons were in perfect condition on arrival. I was told by a friend to pack them in this way, as she had been sending them for many years to relatives. They arrived, of course, quite ripened.

"Housewife," Christchurch.

Hardened Woollies

Dear Aunt Daisy,

I heard you ask over the radio if anyone knew of a way to help knitted garments which had become matted through washing. I have not used this method myself, but an English friend of mine told me she had great success with it. She made a basin of suds with a good soap powder and warm water and put into that 6 good tablespoons of paraffin oil. She then put the garments into the suds and worked the suds and oil well through the fabric. My friend said that the matting was caused by the oils drying out of the wool and that this method put some of it back.

Now in turn I would like to ask for some help. When my daughter was a baby I put one of her knitted coats on a towel on the lawn to dry and of course the sun made it go yellow. Now I have a baby son and with white wool so short I would like to unpick the coat and re-knit it. I believe you have a method of using chalk and I would be very grateful for it.

"Constant Listener."

Many thanks for the washing idea. I have passed it on to the enquirer. Here is the answer to your query: Allow twice as much powdered chalk (from the chemist) as the garment, by weight. Make this into a paste with warm water, and knead the garment well in it, afterwards washing and drying carefully as usual.

A Crumpled Certificate

Dear Aunt Daisy,

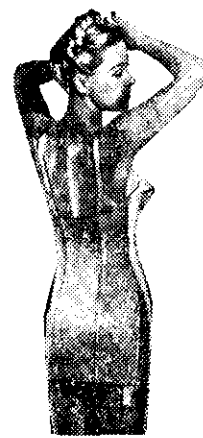
I have a certificate which has become crumpled rather badly. It was rolled and the roll was accidentally crushed. Is there any method of getting the paper smooth again? It is similar in quality to drawing paper. "Student" (Gore).

Try ironing the certificate under a damp cloth, like pressing trousers. You had better press it on the wrong side—and do not have the iron too hot.

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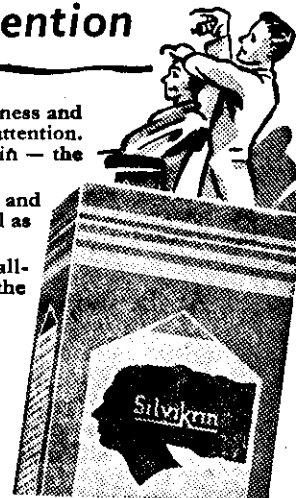
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