FROM THE MAILBAG

The Pioneers' Way

Dear Aunt Daisy,

Can you tell me how to get the top off an earthenware vinegar jar? I have tried to chip it, but thought there must be an easier way and less chance of cracking it. The jar would make a good bread-container. "Toko."

The pioneers had a method for cutting the tops off demijohns, and even bottles, to use as jam-jars. It was to wind knitting wool around the jar, about

RE-GLAZE CHINTZ

Wash well with lukewarm water and good soap. Rinse thoroughly in clean water with a good dash of vinegar in the water. In the meantime prepare the glaze, using 4 teaspoons of size to 1 pint of boiling water as the proportions. Have the size melted and thoroughly strained. Squeeze the dampened article through this and then wrap up in towels to partly dry. If hung out would dry patchy. Iron while slightly damp, on wrong side first with cool iron—then properly on right side with hot iron.

half an inch in thickness, where you want it taken off, and then pour kerosene on the wool till it is well soaked. Put a match to it and let it burn till it is nearly all burnt out. Then turn it upside down in a bucket of cold water. The top should come off quite cleanly.

Stained Wallpaper

Dear Aunt Daisy,

Could you please tell me how to remove a grease stain from wallpaper? We are going to re-paper the room, but I am afraid the grease will penetrate the new paper. It looks as though someone has knocked over a bottle of hair oil all down it. "Kaitangata."

Make a thick paste or plaster of carbon tetra chloride and powdered magnesia (both from the chemist). Cover the marks over thoroughly with this and leave it for 24 hours. Then litt it off carefully, with the back of a knife, and a brush. The stains should be gone. If still slightly showing, use a piece of blotting-paper and a warm iron. Even so, it may be as well to paint the places over with a thin layer of size, or shellac, before re-papering, just in case some oil-stain may be left to work through on to the new paper.

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