

FROM THE MAILBAG

Blunt Pinking Shears

Dear Aunt Daisy,

Here is a suggestion for the woman confronted with the problem of blunt pinking shears. My directions, written on the box, say "Important: Dampen blades with oil-soaked rag often for smoother action and longer life keenness!" It also says the shears can only be sharpened by the manufacturers. I just do the same as can be done for scissors—keep a piece of emery paper handy and cut through it several times with the shears. I have had mine six years and they're still as good as the day I bought them. "Mrs. J.M."

Tomato Plant Stains

Dear Aunt Daisy,

For the Link whose hands get stained through gardening with tomato plants I have a great fellow feeling. I have often had badly stained hands and no matter what was recommended, found nothing to equal a lemon with the outer skin dried hard. Rub the juice in a little and then use the hard outer skin like a pumice stone, and the stains will disappear. Another thing found most effective was tartaric acid. This I used after peeling red peaches which left a terrible mess on my hands. It would probably not be wise to use it often, though. Of course a good hand lotion used regularly keeps the hands smoother. "Another Link."

Dear Aunt Daisy,

Here is a tip for the woman who is troubled with tomato plant stains on her fingers. I worked on a vegetable production scheme during the war, and the only thing that removed the stains was to rub the fingers with a really rotten tomato. It doesn't sound a very nice remedy, but it worked. A tomato with brown spot is quite good, but the more than over-ripe one is better.

"Beryl of Oranginea."

For Paint Splashes

Dear Aunt Daisy,

Here is a handy hint for those endeavouring to build their own home, like ourselves. Wipe over your window panes, inside and out, with a kerosene-soaked rag and the paint splashes are then easily removed from the glass. This must be done before you start painting. "Auckland."

Mending Vulcanite

Dear Aunt Daisy,

In *The Listener* I noted your reply to a correspondent about mending Vulcanite. It depends on how large a join is necessary, and what strain will be put on afterwards, whether a cellulose-base cement will fix it. However, I have repaired pieces with a cellulose base cement, and if your correspondent cares to write to me I may be able to advise her further.

"Gordon," New Plymouth.

Send a stamped and addressed envelope care of Aunt Daisy.

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(Illustrated) SHE wears POLAROID S.3-6 Sun Glasses, HE wears POLAROID '77' Sunshield.

Best under the Sun

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Getting Xmas parcels to their destinations on time is a big job for the postal staffs... you'll definitely help if your parcels are stoutly wrapped, securely tied and addressed with big bold addresses that are easy to read. It's a good idea to start saving string and wrapping paper NOW so you'll have plenty when you need it. Remember too, make the address as easily read as possible—use BLOCK LETTERS FOR EASY READING. A tie on tag helps. The sender's name should also appear on the package or on a slip inside. Fancy wrapping papers and tapes look pretty on the Christmas tree but please remember Xmas mail bags get jammed tight with parcels, so for your posted parcels use only stout wrapping paper and strong string.

Start saving stout string and wrapping paper for your Xmas parcels!

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