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to your distressed correspondent. My angora skin is snowy white and as soft as kid, though it was my first effort of the kind.—"Tommy" (South Island).

Thank you, "Tommy." Your method of curing skins is most interesting, and quite different from any I have heard of before.

### White Heat Marks on Polished Table

Dear Aunt Daisy,

To remove white heat marks from polished tables I rub the mark well two or three days in succession with raw linseed oil, then give a thin coating of knotting, which I apply with a soft brush. It leaves an absolutely smooth surface, and you cannot distinguish where the "repair work" has been done. An oil and colour merchant will make up a bottle of the knotting, diluted to half strength with methylated spirit, for about a shilling, and it is ready to apply.—A.H. (King Country).

### Mustard for Ink Stains

Dear Aunt Daisy,

I wonder if you know about taking ink out of clothing by putting some made mustard on the part affected? I have been most successful with it, and last week it had a really good test. My sister spilt a bottle of ink on her desk, and it ran down on to a light blue cardigan she was wearing. I immediately put some mustard on it, and when I rinsed the cardigan out with warm soapy water next morning, every trace of the ink had gone. This was a really bad stain.—"A Reader of Your Page" (Dunedin).

Thank you very much. Another method is to rub the stain with a cut tomato, and wash it out in a few minutes.

### Bubbles in Preserves

Dear Aunt Daisy,

I heard you reading a letter from a lady who was anxious about her jars of apricots having bubbles on top after being turned up. If those bottles had stood on their lids all night, they are perfectly all right. I think apricots are likely to look frothy—mine did, and I still have some which have been bottled two years! They were done in a water-bath (in the copper), screwed down and stood on lid till morning. They, too, looked frothy, but soon the froth disappeared; and, as I say, they have kept two years. Apricots are very difficult to buy here, so I just open a jar as a special treat.—Busy Farmer's Wife (Te Kuiti).

It is very kind of a busy farmer's wife to take the trouble to write and reassure anxious and less-experienced housewives on this vexed question of bubbles in their jars of preserves.

### Don't Waste Pulp from Jelly Bag!

Dear Aunt Daisy,

I have so often heard you stress the need of making the most of our fruit and vegetables, and seeing a letter in *The Listener* one week from a lady who made a syrup for drinking, from fruit used for making jelly, I thought I would pass on to you my idea. When we lived in town, and fruit mostly had to be bought, I used to think it such a dreadful thing to have to throw out the contents of the jelly bag, especially as we had neither animals nor fowls to eat the same. So I conceived the idea of put-

ting the pulp through a sieve, and making either jam or chutney with it. For jam, allow three-quarters of a pound of sugar to two large cups of pulp; and for chutney take two cups of pulp as equal to one pound of ordinary fruit, and add the rest of your favourite chutney ingredients. I tell you, it works splendidly, and good jam and chutney is the result. The putting of the pulp through the sieve works wonders, and removes the stones and most of the skins, or pips.

"One More Link in the Daisy Chain" (Taihape).

An excellent idea; thank you for passing it on so clearly, giving us the proper proportions to use.

### Endive for the Winter

Dear Aunt Daisy,

Hearing you talking about the use of endive, and that one did not cook it, I felt I must tell you that it is the best stand-by next to silver beet for the winter. It cooks like spinach, and is very nice, with just a little butter when cooked. It is excellent when greens are scarce, besides being useful for one's green salad all the winter. We have grown it for years, and the leaves half way from the base get bleached like white heart lettuce, and are excellent.

—"Joan" (Paraparaumu).

Many thanks, Joan. I have sown endive seeds in my garden, and recommend all Daisy Chain Links to do the same.

### Shiny Serge

Dear Aunt Daisy,

I wonder if you could tell me if there is any remedy for shiny serge. My husband's navy serge suit is getting shiny, and I was wondering whether there is anything I can do to take the shine off. Also, please, is it possible to get a navy costume dyed a wine colour? I have one, and would like a change, and as I am not able to afford a new one at the moment, I thought I would ask you whether I can get it dyed a wine colour.—"Interested Auckland Listener."

We rang up one of the leading dyeing firms here, and were told that it is not satisfactory to try to dye a dark colour light. It is quite easy to dye any colour to a darker shade. But you could have it re-dyed navy—that would freshen it up considerably, or have it dyed black. That would make a change with a little white posy, and a new white hat.

As regards the shiny serge—the shine, of course, is due to wear, and anything that is done about it is only a temporary measure, and will have to be repeated when the shine comes back again. If you have some ivy leaves, boil them in a little water, in an old saucepan, and sponge the shiny part with that. Press with a damp cloth, or newspaper. To sponge with cold tea has the same effect, and also slightly soapy water containing a little ammonia. That helps for a while. Another good mixture for sponging shiny places, is  $\frac{1}{2}$  pint methylated spirits and  $\frac{1}{2}$  pint of water containing a teaspoon of ammonia. Dip a nail brush in this mixture, and lightly brush the garment on a table, or ironing board. Then press with a not too hot iron over newspaper. Getting away from the sponging idea, if you take a piece of very fine old worn sandpaper—so worn that it is hardly rough at all—and gently rub the shiny surface with this, you will find a great improvement. It just roughens up the surface of the material—but don't rub too hard, or it may weaken the fabric too much.

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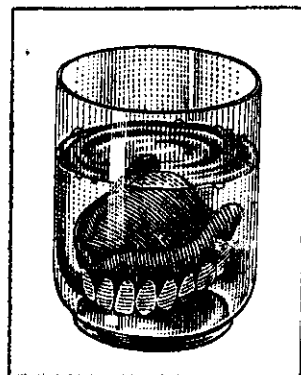
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