

in the recipe. Six ounces butter, 1 tea-cup cream, 4 egg yolks, 1 boiled potato, 1 oz. finely-ground almonds, 1 oz. ground nuts, 1 oz. lemon juice, grated rind of 2 lemons, 6 oz. sugar, a little nutmeg, and a wineglass of brandy. Mix butter and cream. Rub potato to smooth flour. Then mix all ingredients. Line patty-pans with puff pastry and fill with the mixture. Bake in usual manner.

#### A Soapy Problem

Dear Aunt Daisy,

Could you let me know through *The Listener* what goes wrong with my home-made soap? I have made the same recipe many times, but the last three boilings have all gone the same way. As soon as it starts to come to the boil, the water, and other ingredients separate and go curdly. The soap cooks in the given time, but stays a brown liquid under the curds. As it cools, I keep on stirring the mixture until I get the liquid mixed in with the curds. I might add here that the soap lathers well, but is of no use to scrub or wash clothes with, as it goes into crumbs. I am enclosing the recipe for you to see and hope you can throw some light on the trouble: 6 lb. fat, 1 lb. caustic, ½ lb. resin, ½ lb. borax, 13 lb. water. Put all in the copper and bring to the boil; boil 40 minutes.

"Just Soap," Marlborough.

I hope some of our readers will be able to solve this problem for you. As you have generally had success hitherto, it can hardly be the recipe which is at fault. Perhaps the caustic soda was different. I understand that if there is water under the soap, you should re-boil for a little while. Perhaps your fat was not entirely free from salt! Here is a recipe from Riversdale: 6 lb. fat, and 1 lb. caustic soda, 2 oz. borax, 12 oz. resin, 12 pints water. Put all in a tin, keeping back 1 pint of water. Bring to boil on range, and as soon as it boils up, add the other pint of water. Bring to the boil again, then lift off. Stir often till cool.

#### Discoloured Concrete

Dear Aunt Daisy,

My concrete steps are green owing to the wet season, and no amount of scrubbing will clean them. They do look so dirty. Can you tell me anything to use to remove it?

"N.I.," Marton.

How about spraying the concrete with some fresh mixture? Or apply that popular dressing, either red or green, which is so much used now for concrete paths and porches. You put it on with a brush, and it is waterproof and won't rub off. The red is particularly nice for steps. It is for concrete, or bricks, or unglazed tiles. Hardware shops will know what I mean, or you could send me a stamped addressed envelope for the trade name.

#### Cider Vinegar

Dear Aunt Daisy,

For a few years now I have regularly used cider vinegar for all household purposes, as well as drinking twice daily 2 teaspoons honey melted in glass of hot water and 2 teaspoons cider vinegar!

"A.R.," South Otago.

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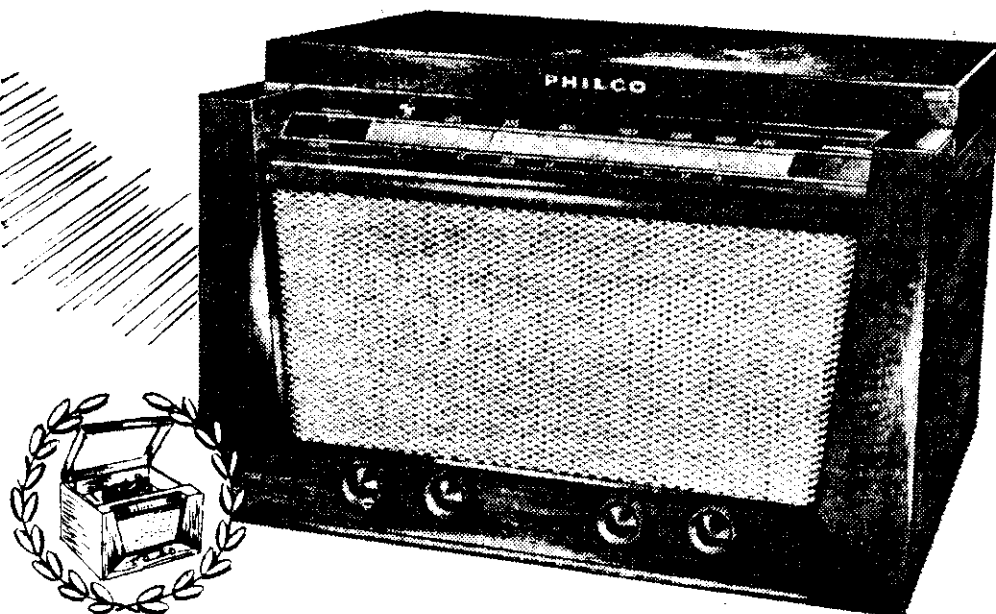
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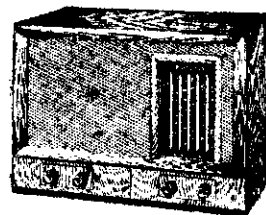


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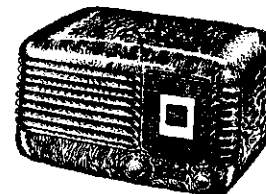
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