

on end, in a window-sill or other airy place, having first shaken out as much water as possible and dried the back with a towel.

### Ice Cream Query

Dear Aunt Daisy,

Could you through the pages of *The Listener* give me advice about the following? A few days ago, a friend went to our nearest township and brought the children a large block of ice-cream. It was not all consumed so I placed the remainder, still in its carton, in the refrigerator. Imagine my surprise when the following day I went to remove the ice-cream and found it quite soft. Now, the ice-cream had been in the deep freeze compartment and the carton was frosted. Could you explain why?

"N.B.," Masterton.

I can only suppose that the ice-cream was already soft when you put it in and you might have had to re-freeze by beating it and putting it in the freezing tray. Has anyone else a solution?

### Good Soap Making

Dear Aunt Daisy,

I see in *The Listener* that "Just Soap," Marlborough, is having soap trouble. I had exactly the same trouble some years ago, finding that on cooling, the caustic soda and water were at the bottom of the copper and the fat, etc., was a crust on top. In desperation I rang a chemist friend, who told me that salt in the fat made no difference and that I had not put sufficient caustic soda in it. So I put in another half-pound of caustic to the other ingredients, and boiled it up again, and the soap was beautiful. My recipe is  $\frac{3}{4}$  lb. caustic,  $\frac{3}{4}$  lb. resin, 4 lb. fat,  $4\frac{1}{2}$  quarts water,  $\frac{1}{2}$  lb. borax, 1 cup of ammonia. I put all but the caustic and ammonia into the copper (using 12 lb. fat), bring to the boil and add the caustic a tablespoon at a time—it flares up but not as much as if you put everything in together and bring to the boil—then I add the ammonia last. I hope this will help other soap makers (keep for a month before using).

"G.R.," Kai Iwi.

### Japonica Apples

Dear Aunt Daisy,

Could you please publish in *The Listener* a recipe for making jelly of Japonica berries? I have a large tree with quite a number of berries the size of a small egg, and I have been told that they make a very nice jelly.

"Mangorei Road," New Plymouth.

Make like any other jelly; cut up and just barely cover with water in jam-pan, adding the juice of one lemon to about 3 lb. of japonicas. Some people prefer to put a shredded lemon. Cook gently till all is tender. Then strain through jelly bag overnight. Next day, measure the juice, and bring to the boil; then add an equal quantity of warmed sugar and stir thoroughly till dissolved. Then boil rapidly. It sets quickly so test after 5 minutes. Bottle in hot, dry jars. If you like, you can make japonica and apple jelly—equal parts—adding lemon or not, as desired.

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