

FROM THE MAILBAG

Please—"A.R., South Otago"

Dear Aunt Daisy,

I am writing to ask if "A.R." South Otago, would kindly tell me through *The Listener* where I could procure cider vinegar; and also for what purpose she uses honey, hot water and cider vinegar. I asked in a leading grocery in Christchurch if I could have cider vinegar, but it did not seem to be known. I also asked, without success, for Tarragon vinegar. Do you know where this can be procured?

"N.D.," Darfield R.D.

We cannot give addresses in *The Listener*; but perhaps "A.R." will tell us about her uses for cider vinegar. I have an address for a cider vinegar stockist, if you send me a stamped envelope.

Mulberry Stains

Dear Aunt Daisy,

Here is a successful hint for removing stains. One afternoon I took my small daughter visiting. She was dressed in a new embroidered muslin frock sent by her granny from India—very sweet. Someone took her around the lovely garden, and returned her to me a mass of mulberry juice stains. However, another guest told me not to worry, but to put some sulphur in an empty cocoa tin, light it, and hold the stains over the fumes, first wetting the garment. This I did, and to my joy, all the stains disappeared.

"Palmerston North."

What a relief! The frock was white, of course; I wonder if the sulphur fumes would take the colour out of a blue or pink muslin. Can anyone speak from experience about this?

Very Old Cake

Dear Aunt Daisy,

Here is a hint I thought might be of use to you. I had a large piece of my wedding cake left, and through unsuitable storing, it was completely inedible. It tasted of new paint, leather, kerosene, etc.! Rather than waste it, I tried to put it to some use. I removed all the icing, crumbled the cake in small pieces, added essence of rum, brandy, vanilla (I suppose the real thing would be better still), a teaspoon of baking powder and enough hot milk to make it a fairly soft consistency; put it in a basin and steamed for about 1 to 1½ hours. Result: The best steamed pudding I ever made, according to my husband and family. The cake was over four years old!

"Maria of Queensberry."

Iodine Stains

Dear Aunt Daisy,

For the woman who was so unfortunate as to have some iodine spilt on her oak bedroom furniture, tell her to make a little boiled starch, and while still hot, dip in a cloth, and with it rub the stained parts. Any iodine stained material can be cleaned by dipping it into boiled starch, or so I have been told. I hope this will help people.

"Dunedinite."

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N.Z. LISTENER, APRIL 15, 1954.

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