

Life Among the Nigerians

WHEN Mrs Ruth Cooper stepped off the aeroplane at Kano, in Nigeria, her first impression was of a white-robed turbaned gentleman sitting on a camel and blowing a long silver trumpet—to keep the animals off the runways. From then on people and places kept her very aware of the Africa around her, an Africa she describes for listeners to the Women's Hour in six talks called *Life in Nigeria*. These talks are being heard from 2XP and start from 1XN on November 18. They will be heard later from the other Commercial stations.

Mrs Cooper trained as a nurse and saw war service in North Africa, Italy and the Middle East. After the war she married a trading representative and spent the next seven years in Nigeria, living in many widely different places. She describes the differences in the districts—the cool hill station and the river-side trading posts—and she even encountered a haunted trading post. Mainly her interest lay with the people, and she saw a great deal of the villages and communities, whose differing appearances and customs she observed and depicts vividly, including the great festival to the pagan god, Nzeanzo, in one of the remoter areas. Her own household arrangements varied, too, with her houseboys and their wives forming a small community on its own. For all

(continued from previous page)

in saucepan over boiling water until it coats the spoon. Pour custard over the pudding.

Gooseberry and Apple Fluff

One pound of gooseberries, some sugar, 1 pint of milk, ½ lb. cooking apples, 2 eggs, ½ oz. gelatine, vanilla flavouring. Trim and wipe the gooseberries and place in a saucepan with a little water, cooking gently until tender. Add sugar to taste and set aside till cold. Peel and slice the apples, stew them and pass through a sieve. Place the gooseberries in the bottom of a glass dish and pour over them the sieved apples. Separate the yolks from the whites of the eggs. Beat up the yolks with the milk and stir over a low heat until thick. Add the soaked gelatine and sugar to taste, then fold the whisked whites into the mixture and add the vanilla. Pour over the fruit and allow to set.

FROM THE MAILBAG

Cleaning White Fur

Dear Aunt Daisy,

I would suggest to Interested Reader, Palmerston North that she try powdered magnesia to clean her white fur. I have used it successfully on the white side of squirrel furs and believe it is what the furriers use. Rub the powder in lightly and roll up the fur in newspaper and leave for a few days, then shake out. I hope this will be helpful.—E.D.M.B., Whakatane.

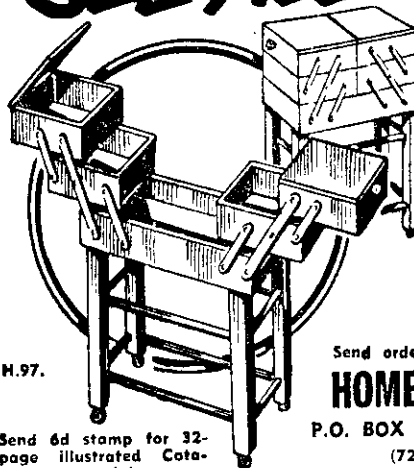
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her "life of leisure" she was never allowed to be bored with her Nigeria, where camels break into compounds and have to be named before the policeman can "arrest" (impound) them, and snake-charmers come to call much as rubbish-men call in other countries.

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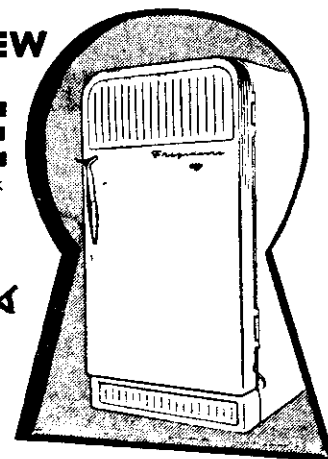
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