

a hazel nut—it is the oil that does the trick, and then polish with a good floor polish.  
"Dunedin."

Recently I heard you talking about scratched furniture, and feel that my tip may help. The scratches disappear and don't come through again! All you do is get a walnut kernel and rub in well into the scratch (no matter how big) and you'll find it will be gone in no time. Let the oil from the walnut soak in a few minutes and then polish in the usual way. Veneer and solid woods can be treated in the same way.

"Auckland Link."

#### Cold Oven Cookery

Dear Aunt Daisy,

In your ssion the other morning you mentioned that a woman had written asking you about putting a fruit cake into a cold oven. For the last four years I have made my Christmas cakes as usual and put them into a cold oven; then turned on the bottom element only, and left them to cook. The temperature never gets above 250 degrees in electric oven, and the results have been very satisfactory. I have made both my daughters two-tiered wedding cakes and also my mother's diamond wedding cake, which was double quantity. They rise evenly and don't crack. Yours sincerely,

"Mrs. Mac."

#### Cool "Flowers" Again

Dear Aunt Daisy,

I am very keen to grow a bowl of coal flowers but do not know how to start one. I would be most grateful if you would supply me with a recipe through your column in *The Listener*.

"Joan," Greymouth.

Put into a glass or china bowl 5 or 6 small pieces coal—smaller than an orange. Mix together the following, and pour it over the coal; 1 tablespoon Prussian blue from the paint shop, 3 tablespoons household ammonia, 2 tablespoons common salt, 1 tablespoon red ink, 3 tablespoons cold water. Then put the bowl, with its contents, in a warm place to start the growth—on the mantelshelf in the kitchen perhaps, or on a sunny window ledge. To keep the "plant" alive, add one tablespoon of water and a teaspoon of salt mixed together, every second day. Pour this gently down inside the bowl. Colours may be varied by using violet, blue, or green ink.

#### About Tomato Sauce

Dear Aunt Daisy,

In *The Listener* of December 19 a correspondent asked what to do to prevent home-made tomato sauce fermenting when opened. The following is a certain preventive. Leave the bottle of sauce uncorked, but cover the top of the bottle with a piece of muslin to keep out dust and flies. The sauce will keep almost indefinitely. I have proved it over a number of years.

"Certain Cure."

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N.Z. LISTENER, FEBRUARY 3, 1950.

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