## FROM THE MAILBAG

## Stains from Silver

Dear Aunt Daisy,

I have just read the query of "E.M.." Epsom, in The Listener, and as I had a similar problem a short while ago, I am pleased to pass the successful remedy on to her. My silver worry was a heavy locket chain which badly soiled every frock worn with it. In desperation I purchased a bottle of clear nail varnish and painted a thin even coating on to the side coming in contact with the fabric. The result is 100 per cent, even after about two months' regular wear. This has also been successful with other pieces of silver jewellery. I polished my pièces well, then scrubbed with a soft nail brush in very hot soapy water, rinsing and drying perfectly before applying the varnish. Take care to cover every part of the silver, both back and edges, so that only the face of the article is left to polish as required in the usual way. The nail varnish also has the advantage over ordinary lacquers of not becoming yellowed with heat from the body. It works on gold, too. "Claire," Kilbirnie.

## Homespun Wool

Dear Aunt Daisy.

Would you, or any reader, tell me how to whiten homespun wool? I do a lot of spinning, but the wool always has a creamy tinge. I think I read in your columns in The Listener some time ago something about whitening discoloured white woollens with sulphur; but don't remember the method used or if it would apply to homespun. Please reply in The Listener.

"Scotty," Whangarei,

The sulphur method is very good, and I feel sure would be appropriate for homespun wool. A letter from an Orkney Island woman, now living in Auckland, says how her mother always used the sulphur method for all white wool. Just stand a tin with sulphur and hot cinders in a bucket, on the wash-house floor, and close the door and window so that the fumes rise around the garments suspended over a string across the room. She also treated her blankets in the same manner when they began to look yellow. The articles must be quite damp. Here is the full hint. Lay the washed, rinsed and well wrung-out woollies on small sticks or dowelling fixed across the upper part of a big box or packing case or airtight cupboard. The garments should be still damp. Make a fire-shovel very hot, or fill it with some live coals of wood (not smoking). Sprinkle with I tablespoon sulphur, and stand shovel on a brick or piece of tin to protect the floor of the case. Close it up immediately, blocking all air holes. Leave from 30 to 60 minutes. Same principle as sulphuring fruit.

## BOILS ARE NATURE'S WARNING . . .

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