

rinse the sand from it (swish zip up and down a couple of times). Close, then dry inside out, still with zip closed. Finally rub a little vaseline on the zip and work it well in by opening and closing zip several times. That is all I have ever done to mine. Don't overdo the vaseline, just a little is all that is needed. This may sound fiddly, but if you want anything to last, a little care is well worth while, isn't it? Keep the zip closed at all times. If you are at the beach for the day, don't worry, you can still vaseline the zip when you get home, or even just before you need the suit again.

"Jean," Mt. Roskill.

I had the same trouble with several costumes till I dabbed a spot of sewing machine oil (not much) here and there. Also oiled all bathing costume zips before storing them for the winter. Salt and sand are the trouble. However, I feel sure an occasional oil will do away with any trouble.

"Avis," New Plymouth.

I have had an elastic suit for three years and the zipper is as good as new, simply because I have followed the directions on leaflet attached to suit when it was bought, and have always washed the suit in running cold water and scrubbed the zipper with an old toothbrush to remove all salt water after each wearing. I swim a lot and think I have given it a reasonable test. Girls have told me that their zippers don't last and when asked if they wash the salt water out they always say, "Oh, no." So I think that may be the answer.

"May," Remuera.

Another Use for Honey

Dear Aunt Daisy,

In one of your Listener pages you gave different ways of using honey. Well, have you heard that it also cures chilblains? It reduces swelling and stops the itch before it starts!

"E.C.," Hokitika.

When Jam Goes Sugary

Dear Aunt Daisy,

One cause of pear ginger, or other preserves, becoming sugary is the undissolved sugar left from the overnight standing of fruits and sugar. Melon jam is a frequent offender! If less sugar than the recipe says is added to fruit when standing overnight, and it is stirred to help it to dissolve, I think it may make a difference. I have found it to be so, and I was told by an old Swedish woman who knew a great deal about such things.

"E.R.D.," Manurewa.

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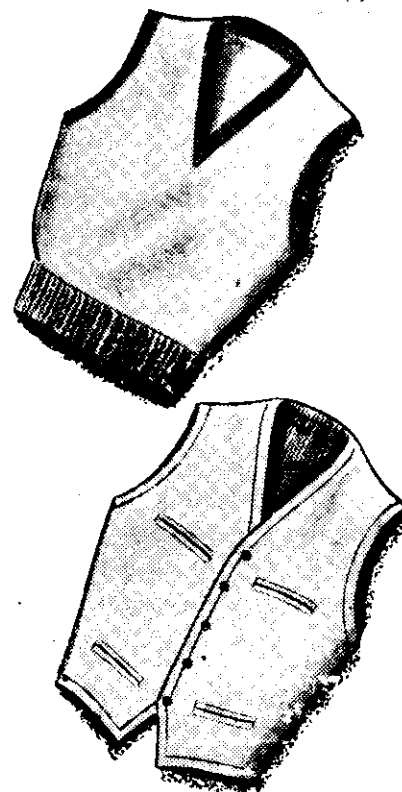
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