

Help for Good Housewives

TO make a good hand emollient, mix the following: 5 tablespoons glycerine, 4 tablespoons water, 1 tablespoon starch, lemon juice and lavender water. Make the starch smooth with the water, then boil very gently, stirring carefully, in a small saucepan till clear and thoroughly mixed. When cooling, add the glycerine, the juice of one or two lemons, and a little lavender water, till the mixture is about the consistency of soft boiled sago. Put in pots when cool, and apply as an emollient after housework or gardening.

MANY kinds of soil are infested with wireworms and these tiny orange-coloured threads of destructive energy are among the worst of garden pests. To exterminate them, lightly dig and rake over the ground to be treated, and sow it broadcast with mustard seed. Just before the flowers appear dig the whole lot well into the ground. In the spring, when you come to work your garden, wire-worms will be extinct.

AFTER strenuous exercise, add a teacupful of vinegar to the bath. This will alleviate stiffness and is invigorating.

IF celery is kept for any length of time it becomes soft and unappetising. Salt is excellent for reviving it and making it crisp again. Prepare the celery several hours before it is required by standing it in a large jug of cold water to which has been added a heaped teaspoon of common salt. The salt will act as a tonic to the celery and by the time it is required it will be crisp and fresh.

AFTER removing a cake from the oven, allow it to remain in the tin about two minutes. Then, with a knife, loosen the edges. If there is any tendency to stick on the bottom, wring a cloth out of water and place it on the bottom of the cake-tin for a few seconds. Turn out the cake on to a wire cooler, and allow it to stand until cool before icing.

TO test the heat of lard when frying, put in a piece of bread and if it browns while counting 60 the fat is hot enough for raw materials. If it browns while counting 40 it is right for food prepared from cooked materials, such as croquettes. Use plenty of lard, which should be strained after use and put away covered up. It is impossible to be successful in frying unless the fat is of the requisite heat.

ADHESIVE tape is always a handy thing to keep in the house it has so many uses. After cementing broken glass or china, apply adhesive tape to hold the parts firmly together until thoroughly dry.

MEND rubber shoes and gloves with a patch of adhesive tape applied to the underside of the cut or tear.

TO repair mackintoshes, place the edges of the tear together carefully and apply adhesive tape to the inside.

WHEN washing artificial silk, use warm water, not hot, squeezing soapy lather through the material instead of rubbing. Rinse the garments in water of the same temperature as you have for the washing. Wrap the articles in a dry towel for about an hour, then finish drying on the line. They should be almost dry before ironing; for this, use a warm, but not hot, iron.

TO remove dents which are often found on the tops of dressing-tables and other furniture, try this method: Take a thick sheet of brown



—G. F. Jenkinson photo.
MR. NORMAN DAY,
a fine baritone, who will be heard in two solos from IYA during next week.

paper, damp it thoroughly, then fold it evenly several times. Put this pad over the dented part of your table-top, and press on it heavily with a very hot, weighty iron. This plan will often prove successful with unsightly dents. Later, the wood can be well rubbed with linseed oil and then polished in the usual way.

IF you do not wish to make starch when washing tableclothes, add a tablespoonful of methylated spirit to the last rinsing water. This stiffens them, and they will be easy to iron and like new when done.

HALF a lemon dipped in salt and rubbed on discoloured ivory handles will restore them to their original whiteness. Afterward wash in warm water.

HANDKERCHIEFS may be slightly perfumed by putting a little orris root in a muslin bag and boiling this

with them when washing. When ironed out the handkerchiefs will have a faint fragrant smell of violets.

IF you are not specially fond of having your towels hacked to pieces, provide your bathroom with a "razor cloth." It is easily made from a remnant of an old towel—preferably one that has a coloured border, so that it can be distinguished at once from the other towels; sew a loop on it and hang it in a convenient spot. If this is used by the menfolk exclusively for drying their razor blades the other towels will be left intact.

LINE your trunks with newspapers.

Deposit some moth balls at the four corners, and lay the heaviest coat at the bottom. A sprinkling of camphor between the layers of clothes before you cover them with the final sheet of newspaper should deter any moth. Make some little muslin bags and fill them with the following powder:—Mix an ounce of cloves, caraway seeds, cinnamon, nutmeg, mace, and Tonquin beans; add enough Florentine orris root to equal the other ingredients put together, and grind it all into a powder. This is not only a preventive against moths, but also has a pleasant perfume.

Lotion for an Oily Skin

A GOOD lotion for an oily skin which should be applied every night at bedtime is as follows: Elderflower water, 4oz; boric acid, 1 teaspoonful; sulphate of zinc, 1 dram; rose water, 4oz. Dissolve the boric acid in the rose water, add the sulphate of zinc to the elderflower, mix both together. Shake before using. For milder cases a lotion made of 3oz of rose water, 10 grains sulphate of iron, 3 grains of camphor, 1oz witch-hazel, 2 drams of citric acid may be applied two or three times a week before retiring. This lotion should be dispensed by a chemist. For enlarged pores on the nose make a paste of equal parts of glycerine, oatmeal and lemon juice, and apply to the affected part. Leave on for a few minutes.

Take Counsel Here

Our expert on house management will be pleased to answer questions from women readers on household problems, beauty hints, dressmaking and cookery. Please address your queries to—

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