

Household Hints

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cure together and warm in a small, clean, iron vessel or a large iron ladle. Paste the edge of the glass to be silvered with a narrow strip of paper to prevent the mixture running off during the process of silvering. Thoroughly clean and warm the glass and pour a small quantity of the hot mixture upon it, tilting it first one way and then the other, until the spot is well covered. Remove the paper and apply a coat of paint when quite hard.

Cleaning Saucepans, Baking-tins, etc.

A MIXTURE made by warming 1lb. soft soap, 1lb. powdered whiting, 1lb. of sand, and 2 quarts of water is excellent for cleaning saucepans and baking pans. It can also be used for aluminium provided it is quickly applied and thoroughly rinsed off. When fat has burnt on the bottom of a saucepan, fill it with water, and leave for an hour or so; then empty out the water, and dip a soft saucepan brush into the cleaning mixture and well scrub the pan. The outside should also be polished by rubbing with some of the mixture. If this method of cleaning pans is adopted it will be found that food does not readily stick or burn in them.

To Lengthen the Life of a Tablecloth

WHEN a tablecloth shows signs of wear a narrow strip should be torn off each of the four sides, and the edges of the cloth re-hemmed. This will alter the "fold" of the cloth, and so lengthen its period of usefulness. When it again shows wear the best portions may be cut into squares and hemmed for use as nursery table napkins, or made into small tray cloths by the addition of a suitable edging.

A Novel Table Decoration

AN attractive and unusual bowl of greenery and flowers can be made at the cost of a little trouble as follows: Into the wire mesh of a rose bowl pack closely small pieces of sponge until it is quite covered. Thoroughly wet the sponge and scatter into the crevices mustard seed, or bird seed, and a few dwarf nasturtium and tropaeolum seeds.

Fill the bowl itself half full of water, and put it in a dark place until the seeds begin to germinate, then bring out to the light, and do not forget to keep the sponge always sufficiently moist.

To Keep a Pantry Dry

IT is quite as necessary to keep food in a dry pantry as it is to

keep it in a cool one. Humid weather acts very quickly on food, and care is necessary to prevent waste. By placing a two-pound jar of lime in a small pantry or larder the air can be kept sweet and dry.

Jam is particularly affected by damp, and this treatment will be found useful if a large pot has been opened and has to be kept for any length of time, as it is impossible to render it airtight by re-tying down.

Removing Soot from Carpets

SOOT marks are frequently found on carpets near the fireplace. These can be removed by rubbing the place with a rag dipped in carbon tetrachloride (a few ounces can be purchased from any chemist, and will last a considerable time). The mark should be rubbed vigorously, using a circular motion, and as soon as the rag becomes soiled a clean one should be taken. Care should be taken not to inhale this chemical, as it has slight anæsthetic properties.

Repairing the Cover of a Black Umbrella

AN amateur never finds patching with silk a very satisfactory method of repairing an umbrella. The damage can be rendered practically inconspicuous if a piece of black court plaster somewhat bigger than the size of the hole is attached to the inner surface of the covering.

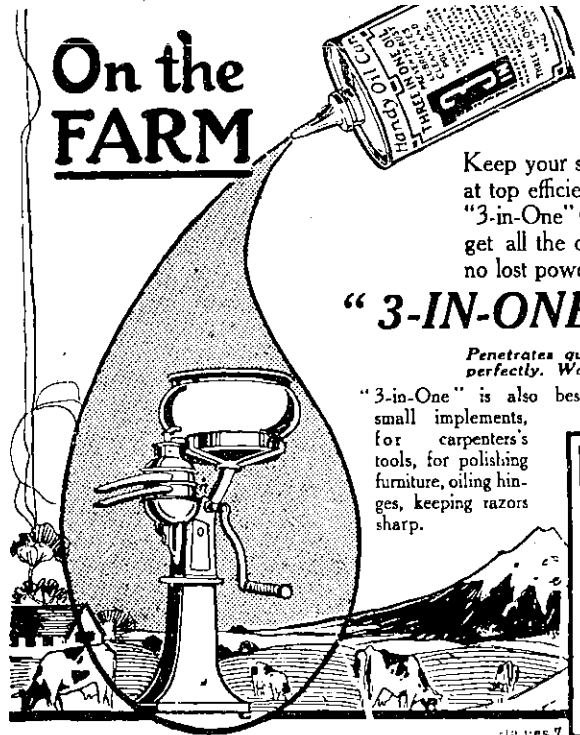
A rent in a rubber mackintosh can be repaired on a similar principle if some rubber solution is applied to a piece of the material, which is then placed over the rent. A little French chalk should be rubbed over the patch to complete the process and remove all trace of stickiness.

When Needing Starch Quickly

IF starch is required and boiling water is not obtainable, cold water starch diluted to about the same extent as hot water starch will be found perfectly satisfactory for all purposes for which the latter is usually used. Garments starched in this way should be made damper than usual before ironing, and the iron must be very hot.

Home Made Polish

ONE gill turpentine, one gill linseed oil, half gill methylated spirit, half gill vinegar, mixed together and shaken well before use, make a most efficient polish for furniture and all kinds of leather work, papier mâché, and leather trunks. This mixture should be applied sparingly with a soft rag, and the furniture then polished with an old silk duster.



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