



### Poison Preventives

**B**EST protection against poison ivy, of course, is to know the plant when you see it, and keep away from it. Poison ivy is characterized by compound leaves with three large leaflets each. The margins of the leaves are usually more or less lobed or coarsely notched, though they may be quite smooth and unbroken. The leaves are a rich, glossy green in color.

The plant grows either as a climbing vine, clinging to trees, fences, etc., with myriads of short roots sprouting from its stem, or as a low, sparsely branched shrub springing from a stem creeping along just under the ground surface. Flowers appear in late spring. They are inconspicuous greenish-white clusters, and are followed by small round berries that are white when ripe.

If your work or pastime takes you into places where poison ivy cannot be avoided, you can still escape its ill effects by pre-treating your skin before going into the ivy-infested neighborhood. New-

est preventive is a vanishing cream recommended by the U. S. Public Health Service, which contains either sodium perborate or potassium periodate. This can be mixed by any druggist, using 10% of the sodium compound, or 2% of the potassium periodate. It is rubbed all over all exposed parts of the skin. After four hours it must be washed off with soap and water, and fresh cream put on.

### CHEMISTRY

## Dressmaker Can Have Dummy Duplicating Her Own Figure

**A**N invention intended to gladden the heart of home dressmakers: an exact dummy-double of the home sewer's own figure—including every curve and angle—was demonstrated in New York. It can be done in 30 minutes with a new thermoplastic material.

The new type of stand-in, which is said to be unaffected by weather—unlike previous efforts at producing moulded dress forms of its type—was described also as odorless, non-inflammable, non-toxic, and inexpensive.

As demonstrated, the replica of a woman's figure is made by having her don a white cotton shirt over her accustomed foundation garments. Sheets of thermoplastic material made of rubber combined with a variety of waxes are then applied to the figure, moulded to the exact shape. The thermoplastic when cold is rigid, but for the moulding process it is softened by warming it to a few degrees above body temperature by aid of infra-red rays.

If through carelessness or ill luck you do get poisoned, a remedy recommended by Dr. James F. Couch, U. S. Department of Agriculture toxicologist, is a 5% solution of potassium permanganate. Swabbed on the poisoned spots, this oxidizes the toxic substance. It must be used with judgment, however, for it has been known to irritate tender skins. The brown stain left by this treatment can be removed with lemon juice.

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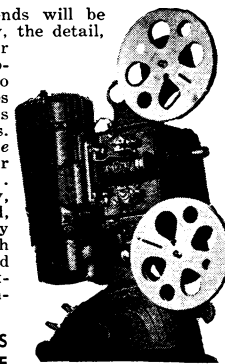
The soft moulded sheath hardens almost at once and one side is re-opened so that the shell can be removed. For strength and permanence the dress form is reinforced and finished with metallic lacquer, and it is mounted on a stand that can be raised or lowered.

Research Laboratories of the Singer Sewing Machine Company, which developed the new sewing aid, said that it represents 10 years of intensive research.

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### ERRATA, Vol. 39, Nos. 1-26, January-June, 1941

PAGE	TITLE BEGINS	CORRECTIONS
8	Nature's White Elephant	Line 7, Martz for Marta
10	CAPTION—Building for Defense	Should read: Assembling presses for use in making machine tools to make weapons for America's defense. Part of new plant built by Austin Co. for Hydraulic Press Manufacturing Co.
39	Plan Psychological	Line 4, Doob for Dobb
41	New Synthetic Language	Par. 2, line 3, Insert auxiliary after new
56	Colchicine Gives Chickens	Lines 6, 7, 18, Higbee for Higgins
104	Electric Razor	Line 6, 2,227,996 for 227,996
109	Jupiter Passes Saturn	Par. 3, line 2, 11.86 for 5.20
162	DO YOU KNOW?	Par. 6, line 3, years for miles
233	Rattlesnakes Detect	Par. 1, delete last sentence. Par. 3, lines 11, 12, delete with bared fangs. Line 19, to read is also a usual part of
236	Gigantic Pinwheel Star	Par. 3, line 5, Gerard for Gerald
259	CAPTION	Lines 1 and 2, turbine for boiler
372	Gold for Arthritis	Par. 4, line 3, non-colloidal for colloidal