

HOUSEHOLD.

Use the Oiled Feather for a Quiet House.

A vine or branch of a tree swaying against a window makes an eerie sound that may be obviated by judicious pruning, if it cannot be tied back securely. A creaky board in the floor can usually be tightened by nailing more securely to the joist. If this does not avail drive thin wedges into the cracks to tighten.

A loose window casing also requires splinters driven in to tighten until the carpenter comes to 'make a thorough job of it.'

A whistling sound from the burning gas indicates that unconsumed gas is escaping through the burner. Turn the key until the sound ceases. Burners should be frequently cleaned and renewed when they do not work well, and a loose key that does not indicate to a certainty whether gas is turned on or off should not be tolerated for a day.

The cogs of a wringer or an eggbeater should never be allowed to get wet, as that takes off the oil. If they have been wet, and stick and squeak, oil them.

Oil or tallow on metal and soap or paraffine on the wood grooves of a dumb-waiter assist in keeping it 'dumb,' while soap or vaseline will do the same for a creaky chair.

For creaky shoes try first soaking the sole in oil. Pour a small quantity of linseed or sweet oil upon an old plate or flat dish and allow the shoes to stand in it over night. In this way they not only usually lose the squeak but being saturated with oil become proof against damp.

In extreme cases the only thing known as a sure cure for creaky shoes is French talc, and in this case the services of a cobbler must be called into requisition. Pry apart the leathers of the sole and blow in the talc, using an insect powder bellows or a tube in the mouth. Then sew up the sole. Or a shoemaker for five cents will drive a little wooden peg through the sole which will hold the pieces of leather of which it is composed together. In case of sickness the noise made by throwing coal on the fire may be obviated by putting the coal in paper bags, then laying it on the fire.

The banshee wailing that often comes through the speaking tube in windy weather may be laid low by a temporary plug of wood or soft paper.—Philadelphia 'Telegraph.'

A Few Laundry Hints.

There is nothing so good for removing iron rust from white clothes as a solution of oxalic acid, made by adding two ounces of the acid to one pint of clear water. Shake thoroughly, and keep the bottle containing it well corked so it will not lose its strength. Wet the spots or rust with this preparation, and cover them with salt. As soon as the rust disappears, rinse the goods in clear water. If the rinsing is neglected, the acid will eat the cloth. This oxalic acid must be handled carefully, as it is a powerful poison.

If the laundress will add a half cupful of vinegar to each bucket of water and rinse the white clothes in it, following with a rinse in the blue water, she will find that they will look cleaner.

Put a covered basket or clothes-bag in a convenient place, and let the members of the family put their soiled garments in it. This will save much time and many steps on wash day.

Many cushion covers, small tablecovers, ties, etc., are made of denim, sateen, art linen and other wash goods. The fashion is a very serviceable one; for, if they are laundered carefully, they will look fresh and pretty as long as they last. Prepare a suds of warm (not hot) water and put in a heaping teaspoonful of borax. Wash them through two waters, rubbing them just enough to make them perfectly clean. Rinse well, and pass through the wringer, or squeeze them gently in the hands. Hang them on the line, and when about half dry roll tightly and leave them for an hour or two before ironing. The addition of borax is a great help, and does not injure the most delicate colors. If any stiffening is thought necessary, put a little boiled starch in the second rinse water. Any rents or worn places should be mended before the article is put in the water, using ravellings of

the goods or very fine linen floss, as nearly as possible the same color as the article to be mended.

Coffee stains and most fruit stains can be removed from table linen by stretching the stained portion over a bowl and pouring hot water over it. Washing in sweet milk is also good for fruit or for ink stains.—'Morning Star.'

Selected Recipes.

Rice pudding made with beef tea instead of milk makes an excellent savory pudding for an invalid.

Rice is much nicer steamed than boiled, as then each grain is separate from the others and is white and dry as it should be.

Rice Croquettes.—For rice croquettes, cook the rice in milk in a double boiler, salting it when half done. For one cupful of rice use one quart of milk. When done add two tablespoonfuls of butter, the beaten yolks of two eggs, one level tablespoonful of chopped parsley, and white pepper and cayenne to taste. Form into croquettes, dip in seasoned and beaten egg, roll in bread crumbs and fry in deep fat.

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