

# HOUSEHOLD.

## A Talk About Shirt Waists.

It is so discouraging to have one's dainty shirt-waists come from the laundry faded, remarked one friend to another.

I have learned to "do up" my own, her hearer replied, 'Since I care for them myself,' she continued, 'I have no trouble in this respect, providing I buy warranted colors. In the first place, I provide sufficient change, and thereby do not wear them till they are over-soiled. I prepare a warm suds, not hot, of some pure soap which I have tested. The more soiled parts, as the cuffs and collar-band, rub with soap. Then I rinse thoroughly in four or five waters. Soft water is best always.

I set the color in salt water; or a more sure way is to purchase five cents' worth of sugar of lead. Put this in one pint of rain-water. To one pail of water add two and one-half tablespoonfuls of this solution. Another important fact, worthy of note, is that a bright day, when there is considerable air stirring, is much better than a quiet, hot day. Remove from the line as soon as dry. Hot sun will not only fade, but burn them. Now they are ready for starching. Never dip them into hot starch, wait till the starch is comfortably warm to the hands. Hot starch fades, however good your fabrics. The starch should be quite thin. A too stiff waist is very uncomfortable for wearer and ugly to look at. Dry again and before ironing, dip the collar-band and cuffs into cold starch.

'Oh, I know it takes time,' she added, 'but I have the satisfaction of retaining the original color beauty of my waist, as well as the credit of always looking well.'—M. Frances Rankin, in 'Observer.'

## A Wise Hint to Housekeepers

Said Jolly Jack Rabbit aloud to his spouse, As they scurried around in the spring, cleaning house:

'My dear, it's to me most remarkably queer How the human folk manage to live year by year.

Now, what do you s'pose that they do in the spring?

It really is quite an absurdly queer thing. They take off their furs and they store them away;

They're "afraid of the moths!" that is just what they say.

Then fold them up with such queer smelling stuff,

And they don't seem to know when they've put in enough.

'Afraid of a moth! Think of that, my dear wife—

To fear such a thing in your furs all your life! If they only took cross-country runs every day They needn't fear moths in their furs, I should say.

I tell you, my dear, we are fortunate rabbits To have common sense to repel such bad habits.'

Bacon and poached eggs, if correctly cooked and served, make a breakfast dish which will tempt even the most capricious appetite. Care should be taken in selecting the bacon. Choose bacon of medium size, with the fat and lean quite distinct in coloring. The lean should be pink and the fat white. If the lean looks streaked the bacon will probably be hard or tough. The toast beneath the eggs should be

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extremely thin and well browned and the eggs poached according to the individual fancy. They should be served on a small platter, with the thin slices of bacon resting on a bed of water dress.

Not every one cares for the salad dressing in which mayonnaise is the chief factor. Many a palate prefers the old-fashioned boiled dressing. An old receipt that has stood the test of years is as follows: Put one cupful of milk into a double boiler and bring it to a boil. Moisten two even tablespoonfuls of corn-starch with a little cold milk and stir into the hot milk. When it has thickened, add the well-beaten yolks of three eggs and cook for a minute. Remove from the fire and add a tablespoonful of butter melted, two tablespoonfuls of vinegar and salt and pepper. If this stands on the ice or in a very cold place it will keep for a week. If whipped cream is used, it should be added to the dressing just before the salad is wanted.

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