

To Test for Color Fastness

By Charlotte E. Carpenter.

BEFORE making colored materials into house dresses, children's clothing or garments requiring laundering and receiving much wear, they should be tested for fastness to washing and to light.

To Test For Fastness to Washing
If the color is solid or there is little or no white, the sample should be washed with a strip of white material, make a strong soap solution. Heat until it is warm, but not hot, and squeeze the material in this for 10 minutes. Rinse in cold water, let it lie in water 15 minutes, wring out and dry. If the color of material is not changed, the water colored, and the strip of white stained, one may be reasonably sure that the color is fast to washing.

To Test For Fastness to Light
Expose a piece of material, in a dry condition, to the strong light for a week. This exposure is long enough to ensure absolute fastness, but if the material does not show signs of fading in this length of time, it is pretty safe to use.

Practical Kitchen-Dining-Room

FOR various reasons, many farm women make their kitchen do duty as both dining-room and kitchen. One reason for this, no doubt, is that time is saved by having things close at hand. Another reason may be that in too many farms the dining-room proper is not conveniently placed, and it means a lot of extra work, running to and fro between this room and that.

While we cannot blame any woman endeavoring to make her work as possible, there are objections to serving meals in the kitchen. One of them is: It is difficult to the room in which a meal has been prepared, look presentable. As which has come to our attention recently may appeal to some of our Women Folk as a suggestion they can work out in their own way.

A three or four panel screen may be used, the larger size being more satisfactory if a large space is to be used. This screen can be set in the corner of the stove and serving table, so the meal is arranged on the other side of the screen.

The inside of the screen is covered with oilcloth, so if it happens to get spattered from the stove, it is easily wiped off. The other side of the screen will look attractive and covered with cretonne.

This is only one small point in kitchen equipment, but it is one that adds much to the enjoyment of a fully prepared meal which is served in the kitchen. It should give the housewife a feeling of comfort and satisfaction also as the members of the household gather round the kitchen board.

"Most Illigant Liars"

PRIVATE, anxious to secure leave of absence, sought his captain with a most convincing story about a sick wife breaking her promise for his presence. The officer, with the soldier's ways, replied: "I am afraid you are not telling the truth. I have received a letter from your wife urging you not to go home because you get drunk, break up the furniture and beat her shamefully." The priviledged man started to laugh, then he paused at the door, asked: "So, may I speak to you, not as officer, but as man to man?" "What is it?" "What I am saying," approaching the captain, lowering his voice: "You and I are two of the most illigant liars here made. I am not married at Boise, Idaho, Gem Worker."

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