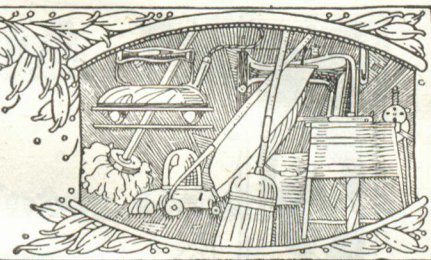


EVERYWOMAN'S HOUSEHOLD DEPARTMENT

Food and Housekeeping Efficiency
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The Family Laundry Up-to-Date

There is a Best Way, a Quickest Way and a Least Laborious Way of Handling It

(Continued from last month)

COLOURED clothing needs extra care. Each colour is washed separately, in case the dye runs. The work should be done quickly, the garment hung up in the shade, wrong side out, to dry at once, otherwise it will probably run and streak. Long-drawn-out wetness, strong alkalis, or acids or a bleaching agent, whether sunshine or chemical, will all be harmful. Don't soak, therefore, unless necessary. Use a pure, mild soap. If a softening agent must be used, let it be borax. Rub starch in well and wipe off any excess, to avoid white spots and streaks.

Colours that are apt to fade may often be "set" by soaking overnight in one of what we call the "mordant" solutions. Test a small piece of cloth first and see which solution acts on it best. After the soaking, dry thoroughly before washing. Another good plan to prevent fading, even when the colour seems reasonably fast, is to rinse the garment in a diluted salt solution just before hanging to dry.

Mordant Solutions

To one gallon of water add
½ cup mild vinegar, effective for blues.

2 cups of salt, effective for pink, black or brown.

1 Tablespoon sugar of lead (poison), effective for lavender.

Woolen materials also require sensible and considerate treatment. Again, they should be handled quickly. These rules should be kept firmly in mind.

Water should be pleasantly lukewarm, never hot.

Even temperature throughout the washing is absolutely essential.

A sudden change will cause immediate shrinkage.

Pure mild soap should be used and it should be melted, as in directions for soap solution.

If water is hard, use a tablespoonful of borax or ammonia to each gallon of water.

Rub as little as possible. Squeeze the garment, plunge it up and down in

the water and work it gently with the hands, else the fibres will mat and harden. A second clean suds of same temperature is often advisable and several rinsing waters should be used. Be sure no particle of soap remains. Put through a loosely set wringer and hang wrong side out in a warm place, never near a fire, where sudden direct heat will cause shrinkage.

If woollens are pressed, don't use too hot an iron.

Blankets should be given the same treatment. Squeeze the water from the lower hanging edge occasionally during drying period.

Silk should be given similar washing, wrung between towels and ironed on the wrong side while damp. To avoid stiffening it, iron silk under a cloth.

Removing Stubborn Stains

WHERE fabrics are stained so that ordinary washing, or the less trying sponging, will not remedy the matter, special treatment is necessary.

Boiling water is successful for certain stains, others require chemicals.

Javelle water (for white goods only), potassium permanganate in solution (for white and some coloured goods), oxalic acid (poison), ammonia water, hydrogen peroxide, French chalk, should be kept on hand. They must be used quickly to prevent damage to fibres. Stretch the stained portion tightly over a bowl and apply chemicals from a medicine dropper or the point of a skewer or small stick.

Javelle water is made as follows:

1 pound washing soda.

1 quart boiling water.

½ pound chloride of lime.

2 quarts cold water.

Put soda into a granite pan, add boiling water, stir until dissolved, and cool.

Dissolve chloride of lime in cold water allow to settle, then pour off clear liquid into the soda solution, let settle, pour off clear liquid, bottle and keep in a dry place.

Mix a quantity for use with an equal quantity or more of water, and don't soak garments in it more than

half an hour. Rinse in several waters and lastly in diluted ammonia water.

Potassium permanganate is prepared for use by dissolving 1 teaspoonful of the crystals in a pint of water. Apply with medicine dropper or small rod, allow to remain five minutes. If a brown or pink stain is left, it may be removed by applying hydrogen peroxide.

Oxalic acid should be given the careful oversight a dangerous poison requires. Prepare by dissolving in a pint of lukewarm water, all the crystals it will melt. Bottle, cork tightly, and put in a safe place for use as needed.

The commonest stains are usually treated as follows:

Fruits and Berries (Fresh).—Pour boiling water from a height on stain.

Rub a little, between times, and bleach in the sun.

If the stain will not yield to boiling water, moisten with lemon juice and expose to sun. A stain which turns blue or gray should be moistened with oxalic acid or lemon juice.

Potassium permanganate or Javelle water may be used.

Fruits and Berries (Cooked).—Easier to remove. Boiling water and soap will suffice, except for red or purple stains, which are treated like fresh fruit stains.

Grass or Flower Stains.—Hot water and soap, plenty of rubbing. Grain or wood alcohol, where rubbing may injure.

Grease.—Scrape off. If stain remains try warm water or soap. Naphtha or kerosene will be efficient solvents of grease.

Absorbent substances such as fullers' earth, French chalk, powdered magnesia, for fine materials. Cornmeal or salt for coarse things such as carpets. Heap on the stain, brush off occasionally and renew. Blotting or absorbent paper on one side, a warm iron on the other; heat will melt the grease which will run into the paper.

Chloroform, ether, gasoline or naphtha are solvents for grease, the first is best and not inflammable. Place a clean absorbent pad underneath and sponge from outside in to centre, to

prevent a ring. A good plan is to surround stain with a ring of French chalk first.

Egg.—Cold water, followed by hot water and soap, or by a grease solvent.

Cocoa, Chocolate.—Soap and hot water, a sprinkling of borax, wet with cold water and rinsed in boiling water. Lukewarm water for delicate fabrics.

Coffee.—The cream calls for grease solvent. Soap and water or potassium permanganate may be used.

Dye or Run Colours.—Cold or warm water, sunlight. Javelle water, potassium permanganate or hydrogen peroxide, with a little ammonia in it, may be tried, the last for silk and wool.

Blood.—Cold water. Soak and rub and when light brown wash with hot water and soap as usual. Ammonia—1 ounce to 1 gallon water—will loosen old stains. Hydrogen peroxide, sponged on, will often remove stubborn blood stains.

Raw starch and water in thick paste applied to flannel, blankets, etc., and brushed off when dry. Repeat if necessary.

Ink.—There are preparations for removing ink stains. Much depends on the kind of ink. Printing ink will yield to plenty of rubbing with soap and water, when fresh. Lard, rubbed well into stain and washed out with soap and water, is good.

Writing Ink.—Try absorbent, first working over stain with something blunt.

Milk.—Soak stain for a day or two, changing milk when it shows colour. Oxalic acid. Soak for a few minutes, rinse in clear water, then ammonia water. Potassium permanganate, Javelle water, or lemon juice, may work.

Iron Rust.—Dilute hydrochloric acid. Oxalic acid, lemon juice.

Meat juice.—Treat like blood.

Medicines.—Soap and water, hydrochloride, oxalic acid, alcohol or Javelle water.

Mildew.—Soap and water and bleaching. Sour milk, lemon juice, Javelle water, potassium permanganate.

Paint.—Turpentine. If old and set, turpentine and ammonia. Grease solvents will often help.



Time to Put Away the Warm Things

How to Avoid Moths and Other Summer Menaces



THE family has, long before this, put aside its warm winter clothing. From father's overcoat to the children's little "woolies" everything must be put away until the return of cold weather. Just how useful articles that are now very usable will be when they are again needed, depends, of course, upon just how they are put away now.

Some fortunate housewives possess those delightful cedar boxes, or have a cedar-lined storage cupboard. No matter how great the lure of "pure wool" is, no moth will willingly venture into them. The trick here lies in the thorough cleaning and brushing that must precede the putting them away, so that there will be no eggs in the folds of material, nor even any dust to work its way deeper and deeper into the fabric and make those almost ineradicable grey lines and markings.

This brushing and cleaning is perhaps the most important move in the whole storing away of winter fabrics; unless it is thoroughly done, all the further trouble one goes to, in parcelling and tying in moth-proof and dust-proof packages, will be worse than wasted. There is an ironic quality we are slow to appreciate in the experience of stripping away the carefully glued wrappings that protected Willie's best reefer from all outside influences, to find that we had given a marvellously cosy home, and unlimited nourishment of their favourite kind, to a rising young generation of moths

hatched from eggs that had been hidden in a little deposit of dust under each cuff, or beneath the lapels of the collar.

A stiff whisk then, of good quality; a firm clothes brush; soap-suds, where advisable, and cleaning materials for any necessary sponging over and removing of stains.

Apart from all other considerations, these are much easier to remove now than after a five or six months' longer hold on the fabrics.

The far-sighted housekeeper will send to the storeroom all the cardboard boxes in which new clothes are delivered, those sent home by the cleaner, any hat boxes not in use and even the small fry, such as show-boxes. They are invaluable for the spring put away-time.

The complete supplies needed include:

Cardboard boxes, assorted sizes.

Wrapping paper, newspapers.

Strong string.

A pot of paste with a small brush.

Moth-balls or a preparation such as camphor and cedar.

A crayon or soft pencil for marking.

The method is simple.

Cut plenty of strips of wrapping paper about four inches wide, to seal the boxes.

SORT the well cleaned articles, putting together those that will probably be required about the same time. The children's woollen garments; the grown ups warm underwear; fall suits and coats; winter suits and coats; knitted caps, mittens, scarfs and sweaters; overstockings and leggings, and so on. Thought-

ful grouping at this stage of the business will mean, later, the opening of just those packages that are required.

Select a box that will hold one group. Line it with newspaper and fold in the garments one by one, sprinkling with the anti-moth preparation or putting in the moth balls. When the box is full, fold the papers round and put on the lid.

Apply paste to a length of the paper stripping that is cut, and gum firmly over the crack between lid and box. Don't leave a single crevice that is not firmly sealed.

Tie with strong cord, so that there will be no strain on the pasted strips. They are not in place to hold the box closed, but to keep out all dust, moths, etc.

With a crayon or big soft pencil, write clearly on the lid just what the box contains. Do this with each box as you go along, or confusion may easily arise.

If there is a scarcity of boxes, make parcels, not too large or bulky, using strong wrapping paper and cord, and sealing all the edges with the pasted paper. Mark as you do the boxes.

HATS that have next-season possibilities want special care. If either the shape or trimming is useless, don't give invaluable space in your boxes. Rip off the trimming and discard it or freshen it up as much as possible if it is to be saved. Put flowers, etc., into paper bags, labelling each one. Fold the mouth over several times and pin closed.

Brush shapes well, clean any spots, if necessary. Remember moths will love ostrich trimming, and any sort of felt,

velours, and so forth. So seal up your band boxes in the same way and write a sufficiently full description of the contents on the lid to recall each one after a lengthy period of forgetting.

Winter blankets, after being carefully washed and well aired, should be folded away with camphor balls. It will pay to examine them occasionally.

Eiderdown quilts and good comforters had best be sent to the cleaner's if they are soiled. The best way to put them away is to sew them up in an old sheet.

Heavy drapes need thorough beating and brushing. Examine the floor end for any stains from floor wax and dust, etc. A vacuum cleaner is invaluable in their case.

Furs, if they are valuable, should really be sent to the furriers to be kept in cold storage through the warm season. If you keep them at home, it will pay to examine them frequently and give them an occasional good shaking and airing in the bright sunlight before packing away again and sealing up well.

And just as a last word—be sure there is no crack or crevice in any of the cupboards where a moth or an egg may be lurking. Have every clothes press very thoroughly cleaned and scrubbed—for even amongst the garments that hang there in the summer, there are many that the moths will enjoy—our pretty knitted sweaters, light weight woollen suits or coats.

It is only prevention that pays, where the pests that prey on our garments are concerned. There is no real cure for a moth-hole