

that is necessary. All stains must be removed before putting the garment in hot, soapy water. Fruit stains yield readily to boiling water, while ink and mildew may be removed by soaking the material in milk. Starch is used to stiffen clothes and may be used either raw or cold.

The first step necessary in laundry work is to collect the soiled clothes and then sort them, separating household linen from body linen, and woolen and colored clothes from the white ones. If the white clothes are badly soiled, soak them in soapy water for a few hours, or over night.

Put the clothes into clean, warm suds and rub them with the hands or on the board until they are clean. Have cold water and soap in the boiler and put the clothes in it, let them boil from ten to twenty minutes. White clothes should be scalded to bleach and sterilize them, but colored clothes and woolens would be ruined by such treatment. Take the clothes from the boiler and rinse them first in clear water, then in blue water. Clothes that require no starching may be hung on the line at once to dry. Before clothes are hung out to dry they should be shaken out and hung so that they will not be stretched out of shape.

Clear starch for ordinary purposes may be made according to the following directions: Take one tablespoon of starch to a quart of boiling water. Where thicker starch is desired, as for collars and cuffs, use more starch to the same quantity of water. Mix the starch with cold water to make smooth, add the boiling water, stirring constantly; let boil for several minutes.

There are various preparations on the market to add gloss and make ironing easier, but, good results may be obtained by adding a little borax or paraffine to the hot starch. Where parts of garments are wanted very stiff they must be starched with cooked starch and allowed to dry, then starch in cold starch made as follows: Mix smooth one tablespoon of starch in a pint of luke-warm water, moisten the parts of the garment with this starch and let stand at least an hour. When the clothes are dry take them from the line, fold loosely and put in a clothes-basket.

Several hours before ironing, spread a clean cloth on the table, shake the clothes out, lay them on the table and sprinkle them evenly and lightly. Table linen should be very damp. Fold and roll the clothes tightly and lay aside until ready to iron. Have the ironing-board ready and irons hot. Have some folded paper and a cloth ready to test the iron, to see if it is too hot, or not clean; and also the wax for polishing the iron.

When ready to iron take the waist, shake it out and pull it into shape. Iron the trimmings, bands, collars and cuffs, next the sleeves, then each section of the garment. Be sure every part is dry, then fold loosely and hang on a rack to dry and air