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# CARE OF CLOTHING

By BLANCHE E. HYDE



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COLORADO AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE  
EXTENSION SERVICE  
Fort Collins, Colorado

# CARE OF CLOTHING

By BLANCHE E. HYDE

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The old adage "A stitch in time saves nine," is particularly apt in these days of rush and hurry when we are prone to put off until tomorrow everything that we can possibly "get by" without doing today.

"Do it now," too, is a slogan which should be lettered and hung in a conspicuous place in the room of every club girl, so that when the inevitable snap or button hangs by a single thread, the sign will be so firmly imprinted on her mind that she will immediately put into practice its noble sentiments.

The title of this bulletin is one which calls for serious consideration by the club girl as well as by her older sisters. Girls of club age rarely think of the need of taking care of their clothing as a money problem, and are apt to consider a mother fussy, when she remarks, "Mary, please hang up your coat and dress, and put away your hat."

Mary's mother is doubtless well acquainted with the cost of the coat, dress and hat if they were purchased ready made, or, if they were made at home; and too, if the latter, she doubtless knows the long hours of labor required for their completion.

Whether the dress is a one-piece type or a ten-piece one, a certain amount of money is involved in the cost of the raw material\* from which the garment is made, and, in addition to this, a certain amount of labor is involved. To be sure, mothers do not belong to any "union" and rarely measure the hours nor the money value of the time they put into daughters' garments, but the work and financial value are there just the same.

And it is discouraging to see Mary come in on a rainy day and throw her damp clothing onto a chair, to be resurrected the next morning, a mass of wrinkles; or for Mary to rush into the kitchen in her pretty new school dress to make a loaf of cake for a picnic, with never a thought of an apron as a protection against the flour or batter.

## CARE OF CLOTHING PROJECT

The project, Care of Clothing, elected by so many of the club girls, when analyzed, is really a simple one and the following outline is suggested:

Amount of clothing to be cared for.

Places for keeping clothing.

\*Raw material in this case means the yard goods from which the garment was made.

Arrangements for keeping clothing in closets and drawers.

Storage of clothing not in frequent use.

Daily care of clothing and accessories.

Airing.

Brushing.

Pressing.

Removal of spots.

Dry cleaning.

Mending and repairing.

Laundering.

Care and treatment of shoes.

Suggestions for handling the Care of Clothing demonstration.

Following this outline, the topics are taken up somewhat in detail.

### AMOUNT OF CLOTHING TO BE CARED FOR

"Enough is as good as a feast," is an old proverb which each one of us might well apply to the everlasting problem of clothes.

The tendency of the present day is to buy the fad of the moment, or that particular material or garment which is in vogue, rather than to consider whether it is necessary or whether enough wear will be obtained from the garment to balance the cash expenditure. In these days of rapid changes in style it is not economy to have too large a stock of clothing. The following rules are good ones for every club girl to follow:

Before purchasing a new article of apparel ask yourself this question: "Do I really need this article, or do I just *want* it because another girl has one?"

To have sufficient underwear of material and type suited to my living conditions, so that I can have frequent changes.

To have just enough plain morning dresses, attractive in material, simple in construction and easy to launder, so that I will always look clean.

To endeavor to have for school wear two dresses, one separate skirt and two middies.

If a better dress is necessary, to have one only and that of a very simple style.

Nothing is more annoying than to have one's closet filled with clothing rarely worn and daily becoming out of style. Let every club girl cut down the number of garments in her wardrobe to a minimum, similar to that suggested, but let her plan those in her club work so carefully that she will always feel well dressed.

### PLACES FOR KEEPING CLOTHING

"A place for everything and everything in its place." How many of us practice this motto? In our rush and hurry it's "off with the old and on with the new," as we rush in to change our dress to something more suitable for what we are about to do and too often, Alas! we throw our clothing over a chair and hie ourselves away.

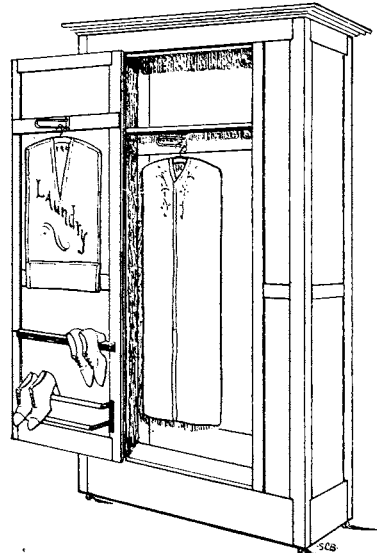
**Closets.**—Changes in living conditions have brought about changes in house planning, and we now rarely find in the moderate-sized house the commodious closets of long ago. Many architects call a large closet a waste of room, but the closets they plan when completed barely offer "room for a waist!"

However, the small closet has its advantages in that there are fewer dark corners in which one's clothes may conceal themselves, and if the space, shelves and hanging arrangements are well planned, it is surprising the amount of clothing which can be taken care of in a closet of small proportions.

**Closet Shelves.**—A potato without salt is no worse, nor as bad, as a closet without shelves or at least—a shelf. There are always endless things which seem to have no place in dresser drawers or sewing table, which must have a place somewhere, and generally that place is the closet shelf, but let everything be neatly put away in boxes, and each box labeled on the end or side. Then, too, the attractive hat made in the club work last summer must have its place in a box, bag or pillow case, on the closet shelf.

If one is fortunate enough to have a closet with several shelves at one end, an excellent arrangement for keeping the contents of the shelves free from dust is to have them equipped with doors, or "drop-fronts," hinged at the bottom and fastening at the top with catches and ring handles.

**The Closet Floor.**—The closet floor should be as well finished as the other floors in the house and if bare, free from splinters or cracks for dust to collect. If the floor is old a piece of linoleum should be cut to exactly fit. Nothing of any description should be kept directly on the floor.

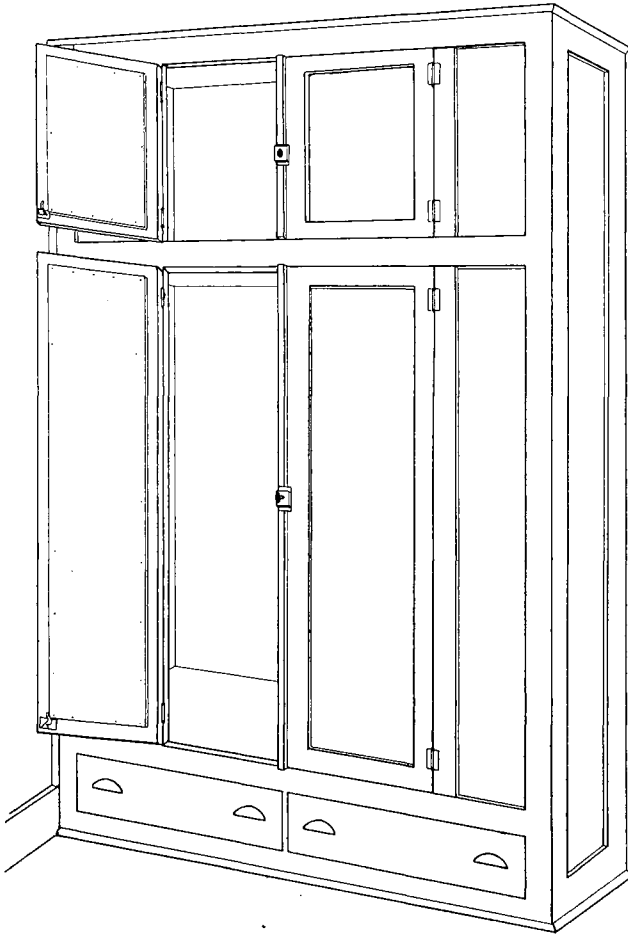


Colorado Clothes Closet

**Closet Drawers.**—Many of the old-time closets were equipped with a “case” or chest of drawers, an excellent place for keeping waists and other garments, or for storing bedding.

**Built-In Closets and Wardrobes.**—In a house which has no closet in the bed rooms it is indeed a serious problem to plan a convenient arrangement for hanging one’s clothing, and if a club has elected the project Care of Clothing, it is up to the individual members to work out satisfactory schemes for closet substitutes.

The illustrations show two types of wardrobes. The picture on the preceding page shows a portable type, which has been named the Colorado clothes closet.



Built-In Closets

This is made of composition board. It is easy to construct and is planned so that it hooks together, thus being possible to take it down and pack it away, or ship it flat.

The illustration of the closet on page six shows a built-in type of closet, which also may be constructed of composition board.

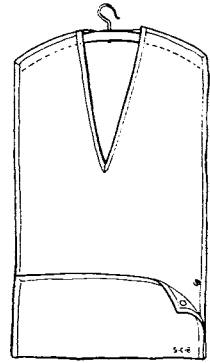
This closet shows shelves above enclosed by doors, which offer ideal places for keeping one's best hat.

The built-in closet is also equipped with drawers at the bottom for keeping shoes.

A working drawing of the Colorado clothes closet may be obtained on application to the Extension Service.

**Laundry Bag.**—While a closet is not the ideal place for keeping soiled clothing, it is nevertheless a very convenient place, and if necessary to keep one's laundry in one's own room provide an attractive bag to hang in the closet. If the club girl wishes to be especially up-to-date in the arrangement of her closet, a most attractive effect is obtained by having all bags of the same material.

A good type of laundry bag is shown in the illustration. To make this, one yard of 32- or 36-inch material, preferably cretonne, is required, an enamelled garment hanger, a piece of bias tape and a few snap fasteners. The colors of the hanger and the tape should blend with the material used. The sides of the bag are 27 inches long, curving up to fit the hanger. One end of the bag is folded up seven inches. The open place in the front is five inches wide at the top sloping to a point eleven inches deep. The tape is put on as a binding and the extension at the lower edge is snapped to position.



Laundry Bag

**The Dresser.**—This is one of the most important articles of household furniture, and is understood to mean a chest of drawers to which are fastened uprights holding a mirror. The term formerly used in speaking of this article of furniture was "bureau," but this now refers to the old-style, heavier type in which the drawers extend nearly to the floor, the lower drawer almost resting on the rollers.

A dresser is not necessarily an expensive piece of furniture even when purchased new, and a clever club girl (and all club girls are clever) can easily earn enough money to buy one for her very own, or she can resurrect a discarded bureau or chest of drawers, scrape and clean it, then refinish or paint it, when

she will find that she has an attractive piece of furniture, whatever name she may choose to give it.

A chest of drawers with a mirror hanging on the wall over it is preferred by many to a regular dresser.

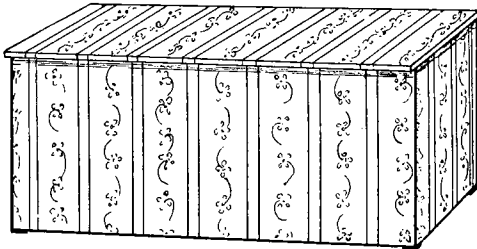
**Chiffonier.**—A chiffonier is really a tall chest of drawers, and is exceedingly commodious. Some are made with uprights holding a mirror and others depend on a mirror elsewhere in the room. Most chiffoniers now have five drawers, but in some cases two half-drawers take the place of the upper drawer.

**Combination Dressers.**—Other articles of furniture, sold under different names and combining in very unattractive fashion the good points of chiffonier, dresser and wardrobe or clothes closet, may have some advantages, but from an artistic standpoint are not good additions to household furniture.

Another difficult piece of furniture from the standpoint of use is the combination dresser and wash stand. This combined piece of furniture does not fulfil the functions of either dresser or wash stand.

### THE SHIRTTWAIST BOX

Although the severely tailored and starched shirtwaist is a thing of the past, the name still holds and the shirtwaist box is still sold as such. As its name indicates it was planned primarily to store freshly-ironed waists, and was accordingly of suitable dimensions. A convenient size for such a box is fifteen inches square at the ends, and twenty-five inches long.



Shirtwaist Box

These boxes come in polished wood, or covered with matting or cretonne.

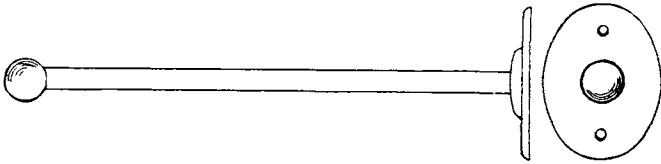
Such a box can be easily made at home, by fitting a hinged cover into a box of suitable size. The box should then be lined with cambric and covered with cretonne or chintz, either put on plain, or in some decorative way with box pleated flounces or ruches. Such a box is shown in the illustration.

### ARRANGEMENTS FOR KEEPING CLOTHING IN CLOSETS AND DRAWERS

**Hanging Arrangements in Closets and Wardrobes.**—The old type of clothes hook, with a long curve above and a smaller one below is by no means obsolete, but a small closet equipped with

nothing but a row of ordinary clothes hooks set in cleats around the wall of the closet, was a disheartening proposition. That was the day of hanging clothes by loops, when no dress or waist was complete without a loop of tape or ribbon sewed on the armseye at the underarm seam. Almost the only alternative to this method was to fold the dress and keep in a box.

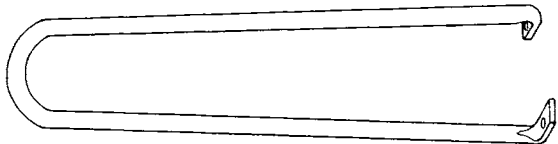
The next step in improvement was the use of the coat hangers formerly used almost exclusively by tailors. These, as many of us know, did not work very satisfactorily on the ordinary clothes hooks and the next step was the pole extending entirely across the closet, or across one end. This was hailed with joy, as the ideal way to take care of one's clothing, and it is still an almost ideal way if one has a closet large enough so that the pole with the garments hanging on it does not take up too much room. Small or shallow closets are not, however, the best types to equip with poles or rods.



Clothes Rod

The accompanying illustrations show two different types of rods for use in closets. The first, called a "clothes rod," is of nickel finished at one end with a flat plate with holes for two screws to be fastened to the closet wall, and at the other end with a nickel ball to prevent the hangers from sliding off the end. The second type is called a "closet loop," and may be fastened vertically or horizontally. If in the latter position, the hangers can be slid around the loop. This also is of nickel. Closets equipped with either of these two arrangements present a very neat appearance and are convenient as well.

In planning for the spacing of these, allow from two to three inches more than the width of the garment hangers between the screws of each rod or loop, and see that they are placed high enough so that the longest garment will clear the floor. One of these loops may be very satisfactorily used on the inside of closet door.

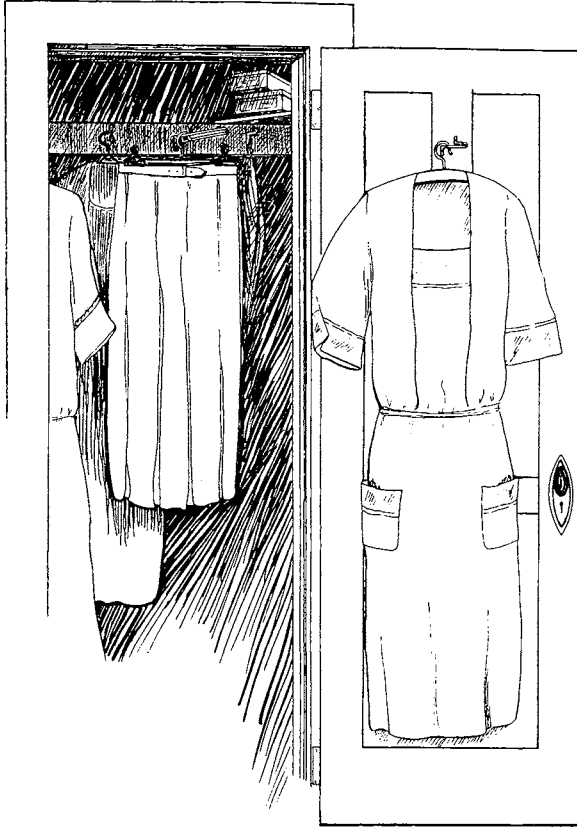


Closet Loop

It is well to have three or four in each closet if the wall and



door space permit, and if so, one loop or rod should be kept for garments which are not in constant use, and which it is not advisable to pack away in a trunk or box.

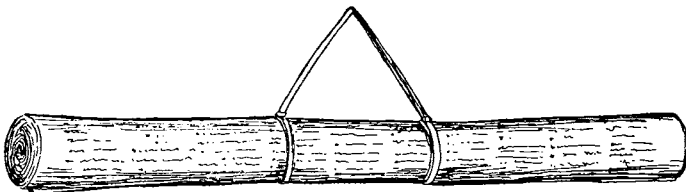


Closet Equipped with Closet Loops

**Garment Hangers.** — These are frames of wire or wood, with a hook at the top and used to extend or hold out the shoulders of a garment. The cost of these is very small compared with the service they render. Folding hangers are also to be had which are useful when traveling.

When one needs extra hangers and cannot procure the ready-made ones, a newspaper or magazine cut to the width desired and rolled tightly will answer if held tightly in the center by a

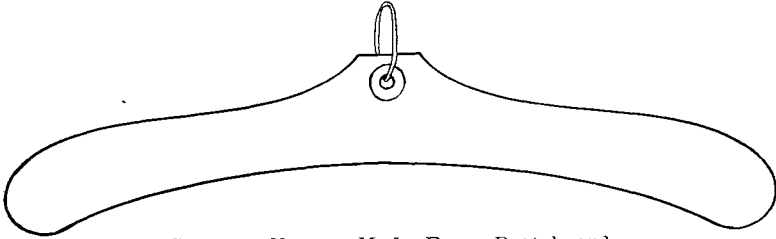
string or ribbon with a loop for hanging. Wooden barrel hoops cut to the proper length and wound with cloth, and with a loop of ribbon for hanging make excellent garment hangers.



Garment Hanger Made From Newspaper

Shaped hangers may be made at home from pieces of pasteboard as shown in illustration.

Hangers for skirts are similar to the trouser hangers which come in different styles.

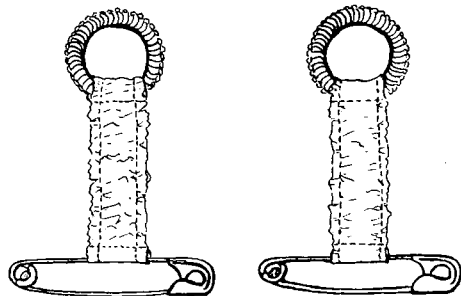


Garment Hanger Made From Pasteboard

Convenient hangers may be made of rings buttonholed with embroidery cotton. These are fastened to safety pins by short lengths of ribbon. In using, fasten the pins into the skirt band and hang the rings on ordinary closet hooks.

#### Arrangement of Shoes.

—What about shoes, which somehow seem to find their natural habitat on the closet floor? If a shoe bag similar to the one shown in the illustration for the closet wall or inside of the closet door is not possible, an almost ideal arrangement is to provide a box, or preferably a long, narrow stool one board in width, and about 24 to 30 inches long, mounted on end pieces to hold it about 6 inches from the floor, and place the shoes on this.



Useful Skirt Hangers

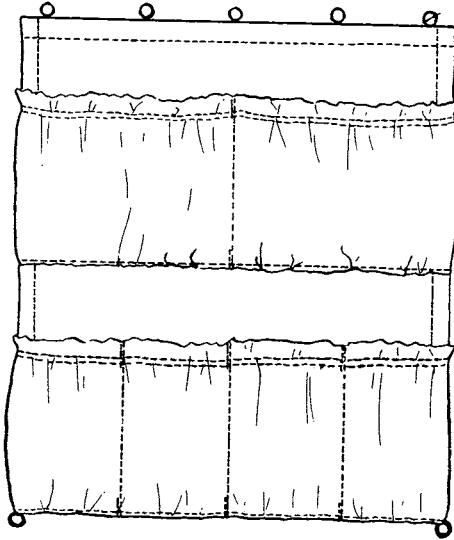
Various types of shoe racks to be screwed on the wall or closet door are now on the market.

One of the shirt waist type of boxes, too, offers excellent accommodations for these necessary articles of apparel. Rubbers should be kept separately from shoes.

**Arrangement of Clothing in Drawers.**—It is an understood fact that underclothing and accessories are generally kept in dresser drawers, and whether the dresser is of the new type with the lower drawer several inches from the floor, one of the old-style bureaus, or a commodious chiffonier, there should be some plan or “budgeting” (to use a very popular word) of the clothing through the different drawers.

If the dresser has only two long drawers a good division of undergarments is to place the stockings, knit underwear and combination garments in one drawer, and the night dresses, petticoats, or underskirts and bloomers in another.

If the dresser has three drawers or if a chiffonier is used,



Shoe Bag For Inside of Closet Door

the same division of undergarments can be observed, and the lower drawer used for middies, other blouses and sweaters. With the smaller dresser it is necessary to keep middy blouses and sweaters in a box or trunk, or else stowed away in the closet.

Nothing gives one a greater feeling of satisfaction than to behold on opening a drawer, neat piles of underwear, carefully arranged.

One thing the writer wishes distinctly understood, that she will make no

suggestions as to the contents and arrangements of the "top drawer," for of course every club girl keeps only small accessories in the top drawer of her dresser and those are always arranged in "apple-pie order!"

**Use of Boxes and Trunks.**—The shirtwaist box for keeping clothing is most useful if one is short of drawer space. Freshly laundered blouses may be placed in such a box and if nothing heavy is placed on top will emerge as fresh as though straight from the ironing board.

Such a box can also be utilized for the keeping of undergarments.

Trunks, while not quite as convenient for getting at one's clothing, generally have trays so that several different kinds of garments can be kept separately, and in good order.

If the trunk has a flat top, over which a cretonne or other cover can be placed, it will also serve as a seat, and be a useful and sometimes attractive piece of furniture.

**Storage of Clothing Not in Frequent Use.**—This is often more or less of a problem in a small house, with little or no closet

space and especially so if there are changes in climate necessitating radical changes in clothing for the different seasons. Happily, though, we no longer draw quite as decided seasonal lines in our clothing, but if summer clothing is comfortable during the winter months we do not hesitate to don it, and vice versa with winter clothing. However, we should try to plan so that most of our garments are all-year garments. This point should be considered carefully by all club girls as they are of an age when they are changing rapidly in size.

Clothing not in frequent use may be stored in an extra closet or wardrobe where it can be hung without danger of crushing, or it can be placed in drawers of a seldom used dresser, bureau or chiffonier. Some people prefer to fold garments and keep in a trunk reserved for the purpose.

### PROTECTION OF CLOTHING AGAINST SMOKE, DUST, MOTHS, ETC.

In many localities the soft coal smoke is a serious nuisance and it is necessary to carefully protect clothing not in daily use in order that the smoke will not have a chance to settle on it. Then, too, clothing not in constant use generally requires protection against moths, mice, or other pests.

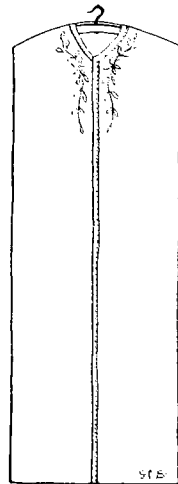
**The Dress Bag.**—For protection against smoke and dust the dress bag is the best thing. It may be made of lawn, percale, unbleached domestic, flour or sugar sacks joined together, or an old sheet or old night dress may be utilized.

Where the soft coal nuisance has to be dealt with the dress bags should be made of closely-woven material like percale, which when starched is almost impervious to smoke.

The type shown in the illustration is very easy to make and satisfactory to use.

Material of a forty-inch width is much more economical than a narrow width. A light-weight cretonne or percale is suggested, with bias tape to harmonize. Plan the bag long enough to allow for dresses of different lengths on hangers, but short enough so that it will clear the floor when the garments are placed inside. Fold the length of material so that the selvage edge will just lap in the center front, then shape the top to fit a coat hanger, and slope the fronts away slightly at the neck.

Bind the front edges with the bias tape, then pin the fronts together with the bound edges lapping slightly. Stitch across



Dress Bag

the bottom, then turn wrong side out, and French-seam the bottom.

After turning onto the right side pin the top into proper shape and bind with bias tape.

If the material is plain a small design in colors to harmonize with the bias tape may be worked on each front. A figured material needs no embroidery.

**Packing Away Dresses.**—When necessary to pack away for a season a dress in a box or trunk, it should be folded carefully and if made of material which wrinkles easily, the fullness of the dress should be held out by tissue paper. No rules as to folding can be given as styles of dresses and the amounts of material in them vary greatly, but fold lightly and if to be placed in a box, choose one which is large enough so that the dress will not be crushed.

**Moths.**—In some localities the moth miller is a serious pest, and only the greatest care of one's clothing prevents the tiny insect from doing serious damage to one's best frock.

The best preventive against moths is to brush the garment thoroughly and remove all spots before putting away. Many people advise having the garment dry cleaned at this time, but if all spots are removed and the garment carefully protected in a trunk or box, or by a bag or other covering, it is rather an advantage to have the cleaning, repairing, relining or remodeling done just before it is desired to bring the garment into use again as it will then be fresh from the pressing board. Camphor was formerly the staple moth preventive, but its scarcity and cost have made the use of moth balls, cedar flakes and other compounds more common.

These compounds are all more or less efficacious, but if care is observed in the brushing and removal of spots and after this if the garment is carefully covered, there will be little danger of damage by moths.

**Bags.**—For garments which are too heavy and clumsy to fold well, one of the best plans is to place the garment on a hanger in a bag. This may be of cloth similar or identical with the dress bag for the making of which directions have already been given.

Many "moth proof" bags of heavy paper are on the market, coming in various sizes, weights of paper, and with a wide divergence of prices. Most of these bags are provided with gummed flaps or overlapping sections which fasten the bag securely against the inroads of any insect.

If care is used in opening, the bag can be rolled and put away for further use.

Newspaper makes an excellent wrapping against moths, if care is taken that the paper does not become torn in handling. Printers' ink is supposed to contain some ingredient particularly distasteful to moths. In doing up garments in bundles for packing away, the use of gummed paper tape is recommended for sealing.

When one is the fortunate or unfortunate possessor of a fur coat, unless the house offers sufficient storage room for placing the coat in a bag and hanging where the fur will not be pressed or crushed, it is advisable to send the coat to some cold storage place where it will be taken care of and returned in good condition when wanted.

The charge at most cold storage places is only a small percentage of the valuation of the garment and one is saved all worry regarding moths, fire or theft.

**"Silver Fish," "Silver Tail," or "Slicker."**—This insect is found in many parts of the country, and while not especially recognized as a foe to clothing, feeds upon substances containing starch or glue, consequently freshly laundered clothing sometimes attracts it. White feathers just from the cleaners also offer an appetizing meal to these insects.

The United States Department of Agriculture has a bulletin on remedies for this pest.

**Beetles and Bugs.**—In warm climates beetles are sometimes attracted to clothing, often for the starch or finishing materials, and in obtaining this starch they often make holes in the goods. The best remedy for these is to hang the clothing instead of packing it closely.

If a closet is kept free from unused garments hanging in dark corners there will be little danger of the clothing being injured by any of these insect pests.

**Mice.**—Mice rarely attack garments hanging in a closet or clothing packed away in a tightly closed trunk or box.

If care is taken that clothing in paper bundles is not left on a closet floor or shelf, but instead is put away in a box or trunk, there will be little danger of mice getting at it. However, every precaution should be taken to rid the house of mice if such are known to be present.

The use of traps is one of the easiest methods known, and one of the quickest unless the mice have become too wary.

The use of poisons where there are young children about is not advised, but many books and government bulletins give suggestions for abolishing this dangerous pest.

## CARE OF CLOTHING IN DAILY USE



One might give complete instructions for the care of clothing in frequent use by three little illustrations: a clothes brush, a garment hanger, and an iron, preceded by the words "use these frequently," for these are the keynotes of a well-dressed girl or woman.

Some good rules for the care of clothing would include the following:

Never throw clothing of any description down carelessly.

Dry all clothing damp or wet from snow or rain before putting away in a closet.

Air all clothing before putting away.

Place all garments, especially coats and dresses, on coat hangers if possible, and hang in their proper places.

Make all small repairs as soon as their need is apparent.

If garments are muddy, dry thoroughly and brush before putting away.

If garments or hats are dusty, brush well before putting away in the same closet with clean clothes.

If possible keep all shoes on shoe trees, especially those not in frequent use. If not convenient to use shoe trees, stuff with paper.

Place all hats on a shelf or in a box or bag. They are easily knocked down if hung on a hook.

Change all undergarments frequently.

In wet weather protect your shoes by wearing rubbers.

**Non-Wash Dresses.**—These include dresses made of wool or silk, or combinations of the two, or dresses made of cotton or linen in such a way that they cannot be easily laundered.

Ordinary care of garments in frequent or constant use will keep them in presentable condition and do away in some measure with the need of dry cleaning. Such care includes airing after wearing, mending and repairing, immediate removal of spots, thorough brushing and pressing of wrinkled places or the entire garment whenever necessary.

With the fashion of wearing only one petticoat or bloomers, the use of an "apron" either of rubberized cloth or rubberized silk is advisable during warm weather, especially with dresses made of silk, cotton or linen as the use of this prevents the perspiration of the body from wrinkling the skirt on sitting.

### GARMENT REPAIRING

The section on Garment Repairing in the Sewing Handbook gives directions for the repairing of garments.

If one forms the habit of giving the dress the "once over" every night on removing it to see if anything is needed in the way of small repairs much time will be saved in the end. If hooks or snap fastenings are loose, repair them at once. Also inspect the hem and other places likely to rip. In repairing ripped places take care that the stitches, if hand sewing is required, are as neatly made as those on the rest of the garment. Do the same with undergarments, paying particular attention to see if the trimming is torn or ripped, or if a patch is necessary.

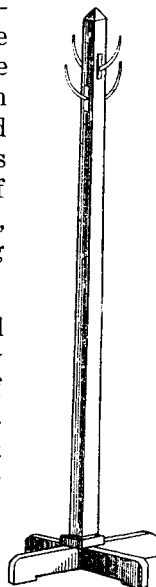
**Removal of Spots.**—As previously stated, all spots should be removed as soon as possible. Many commercial spot-removers are on the market and if directions are followed carefully good results are often obtained. It is well, however, to try the effect of the remover on a small piece of the material or on the under side of the skirt hem in order to see its effect on the particular material.

Cold water and a little neutral soap are often very successful as spot removers. The soap should be sponged off with a little clear, cold water, and the place then rubbed until nearly dry with a piece of absorbent cotton. In rubbing, begin at the edges of the wet portion rubbing 'round and 'round towards the center, following this by pressing.

If the spot is decidedly a grease spot, the same methods will sometimes be effective.

French chalk rubbed into a grease spot as soon as possible and allowed to remain over night, when the chalk may be brushed off, is generally efficacious.

Some people advocate the use of a warm iron and blotting paper for grease spots, but poor grades of blotting paper will not always absorb the grease.

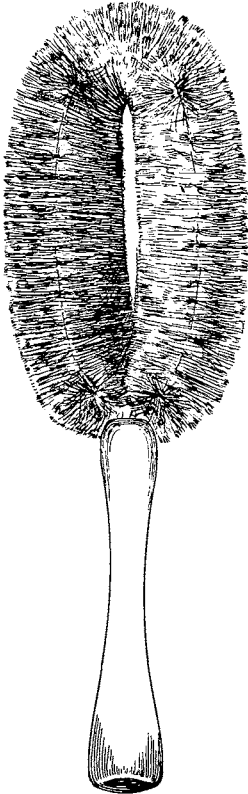


Pole for Hang-  
ing Garments  
to Air



**Dry Cleaning.**—Most “dry cleaning” requires the use of explosive materials which the Clothing Specialist does not advise.

Moreover, by the time all the materials required for dry cleaning have been purchased, the amount will almost equal the cost of sending to a professional cleaner. If we take better care of our clothing during its daily wear, protecting our dresses by wearing an apron when doing work which was likely to soil the dress, there will be less need for having clothing dry cleaned.



A Good Type of  
Clothes Brush

### CARE OF WASH DRESSES

On account of the time and labor involved in the process of laundering and of the cost of the dress material itself, just as good care should be taken of wash dresses as of the so-called non-wash dresses. Spots can be removed from wash dresses by washing the soiled place using soap and water, or in the case of heavy white materials by the application of white shoe cleaners. This latter method is not satisfactory, however, unless the rest of the garment is perfectly clean, otherwise the cleaned spot will make the rest of the garment look soiled.

A wash dress that is slightly mussed but not soiled can be made to look almost new by dampening and pressing. For further suggestions as to pressing or ironing of wash dresses see section on Laundering. Also suggestions for washing colored dresses will be found in the section on Laundering in this bulletin.

### ACCESSORIES

**Hats.**—Hats should be carefully brushed if a long, dusty ride has been taken, and one's better hats should always be kept in a box or bag, placed on a closet shelf where there is no danger of their falling onto the floor.

Where dust has settled into a dark straw hat, wiping with a cloth dampened with cold water will freshen it.

Many commercial coloring materials are on the market for coloring straw hats, either to renew the old color or to change the color. The process really amounts to painting and should be

done just as carefully as painting, taking care not to let the coloring material fill up the meshes of the straw braid. These coloring materials may be obtained in a glossy or dull finish, as desired.

A corrugated paper box, such as mail order goods sometimes come in, is an excellent receptacle for a hat.

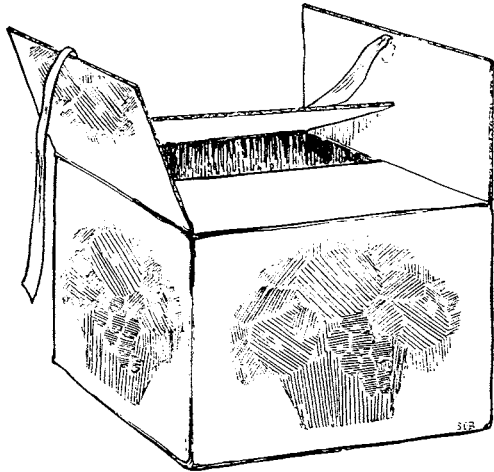
For keeping hats various types of home made hat boxes may be constructed.

As a hat box takes up a great deal of room in a closet, a box which looks well enough to be placed out in the bed room is advisable.

An ordinary band box covered with wall paper will be attractive but is not very durable.

A cheese box covered with cretonne is perhaps the most satisfactory if one can procure a cheese box.

Different types of corrugated paper boxes such as are used for shipping also give good service.



Corrugated Paper Box for Storing Hats

The box shown in the illustration is one of the type easily obtainable. It may be covered entirely with wall paper, or, if in good condition, may be ornamented with pictures cut from wall paper and pasted on.

Ribbon ties are fastened onto the top to keep it closed.

**Gloves.**—After removing gloves pull into shape, fold and place in a glove box or in one corner of the drawer used for accessories. If gloves are of wash material they should be washed whenever necessary, and not allowed to lie in a drawer until the soil becomes old and eats into the fabric. Whether the gloves are of silk, or of cotton with a suede finish, the method of washing is the same. Use a neutral or olive oil soap and wash in suds, avoiding hard rubbing. Squeeze the moisture out but do not wring. Rinse thoroughly and if white put a little bluing in the rinsing water. Spread on a bath towel for drying.

**Mending Gloves.**—When gloves rip or become worn, mend at once. If the gloves are kid, and it is necessary to mend a rip-

ped place, use the buttonhole stitch. In mending fabric gloves the overhanding stitch or back stitch should be used if the ripped place is on a seam.

If a fabric glove is worn, darn the worn place the same as if it were a stocking. For runs in silk gloves use the grafting stitch.

**Hair Ribbons.**—Altho these are almost obsolete, if used they should be smoothed and folded immediately on removing and pressed frequently, using a cloth slightly damp.

**Handkerchiefs.**—See that your handkerchief box or case always contains enough clean handkerchiefs nicely ironed and folded. Make it a practice to take a clean handkerchief every morning. Take good care of your handkerchiefs so that they will not become lost or stained by ink. It is an excellent plan to put some identifying mark on your handkerchiefs as a cross stitch of colored thread on one corner.

**Collars and Cuffs.**—These accessories which are worn so much with sweaters and with dark dresses should be kept by themselves where there will be no possibility of their becoming wrinkled or creased.

If one is wearing these all the time, plan to have enough sets so that a fresh one can be basted into the dress or sweater whenever necessary.

**Hosiery or Stockings.**—Every club girl as a part of her Care of Clothing project should mark her stockings in some individual way, also using some additional mark which will keep the stockings in pairs. This is especially necessary if one has several pairs of stockings similar in color and quality. Keep the hosiery all together in the place set aside for it, each pair neatly rolled or folded.

Stockings come in wool, cotton and silk, each requiring different care. With the fashion of wearing low shoes all the year 'round, brought about by war conditions, and which found ready favor, wool stockings, obsolete for many years, came again into use for wear during cold weather.

Many people, however, object to the feeling of wool next the skin, and prefer cotton which comes in different weights so that cotton stockings might almost be classed as the staple all-year, all-occasion hosiery.

In the better grades and especially in the lisle or in a mercerized finish, they are to be preferred to a cheap silk stocking, for silk stockings are a luxury. The poor grades of silk hose do not give satisfactory wear, and from a standpoint of durability, even the better grades do not wear as long as cotton stockings,

which cost somewhat less. There is, however, no gainsaying the fact that silk hose look very nice, and if one can afford to wear them, the writer would be the first to say to "do so by all means." But let no club girl insist on wearing silk stockings if her mother wears only cotton ones.

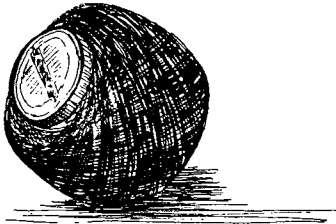
Rayon, formerly known as artificial silk, is used either alone or combined with other fibers for stockings. The careful treatment given silk stockings should be given to those of rayon and its combinations.

Stockings will wear far better if they are laundered frequently, for perspiration injures the fiber from which the stockings are made. Two days' wear is the longest that a pair of stockings should be worn without washing, and if silk stockings are used, try and wash them after one day's wearing. In laundering white silk stockings observe the same precautions as in washing any white silk material, and wash white silk stockings by themselves.

Colored silk stockings should also be washed by themselves, in suds of a neutral soap, and one rinsing is generally sufficient. Dry indoors or in the shade outdoors.

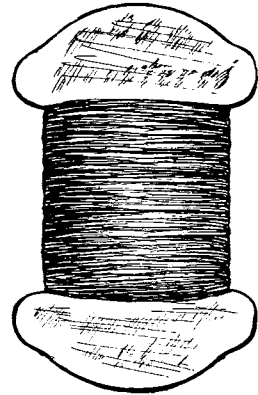
In laundering wool stockings look up the directions for washing woolen materials in the section on Laundering, and observe the same precautions. In washing stockings of colored wool, one rinsing will be sufficient, and the same precautions for drying should be observed.

Immediately after washing and drying stockings, look them over carefully to see if they need darning or mending.



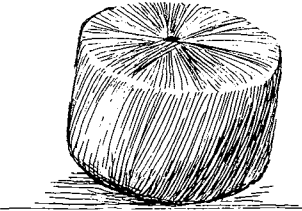
Darning Cotton

An excellent plan for the club girl who has elected the Care of Clothing project is to provide herself with a small bag or basket in which to keep the equipment for darning her hosiery and knitted underwear. The illustrations show some of the forms in which darning materials come. The flat card is generally used for wool. The larger ball with the spool ends showing at each end is ordinary darning cotton, not mercerized. The thread of this is made up of several strands, so that one is able to adapt it to any quality of material.



Darning Wool

Mergerized cotton generally comes with the ends of the foundation spool covered as in the illustration. The threads of this are also made up of several strands, three at the present time, and each strand somewhat finer than the cotton which is not mergerized.

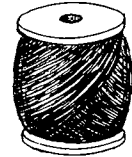


Mercerized Darning Cotton

Darning silk comes in small spools, the thread being composed of three strands. For repairing runs in silk hosiery one strand is sufficient if the grafting stitch is used as advised in the Sewing Handbook.

**Shoes.**—Keep shoes put away in a box or on a rack. If in a box, stand on their soles. Use shoe trees whenever possible.

Watch the soles and heels of your shoes carefully, and when necessary send to the shoemaker for repairs. If shoes are taken care of and repaired before they become too badly worn they will last much longer, and shoes at the present time are one of the most expensive articles of our apparel.



Darning Silk

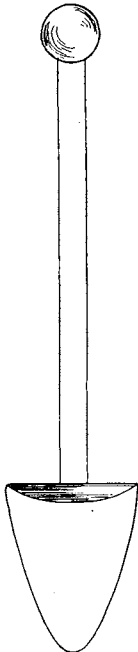
**Cleaning and Polishing Shoes.**—If shoes are wet or muddy they should be dried and cleaned. In drying leather shoes take care not to put them too near the fire else they become hard and stiff. If necessary to scrape the mud off, do not use a sharp knife or metal instrument, better something of bone or soft wood. In cleaning and polishing shoes be sure and keep them on shoe trees or stuffed with newspaper. A simple, inexpensive shoe tree is shown here.

After removing mud and dirt, apply some commercial cleaner.

Tan shoes can sometimes be washed successfully with a neutral soap.

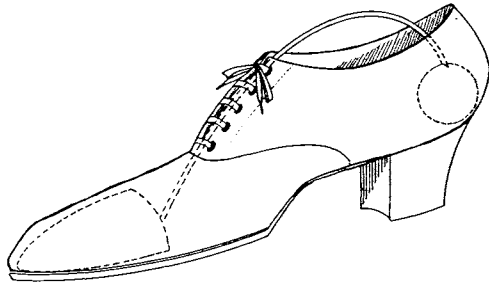
After the cleaning finish with commercial polishes according to the directions which accompany each.

White canvas shoes can be washed with some of the household cleaners, but especial care should be taken to preserve the shape of the shoe during the drying process, using shoe trees or stuffing with newspaper. Many of the commercial cleaners for white canvas shoes leave a white deposit on drying. If, however, the shoes were not well cleaned before applying this, the soil is apt to dissolve into the cleaner, leaving the shoes yellow or gray in color.



Shoe Tree

The dry "cleaners" in the form of white powder offered for white shoes are very convenient, inasmuch as they may be applied very quickly, and while they do not remove the soil they cover it up for the time being. One variety which may be easily carried in one's handbag, has the powder put up in a small canvas bag, which is enclosed in an envelope or glazed cloth, fastening with a snap.

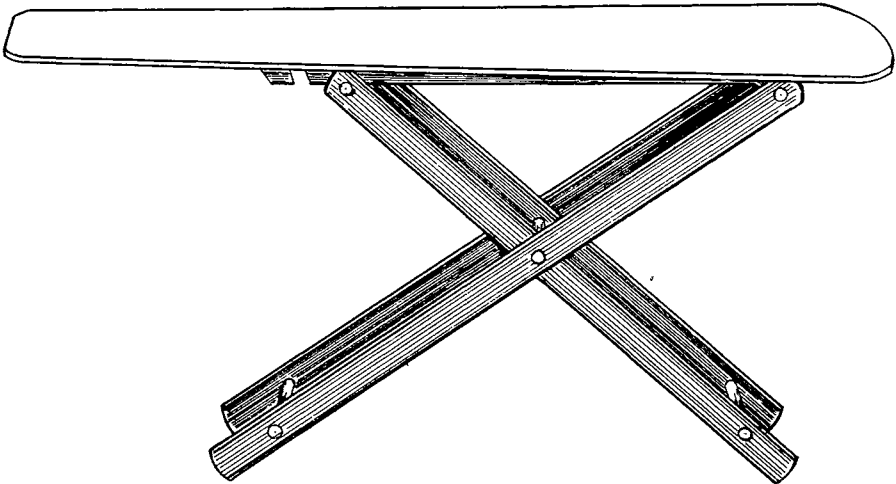


Shoe With Tree in Position

#### Care and Cleaning of Rubbers.

—Muddy rubbers should be allowed to dry, then the mud must be shaken or scraped off as much as possible; then wash thoroughly, using a piece of wet newspaper which can be thrown away. Rubbers should not be dried too near a fire. If rubbers become torn, mend with adhesive tape. Mark your rubbers on the inside with your name printed in ink.

**Pressing.**—Two different types of ironing boards are illustrated. The folding ironing board is the best type where entire

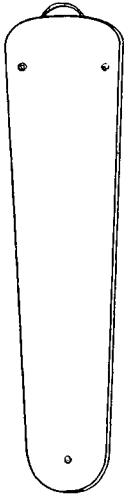


Folding Ironing Board

dressess have to be pressed, for these boards are of sufficient length to allow the skirt to be slipped over the end of the board. Moreover, the board can be adjusted to any height, and can be folded and put away when not in use.

The small pressing board shown can easily be made at home.

The top is padded and covered with strong, new unbleached domestic or muslin. Underneath are three small rubber cushions or rubber-headed tacks to prevent the board from rubbing or scratching the furniture upon which it is placed.



Small  
Pressing  
Board

Removable covers for pressing or ironing boards which can be easily removed for washing should be provided. These should be cut in somewhat the same shape as the board, but several inches larger and tapes sewed on at the sides and ends for tying underneath.

Some covers have the small end double for about nine inches and the end of the board is slipped between the thicknesses, thus helping to hold the cover in position.

The ordinary iron as well as the cold-handled iron, heated on a coal or wood range, or by gas, will do as satisfactory pressing as the electric iron, although the latter has the advantage of being cooler to work with if much pressing is to be done, and is, moreover, ready almost instantly if one has electric current in the house.

For occasional pressing, unless it can be done at the same time as the weekly ironing, the gasoline iron is not quite as satisfactory. Considerable time is required in getting it started and if set aside for a short time while repairs are being made on the garment, it is apt to become too hot.

In pressing dresses of silk or wool great care must be taken that the pressing surface of the iron is clean and smooth. It is always well to use a cloth between the iron and the material. The cloth can be dry or not, according to the condition of the garment. If the material is easily spotted by water, a damp cloth only should be used and followed by a dry cloth, passing the iron around the edges of the damp portion first and ironing towards the center. In this way there is less danger of the edge of the ring on the dampened portion showing.

Be careful not to pull the garment out of shape when pressing. Turn it on the board, if the skirt is slipped over the board, but do not pull it or allow it to twist. In ironing plain yard goods, the keeping of the edges straight, and the lengthwise and crosswise threads of the weave at right angles to each other is the important thing, but in a garment the shape of the garment is to be considered first.

In pressing coats small, shaped cushions are sometimes used

by tailors for pressing the top of the sleeves and the collar. A well-stuffed pin cushion can be used for this very successfully.

Continue the pressing until all dampened portions are thoroughly dry, then place on a coat hanger and hang in the air until all moisture has evaporated. Very heavy coats are now seldom pressed at home, as larger irons are required than are usually to be found in the home kitchen.

### LAUNDERING

This is one of the most important points in the Care of Clothing and one in which all club girls should take deep interest.

The subject of laundering is large enough for a bulletin by itself, hence the points given here cover in a general way only the subject of washing one's personal clothing.

**Undergarments.**—No personal undergarments should be allowed to become so soiled that hard rubbing will be necessary. Then, too, one should take as good care of their hands as possible, hence it is advisable to use a neutral soap which will not cause the hands to become rough and shriveled.

If the supply of hot water is limited one of the naphtha soaps may be used with cold water. When washing undergarments of fine cotton or silk material the soap should be dissolved in water instead of rubbed onto the garment. The soap will dissolve more quickly if it is shaved or chipped before putting into water, and if necessary to hasten the dissolving the water and soap chips may be heated. Many manufacturers sell chipped or shaved soap. Extreme care should be taken with the use of all washing powders and in no case should they be used on undergarments of silk or wool.

In washing silk or wool undergarments the use of very hot water should be avoided and also the use of any soap material containing strong alkali. A tepid water is best, and the washing and rinsing waters should be of the same temperature. The undergarments should be allowed to stand for a time in the soapy water and then rubbed lightly until all dirt is removed. Two or more rinsings are necessary to remove all soap, especially if it is desired to use bluing, as some bluing will stain the garment with iron rust if the soap has not been thoroughly rinsed out. Starch is not used in the laundering of undergarments at the present time.

If the undergarments are of colored material it is sometimes advisable to dissolve a little dye in the rinsing water to freshen the original color. This must be thoroughly dissolved or strained



through fine cloth in order that the particles of dye do not settle on the material.

After drying, dampen for ironing and in the ironing the shape of the garment must be kept in mind. If lace trimmings are used pull out the lace before placing the iron on them. Garments decorated with embroidery should be ironed on the wrong side with the right side of the embroidery placed on several thicknesses of soft cloth.

**Dresses and Waists.**—In the washing of white dresses and waists the same general directions that have been given for undergarments should be followed.

Frequently in the ironing of these, especially white organ-dies, if a very little starch is dissolved in the water used to dampen, and a cloth dampened in this water is passed over the material it will take on the crispness of new material. Great care must be used, however, not to make it too stiff.

In washing colored dresses and waists many people like to “set” the color by soaking the dress in salt and water, vinegar and water, a solution of sugar of lead, or other chemicals. No set rules, however, can be laid down as to what ingredient will set a definite color, as dye formulas change as rapidly as styles, and what might work well one season would fail the next; then, too, certain shades and gradations of colors require different treatment.

A safe rule in washing colored materials is to use only a neutral soap, and then wash in suds only, not rubbing the soap directly on the material. Rinse thoroughly and dry in a shady place. In ironing take care that the iron does not become too hot.

**Collars and Cuffs.**—The directions given for washing garments will apply to these also. As a rule these should be ironed on the wrong side and not folded or creased. Keep the edges soft instead of ironing them in a knife-like crease.

If the collars and cuffs are of lace pull out the edge before ironing and see that the pattern and edge are placed evenly on the board. Do not allow the point of the iron to catch into the lace.

### SUGGESTIONS FOR HANDLING THE CARE OF CLOTHING PROJECT

On account of the distance between the homes of the club leaders and the homes of many of their club girls it is obviously impossible for these leaders to inspect every girl's closet and dresser drawers. In many cases the word of honor of the girl herself in making out her report must be taken.

In the clubs which meet around at the homes of the different members, each hostess should have an "open house" as far as her Care of Clothing demonstration goes, so that the other members may judge of the value of the work she has done, and no doubt get suggestions for their own demonstration.

Garments and hosiery mended or repaired can very properly be worn or taken to the club meetings for the leader to pass judgment upon.

Dresses and undergarments laundered by the girls should be worn or taken to club meetings for inspection and criticism by the other girls and by the leader.

Some of the topics chosen for demonstrations in Care of Clothing have been:

The Colorado Clothes Closet

Removal of Stains

Storage of Clothing

Packing a Suit Case

Other subjects which might well serve as good demonstration subjects would be:

Cleaning and Pressing

Laundering a Summer Dress

Making or Covering a Shirtwaist Box, or a Hat Box.

The best demonstration that can be produced in the Care of Clothing project is the appearance of the girl herself, for she will in very truth be "well dressed."

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