Cleaning Rayon

Rayon is a fabric made from a compound of wood pulp with various other vegetable substances, or left-over ends of cotton, which, by a chemical process, are transformed into long wiry fibers having a silky sheen. It is a practical fabric, and is being used extensively with great satisfaction as a substitute for real silk. It is peculiar in one respect, in that it becomes greatly weakened when wet; alkalis and heat also affect it just as they do silk. This does not mean that it should be classed as an extremely delicate or fragile material, but simply that special methods should be employed in laundering it.

There are so many different types of rayon fabrics that it is possible to answer the persistent question, "How should rayon be washed?" only by one general statement, and that is that all rayon fabrics are fine fabrics, and any washing treatment which can be used on fine silks may be used on rayons.

When to Wash—When to Cleanse

Rayon fabrics should be tested for color fastness before washing, just as are silks and wools. A safe test is to squeeze a sample, or a small portion cut from an inconspicuous part of a ready-made garment, in clear lukewarm water for five minutes, drying it and comparing it with the original material. If the colors do not run in plain lukewarm water, the material is safe with the necessary cleansing neutral soap. Rayons which fade in plain water should be dry-cleansed.

Shall rayon be soaked or scrubbed? The question is often asked, "How can you get the dirt and soil out of rayon if you don't soak or scrub it?" White rayon may be soaked, but colored ones are likely to become streaked or smudged if soaked even for a short time. Many colored rayons may be washed innumerable times with no perceptible fading which would run and streak if soaked even for five or ten minutes. One doesn't scrub and rub silks and wools—why do it with rayons? Simply dissolve enough neutral soap flakes in hot water so that the suds are lukewarm, that is, of a temperature between 95 and 110 degrees Fahrenheit. Put in the garments and wash them at once, squeezing the thick suds through and through the material. Put badly soiled things through several fresh suds, for dirty suds will not remove dirt.

Wash rayons frequently, or as soon as any kind of soil appears. The longer soiled rayon remains unwashed, the more difficult it is to wash it clean. Besides, the soil and stains tend to dull the colors and weaken the fibers. Washing will not injure it; neglecting to wash it may. Frequent washing preserves the bright new appearance and lengthens its useful life.

results are obtained in ironing by pressing them on the wrong side with a warm, not hot, iron, while the material is still quite damp. In the case of thin dress materials, the garments can generally be ironed at once. Heavier ones dry readily if shaken for a few minutes after taking them from the towels. Knit underwear rarely needs pressing, but if desired, it should be pressed on the wrong side.

Combinations of Materials

The safe rule to follow in laundering rayon which is combined with one or more other fabrics is to use the method which is best for the more delicate of the fibers. A material is only as strong as its most fragile thread, and if this fact is borne in mind, the tragedy of pulled or torn textiles will not be encountered. Cotton and rayon mixtures produce attractive and colorful fabrics at a moderate cost; their beauty can be preserved by frequent intelligent washing.

If handled with reasonable care, white rayons will stay sparkingly white throughout their lifetime. Keep them spotlessly clean. Washing does not yellow white rayons.

Knitted Rayon

Knitted rayon is a splendid, moderately priced substitute for real silk. Keep it fresh-looking by frequent washing, for stains, if allowed to remain, are difficult to remove.

Knitted rayon garments do not readily resume their original size if once stretched, so care should be used not to let the weight of wet garments pull the material out of shape. Sweaters and other similar garments should be measured before wetting, so that after washing they may be stretched and pulled to their original size and proportions, and pinned to the towels on a flat surface to dry.

Rayon Curtains

Different localities vary so greatly in respect to the dust and soot present in the air that it is impossible to give any set intervals at which curtains should be washed. The action of light and air at open windows tends to weakens the threads, especially if the curtains are exposed to them while soiled. The life of rayon curtains is lengthened considerably by frequent laundering. No special method is required, if the fact that they are fine fabrics is remembered, and they are laundered accordingly. Shake the curtains to remove the dust and do any required mending before submitting to water. It is wise to measure the curtains before washing so that they may be restored as nearly as possible to their original size. Pin thin rayon curtains to sheets on a flat surface to dry. The heavier ones may be hung on the line. In such cases, hang them straight and gently square the corners together so that the weight is evenly distributed. Avoid hanging ...

... around in a bowl of suds, and they dry very readily.

Rayons That Fade

The colors in rayon materials are not always fast, any more than colors are always fast in any other type of material. When, in the fast-to-color test it has been determined that a color will streak or run the only thing that can be done is to have it dry-cleaned, or take the same extreme precautions in washing that one would take in washing colored silks, namely, to wash each colored garment separately, as quickly as possible, in suds verging to cold. Do not soak. Dry quickly. Do not leave the article rolled up while damp. If these simple precautions are taken, even the colored rayon fabrics that are wont to fade, ordinarily launder very satisfactorily. Happily, too, the colors in rayon fabrics are usually rich and clear and, for the most part, fast to washing.

Nothing can be done to set unfast colors permanently. Soaking in water to which salt, vinegar, alum, etc., have been added is useless. It would cost the manufacturers but a negligible sum to employ any of these simple methods of making colored fabrics fast to washing, and they would have been taken advantage of long ago if colors could be set so cheaply and easily.

Rinsing and Wringing Rayons

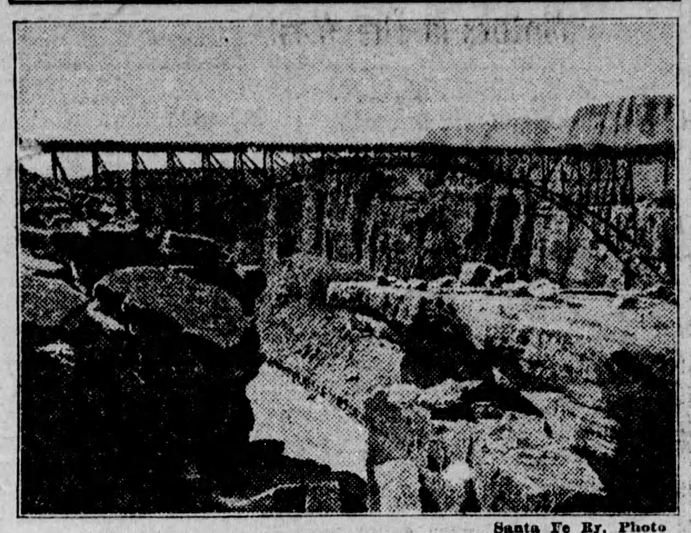
Rinse thoroughly in three (never less than two) lukewarm rinse waters. The temptation to use cold rinse water should not be yielded to, as cold water does not remove the soap and loosened dirt efficiently. The soap holds the dirt and soil in solution, and the rinse water is intended to remove it. Complete removal is essential for fresh, clean-looking clothes. Squeeze out as much of the rinse water as possible in the hands. Never twist rayon or put it through the wringer. Roll it loosely between turkish towels and gently knead out the excess moisture.

Gently shake out the wrinkles and pull the articles into shape. Dry on dry towels on a flat surface, if possible in the fresh air. Do not dry near excessive heat, such as a radiator or register, or in the direct rays of the sun.

It is not good practice to use a water softener when washing rayons. It is difficult to know just when enough has been used, and an excess is sure to affect the colors, and sometimes harm the fibers. The safest and most economical way to soften the water is to use enough active, pure neutral soap to produce and maintain lasting suds after the clothes are all in. Heavy or very soiled garments take more soap.

With most rayon fabrics the best

Arizona Completes the World's Highest Highway Bridge



Santa Fe Ry. Photo

World's Highest Highway Bridge—Arizona.

In the middle of March, 1928, a motor colossus on ten wheels, dragging behind it a sturdy trailer, roared smoothly into the Santa Fe freight yard at Flagstaff, Arizona; swallowed fifteen tons of structural steel, and then headed away into the northeast on the first of many journeys that were to mean much to travelers from every corner of the world.

The huge truck ended this first of four months' continuous journeys at a mushroom growth of white tents and frame buildings 130 miles from Flagstaff. A few yards away a dull-red chasm split the earth. At the bottom snarled a leaping chocolate river. Beyond rose the yellow and green tinted talus of the Vermillion Cliffs. Here in the Navajo Indian Country of northeastern Arizona, at the northern tip of the Painted Desert, and in a setting of amazing grandeur, was the one point in nearly 600 miles where engineers had decided that the greatest natural travel barrier on the continent could be bridged.

That barrier is the Colorado river proper, born deep in southeastern Utah, at the junction of the Green and the Grand, and flowing thence through Cataract, Glen, Marble and Grand Canyons—the most stupendous series of gorges on the globe. Until this year it has been unbridged for vehicles from Green River, Utah, to Topoc, 600 miles below on the western border of Arizona. There have been, and are, only a couple of vehicular ferries, and these uncertain at best, and often dangerous and abandoned.

It is seven miles below old Lee's Ferry that the new bridge, rightly to be called the Lee's Ferry Bridge, conquers the hidden river in the world's highest span. Beneath it, in Marble Canyon, the Colorado races through a rock slot with sheer limestone walls nearly 500 feet high—and only 585 feet from rim to rim. All through 1928 work on the bridge has continued.

This December the Lee's Ferry Bridge will be an accomplished fact, its 18-foot reinforced concrete roadway, with steel and concrete curbs, sweeping above the brown churn of the Colorado at a height of 465 feet.

On June 1st, 1929, Arizona local and state bodies, the National Park Service, the Indian Department and the Santa Fe Railway invite the world to a unique dedication encampment and celebration at the Marble Canyon site.

To engineers the Lee's Ferry Bridge is another milestone in the conquest of natural obstacles. To travelers it is the key to connected exploration of the hitherto divided portions of our wonder-filled Southwest. The manifold fascinations of the Spanish and Pueblo cultures in New Mexico; the Navajo and Hopi Country; the endless attractions of northern Arizona; the Painted Desert and the south rim of the Grand Canyon—all these will now be directly connected with the north rim of the great Canyon, the Kaibab Forest, and Bryce and Zion National Park.

Regular motor tours will be established next Spring by the Santa Fe and Fred Harvey from El Tovar Hotel at Grand Canyon.

Old Fish Trap Found

Honolulu.—The remnants of a fish trap built in 1350 by King Mailekukaki to supply food for his army and for the population of Oaku were unearthed recently during dredging operations in the Pearl Harbor channel.

Vast quantities of wood, torn loose from the sea bottom and brought to the surface by the dredge scoops, were identified by Honolulu experts as posts which were placed beneath the surface of the water more than 500 years ago. Old maps, handed down through generations, corroborated the location of the trap.

The trap was one of the largest and most important along the shoreline outside of th present naval base. It contained more than seventeen kinds of wood, most of which were brought to Oahu from the island of Hawaii. Some of the timbers in the walls were more than eighteen inches thick. They were sharpened and driven into the sand and loose coral. Cocoanut leaves, braided between the posts, made the whole enclosure fish tight. Most of the wood dislodged this week was found to be in an excellent state of preservation.

The fish were carried into the trap by the action of the tide and were segregated by an ingenious system of pockets, which singled out the nehu, mullet and other small varieties. Sharks and ulna went into other pens. Shadows cast upon the water were used to frighten the quarry into the jaws of the trap.

"Couples who have difficulty in getting along anywhere eventually try the pawnshops."

... Spend

New Highways

Program for 1929-'34 to Open Outlets for Important Producing Regions

Eight Cities To Be Linked

Mexico City.—The Mexican government will spend $41,000,000 in building new roads from this year to 1934, it is announced, according to "El Universal," by Sanchez Mejorada, Minister of Communications and Public Works. The roads will be among the most important in the country, linking the cities of Oaxaca, Puebla, Vera Cruz, Toluca, Guadalajara, Chiluahua, Ixmiquilpan and Linares.

The Ixmiquilpan-Linares highway will be the most costly in the system, as it is estimated that $7,500,000 will be needed for its construction. Other roads in the program include one from Ciudad Victoria to Guadalajara, crossing Mexico and costing $5,000,000; another from San Cristobal to Merida, traversing one of the most difficult regions of the republic, which will cost a like sum. Several routes of lesser importance are also to be built.

The statement says that $4,000,000 is to be spent this year; $6,000,000 next year; $7,000,00 in 1931; $7,500,000 in 1932; $8,000,000 and $8,500,000 in 1933 and 1934, respectively.

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since 1925, when its road building pro-
gram was launched, has spent approximately $15,000,000 in the purchase of machinery and actual construction of highways.

The government plans to complete the Mexican section of the Pan-American Highway, from the United States border to the frontier of Guatemala, by 1934.

"They say 'where there's a will there's a way.'"

"Yes—a way to break it."

UTTERLY SIMPLE.

It's possible to cut this charming blouse out and finish it completely in an hour. It is fashioned of silk crepe in smart modernistic pattern, with the shawl collar that ends at waistline of plain harmonizing crepe. The lower edge of blouse is gathered into shaped hipbands with scalloped edge with an attached jabot at left side. Sleeves have tab wristbands. Style No. 372 is designed in sizes 16, 18, 20 years, 36, 38, 40 and 42 inches bust, and takes but 2⅛ yards of 40-inch material with ½ yard of 36-inch contrasting for the 36-inch size. Georgette crepe, lame, crepe satin, sheer velvet, wool crepe and sheer woolen appropriate for its development. Pattern price 20c in stamps or coin (coin is preferred).

HOW TO ORDER PATTERNS.

Write your name and address plainly, giving number and size of such patterns as you want. Enclose 20c in stamps or coin (coin preferred; wrap it carefully) for each number and address your order to Wilson Pattern Service, 73 West Adelaide St., Toronto. Patterns sent by an early mail.

British Interest Centers Upon "Baby Airplane"

London—The "baby airplane," a Simmonds Cirrus Spartan, holder of the world's non-stop flight record for a light plane, has helped center aviation interest on these smaller craft.

The plane, carrying pilot and passenger, flew direct from London to Berlin, and then repeated the feat three days later, returning non-stop with the same crew from Berlin to London under six hours.

The London-Berlin flights were not undertaken as stunts. They are considered to represent the light airplane at its true commercial worth, capable of carrying, at a moment's notice, passenger, fifty pounds of luggage and a 20 per cent. reserve of fuel, for more than 600 miles at a speed exceeding 100 miles an hour under bad weather conditions.

H. W. R. Bantine piloted the baby plane on the flight, and his passenger was Lieutenant Colonel L. A. Strange, director of an aircraft construction company, who made the trip to transact business in the German capital. The fuel cost a head for the one-way trip was about $15.

Research is rather like a wild flower which grows in unexpected places and does not take kindly to planting in the garden.—Sir William Bragg.

Two thousand years have elapsed since the proclamation of human fraternity, yet human relations are still far from evangelical principles.—Foreign Minister Zaleski of Poland.

He (after many musical gear changes): "Would you like to be able to drive?" She: "Rather, would you?"

Sunday School Lesson

February 3. Lesson V—The Holy Scriptures—Psalm 19: 7-14; 2 Tim. 3: 14-17. Golden Text—Open thou mine eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of thy law.—Psalm 119: 18.

ANALYSIS

I. THE PRAISE OF THE SCRIPTURES, Psalm 19: 7-14.

II. THE PROFITABLENESS OF SCRIPTURE, 2 Timothy 3: 14-17.

INTRODUCTION—It is difficult for us in this land and age of liberty to realize the privilege which is ours in having an open Bible in our own tongue. The Old Testament was written originally in Hebrew, and the New Testament in Greek, and for a long time it was a sealed book to the common people. It was only after many a struggle and many a labor that men were able to get the Bible translated into English. We believe that in these two parts of Scripture, which go together, we have a faithful account of the gradual unfolding of the mind and purpose of God. We see how Christ is prefigured in the prophecies more and more clearly till at last he comes as the word of God in the flesh. We should therefore, learn to prize this book. Augustine said, "Scripture is a long letter sent to us from our heavenly home."

I. THE PRAISE OF THE SCRIPTURES, Psalm 19: 7-14.

Vs. 7-9. The writer of this Psalm had a very small Bible, only the Law, but he is so full of praise of this that he puts us to shame when we remember how greatly enriched our Bible is. There are three features to be noticed in these verses:

1. Each verse speaks of the law under a new name, by which the writer calls attention to the many-sidedness of God's word. We should read Psalm 119 to see this same feature carried still farther. 2. Each verse selects out one particular quality of the law, such as perfection, reliability, righteousness, purity, cleanness, truthfulness. 3. Each verse points out some result which follows from the study of the law. He imparts restoration, wisdom, joy, clearness of vision, patience. No wonder he praises such a book!

V. 10. And he is, therefore, amply justified when he goes on to speak of its value in the highest terms; it is more valuable than fine gold, its message brings more sweetness than honey.

Vs. 11-13. The result of Bible study is that it drives the mind in upon itself and reveals the real nature of the heart. The dark places now become more manifest, and secret faults begin to show themselves. All of this impels the reader to pray to God for cleansing; and we have in v. 14 the very fine example of a prayer such as a sincere reader of God's word would have to make.

II. THE PROFITABLENESS OF SCRIPTURE, 2 Timothy 3: 14-17.

V. 14. This is one of the Pastoral Epistles, so called because they deal with the different problems which arise in the life of a minister or pastor. Among these duties an important place must be assigned to the right use of the Bible, which is the authority for our knowledge of the way of salvation. It contains a revelation of the mind of God. The true pastor, therefore, must rest his instruction on the book. Paul warns Timothy that he will meet with many kinds of evil, but if he is sure of his scriptural knowledge, there will be no danger of his failure. He reminds Timothy that he has been brought up in this way. Those here referred to are his mother and grandmother, see chap. 1: 5.

V. 15. The Holy Scriptures are the books of the Old Testament, for as yet the New Testament had not been included in the sacred list. The Christians made much use of the Old Testament, and read certain passages in their services. Paul often quotes the Law and the Prophets, and draws many lessons from these scriptures. At a later time the word scripture was applied to the New Testament, and now "scriptures" means our Bible. The Jews were taught to study the scriptures from an early age. The regulation was that a child should begin to learn the law by heart when five years old. Paul says that these scriptures make men wise unto salvation, by which he may mean that they predict the coming of Christ, and prepare the way for the gospel to be preached. Jesus also had said that the scriptures testified of himself. But Paul is careful to add that it is not the mere reading that saves. The book is not a fetish. It is faith which is quickened by the reading of the Bible. The scriptures bring us to Christ who saves.

V. 16. These scriptures are here said to be inspired, that is, thep are filled with the spirit of God, and become the living oracles of God. See Acts 7: 38. We may compare the words of 2 Peter 1: 21, "Holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost." Paul is thus certain that the truths of the Old Testament are not mere human wisdom, but they are the expression of the mind and will of God. The church has always accepted this position for the New and Old alike. This passage has been summed up in the following words, "the Holy Scripture teaches the ignorant, convicts the evil and prejudiced, corrects the fallen and erring, and trains in righteousness all men."

V. 17. The study of the Bible brings such rich results, that if one has a well-disposed mind he will be so strengthened by these inspired words, that he will be made perfectly fit to undertake all kinds of Christian work.

The writing of history is now regarded as genteel employment for the man of comfortable means who has retired from business.—Philip Guedalla.

Typical Scene of the French Capital

PARIS SOUP KITCHEN OPENED FOR THE POOR

With the arrival of cold weather the line became long at this soup kitchen in the French capital.