

# Helpful hints for housewives from 1885

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Nor has the laundry been neglected by the writer who collected the hints. Monroe County housewives may have found mildew a problem during the inevitable rainy seasons. The *Progress* came to the rescue with the advice to soak the mildewed item in buttermilk and spread it on the grass in the sun — whenever it happened to shine again.

Mustard plasters were a popular remedy in the 1880s, but they had to be used with caution. Users, according to the *Progress*, could do so safely. "To prevent mustard plas-

ters from blistering, mix with the white of an egg."

Ashes were handy to have around, according to the *Progress* column. It advocated using a mixture of ashes, salt and water to mend a crack in the family stove. Ashes also came in handy for removing stains from teacups.

Perhaps one of the most exhausting tasks for housewives was doing the weekly ironing. (White collar workers were expected to appear at their place of employment in crisp, stiff shirts. So, to ease the burden of the household laundress, the *Progress* offered the following: "Starched shirts will iron easier if you let them dry after starching, so you will have to sprinkle before

ironing." Furthermore, the newspaper advised: "When clothes are scorched, remove the stain by placing the garment where the sun can shine on it." The item neglects to mention how long that would take.

Finally, if the frustrated new

Bloomington housewife was embarrassed about serving her husband tough meat, it was only because she didn't read the *Progress* carefully enough. Had she put some vinegar in the boiling water, it would have been tender.

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## Deaths

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### Thomas Woodhouse

NASHVILLE — Thomas A. Woodhouse, 83, of R. 1. Nineveh, died Friday evening in Bartholomew County Hospital in Columbus. Arrangements are pending at Bond-Mitchell Funeral Home in Nashville.

### Lucile Hart

HOUSTON, Texas — Lucile Hart, 82, of Houston, Texas, formerly of Worthington, died Thursday evening at her daughter's residence in Houston.

Born Sept. 2, 1903, in Lyons, she was the daughter of Richard and Marietta (Harwood) Wingate. She