

to dry can be shown, is quite sufficient drying apparatus. All that is wanted is a fairly large room with a stove on which water can be boiled, irons heated, and a large saucepan, which takes the place of a copper, can stand. There must be a constant supply of water at hand, and tables firm enough to iron upon."

The teaching is given in demonstration lessons, in which the practical work is done by the teacher only, alternating with practice lessons, in which the pupils themselves do the work. The following is described as a suitable syllabus for the course :—

1. *Demonstration Lesson*.—Rules for sorting and arranging the clothes in piles for washing; steeping soiled linen, &c.; washing and drying flannels and stockings; the use of water, soaps, and ammonia, and their different properties; washing and ironing muslin and lace; making boiled starch; arrangement of the ironing-table; folding and finishing stockings and flannels.

2 and 3. *Practice Lessons*.—Repetition of Lesson 1 by the class.

4. *Demonstration Lesson*.—Disinfecting clothes; removing stains from table-linen; washing table- and body-linen; rules for drying, ironing, and folding handkerchiefs; starching and ironing table-linen; paraffin washing.

5 and 6. *Practice Lessons*.—Repetition of Lesson 4 by the class.

7. *Demonstration Lesson*.—Folding and ironing body-linen; making cold starch; starching, ironing, and polishing collars and cuffs; washing silk and coloured muslins; use of gum and hot starch for silk.

8 and 9. *Practice Lessons*.—Repetition of Lesson 7 by the class.

10. *Demonstration Lesson*.—Folding, ironing, and polishing a shirt; getting-up neckties; goffering; washing real lace, chiffon, &c.

11 and 12. *Practice Lessons*.—Repetition of Lesson 10 by the class.

At each lesson the teacher should have the syllabus clearly written upon the blackboard; and at the demonstration lessons, while doing practical work, she would explain the various points, giving full and clear reasons for each process, and asking the class to take notes. As an instance, in a lesson on the washing of white clothing or linen, the blackboard might contain the following :—

Process of Washing Linen.—(1) Steeping in cold water, (2) rubbing in the steeping-water, (3) washing in hot water, (4) rinsing in warm water, (5) boiling, (6) rinsing in cold water, (7) blueing, (8) wringing, (9) drying, wrong side out.

These points the teacher would thoroughly explain. Thus the different processes would be taught, much useful information being given about the best soaps to be used, &c., the various ways of softening hard water, the arrangement of work so as to save time, labour, and fuel. Wherever it is possible girls should be asked to bring small articles of their own to wash at the practice-lessons, but no bed- or body-linen, and nothing from a house where infectious disease has existed until after the expiration of not less than six months.

Certificates.—The London Board authorise the award of a certificate and a copy of a laundry receipt-book to all girls who make twelve attendances, of which ten are red-mark (punctual) attendances, during a course of instruction in laundry-work.

Class-room and Appliances.—"Centres" consist of a stepped class-room about 46 ft. by 22 ft., containing accommodation for the children seated at desks; fourteen washtubs, four ironing-tables, an ironing-stove, a sand-box, sink, gas-copper, and an open fire-range with hood over to carry off the steam; and a cloak-room forming an entrance-lobby. A plan of the Goodrich Road Laundry Centre, London, is given, showing in full detail the arrangements. I would suggest a similar departmental contribution to the laundry-work as to the cookery centres. The following list of utensils is suggested by Miss Pearson for laundry centres :—

List of Utensils for Laundry Class (the English cost of which would be about £3).—Clothes-line (8 yards), clothes-horse, one kettle, one pair of goffering-tongs, three soap-trays, three iron table-spoons, one knife, four cups, one water-can, one shirt-board, two towels, two dusters, six iron-holders, large saucepan in lieu of copper, small saucepan (2 pints), fourteen irons, three polishing-irons, six iron-stands, three teaspoons, seven large (unbreakable) basins or seven iron tubs, seven small basins, box for small things with partitions, 8 yards felt, 8 yards thin white calico, one clothes-bag, one boiler-stick, and clothes-pegs.

Housewifery.

Several centres have now been established under the London School Board in this important subject, and at the Friern Street School I found the girls actively engaged in various household occupations in a special set of rooms arranged to meet the requirements of the subject. At Alma Road a two-roomed cottage at the school entrance is utilised for this purpose. At both these centres cookery, laundry-work, and housewifery are in complete working order. In no instance may housewifery be taken as a school subject unless practical teaching in cookery and laundry-work has been taken or is being taken by the girls. Not more than fourteen girls may receive instruction at one time. The classes are held at the centres continuously, as in the case of cookery and laundry, the course being twenty-two lessons, covering a period of six months. Examinations are held at the completion of each course, and certificates awarded.

From inquiries made at the times of my visits, and from observations of class and other work in progress, I should certainly strongly recommend housewifery classes being established in conjunction with cookery and laundry-work at the various centres established for primary schools. General satisfaction has been expressed with the success of the London centres. Several others are about to be established. For general information the syllabus is attached :—

First Stage.—Every Day's Work.

Lesson I.—(1) Guiding principles to insure health and happiness; (2) selection of a house—drainage, sanitation; (3) hints on the furnishing of the home.