

use soap, as soap sets the stain. Let stand several hours, then apply a few drops of vinegar or oxalic acid, allow to remain for a minute or two, then rinse thoroughly in water.

Boiling water.—Boiling water removes from cotton and linen most fruit stains except peach, pear, plum, and cherry. Never use boiling water on silk or wool. Stretch the stained part over a bowl, fasten it with string, and pour boiling water on it from a teakettle held at a height of 3 or 4 feet so that the water strikes the stain with force. Rubbing alternated with the boiling water is also helpful. If a stain remains, squeeze a little lemon juice on it and place in the sun to dry, or use one of the chemical bleaches.

Bleaches.—If a stain remains, try one of the following:

Hydrogen peroxide and sodium perborate.—Sponge with hydrogen peroxide-sodium perborate mixture (1 teaspoon sodium perborate to 1 pint peroxide). Rinse thoroughly. If the stain persists, sprinkle powdered sodium perborate on the dampened area and let stand for half an hour. Finally rinse well. Always test for change of color on the inside of a hem or seam before using these bleaches. If the color fades, do not use them—just dampen the stain with water and spread in the sun to bleach.

Hydrosulfite.—Hydrosulfites available at drug stores as dye removers are satisfactory for removing fruit stains from any white material. Follow directions on package.

Javelle water.—For stains on uncolored linen or cotton material, dip in Javelle water for 1 minute (no longer), remove the chlorine from the cloth with a sodium thiosulfate solution, rinse well in water. (See p. 6 for more detailed instructions.) Do not use Javelle water on silk or wool.

Glue and Mucilage

Water.—If the material is washable, soak the spot in warm water, or if it is a stubborn stain you may have to boil it. If the stain is known to be casein glue, soak it in cold water.

Acetic acid.—For nonwashable materials, sponge the spot with water, then with acetic acid (10-percent solution) or white vinegar. Rinse well.

Grass and Other Fresh Garden Foliage

Hot water and soap.—If the material is washable, use hot water and soap, rubbing the stain well. If this does not completely remove the stain, use a bleach.

Bleaches.—Try one of the following:

Javelle water.—For stains on uncolored linen, cotton, or rayon, dip in Javelle water for 1 minute (no longer), remove the chlorine from the cloth with a sodium thiosulfate solution, rinse well in water. (See p. 6 for more detailed instructions.) Do not use Javelle water to remove stains from silk or wool.

Hydrogen peroxide and sodium perborate.—Sponge with clear water and then with a solution of 1 teaspoon sodium perborate to 1 pint hydrogen peroxide. If the stain still shows, sprinkle powdered sodium perborate on the stain and let stand half an hour. Rinse well with clear water. Always test for change of color on a sample of the cloth before using these bleaches.

Hydrosulfite.—Hydrosulfites available at drug stores as dye removers are satisfactory in removing grass stains from any white materials. Follow directions on the package.

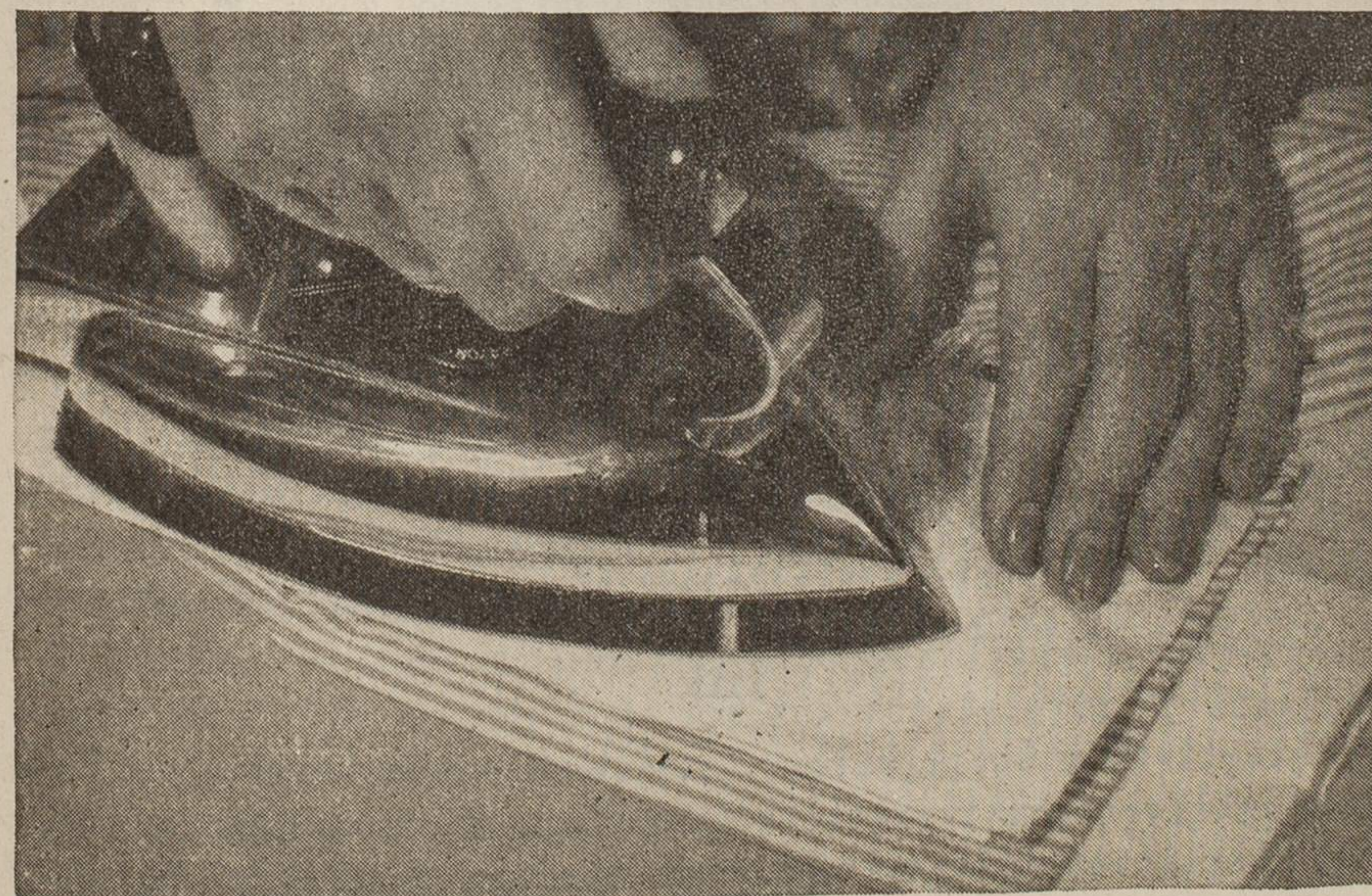
Benzene or denatured alcohol.—On materials that soap and water might injure, sponge the stains with benzene or alcohol. Test them first to be sure they do not change the color of the material. Do not use alcohol on acetate rayon or vinyon unless you dilute it—1 cup denatured alcohol with 2 cups water.

Grease and Oils

Fresh grease spots usually are the pure fat or oil. Old grease spots or stains from automobile, wheel, or machine greases usually contain also more or less dust, dirt, or fine bits of metal. (For road oil and axle grease, see p. 27.) First scrape or wipe off as much of the grease as possible; then treat the stain by one of the following methods:

Soap and water.—If the material is washable, wash in warm sudsy water. Be sure to use plenty of soap on the stained part and rub well between the hands. The soaplike washing agents (soapless shampoos, oils, and lathers) are good to soften grease stains.

Absorbents.—Use cornstarch, French chalk, or white talcum powder for fine materials; corn meal or salt for carpets, rugs, and other coarse materials.



Place a grease or oil stain between paper towels or cleansing tissues and press with a warm iron.