

## **Laundry Was Monday**

Thursday night was bath night,  
Sunday night you soaked the washing,  
laundry was Monday.  
We used the same tub...a big tin washtub.  
Start in the morning and go the whole day.  
Had to heat the water in a bronze boiler.  
We had a backhouse.  
If you had a shed out back, you used that.  
How you used it!  
Scrub board – I still have one hanging up in my kitchen.  
Sunlight wash soap.  
Sunday night you soaked the washing.  
First put the clothes in water to soak, get the dirt off.  
Remember the wringers?  
We had to turn the handle.  
My sister caught her fingers in the mangle –  
scared the life out of us.  
Used the flatiron next day, or at night if you had time.  
Those were the days – we had to do it, and that was it!  
Just get down to work.  
Everything stopped for that.  
Just picture, if you washed something,  
used to be so damp in the house from all the clothing hanging up.  
Sock stretchers – needed them for my boys.  
I'd wash a couple of pairs at a time.  
Glove stretchers for cotton gloves.  
I wore them in the summer, with a crocheted tam.  
Hang them up on the stretchers on the line –  
they'd iron themselves that way!  
Later I had a Caulfield washer.  
Thought it was pretty smart too!  
Laundry was Monday.  
I liked washing.