



**Ladies,
Have
You
Heard?**



Doris Thomas

**Selecting Used
Furniture**

If buying new furniture or replacing worn or damaged pieces doesn't fit into your budget, you may be able to find a bargain in used pieces.

You can often find many good old pieces at garage sales, auctions, Good Will and Salvation Army stores, and used furniture stores. But to get a bargain, you need to check the furniture carefully to see that it's sturdy and well constructed.

To check the quality of a chest, take out one or two of the drawers and look at the inside corners. Wood corner posts are a sign of good quality. Put your hands firmly on the top of the chest and try to twist or shake it. A good frame will not give or creak, but will stay firm and straight.

While you have the drawers out, examine them to see that the sides and bottom are good. Center guides, the grooved wood stripes going from front to back across the underside centers of drawers, add to the strength of a chest and help keep the drawers from jamming. Very old pieces of furniture will not have center guided drawers since they are a comparatively recent structure feature. Wood panels fitted into the frame between drawers are called dust panels which give added strength as well as protection against dust.

Now, put all the drawers in place and step back a few feet to see if they fit squarely in the openings. If a drawer sags at one side it may need repairs. Check to see if it is a repair you can make yourself.

Look carefully at the legs of tables, chairs, chests and desks—especially if the legs are small. Turn chairs and small tables upside down and notice how the legs are attached. Look for wood or metal braces where the legs are fastened at the top since these give strength to the furniture. Rungs, or stretchers, also give strong support to table and chair legs. If they are broken or loose, decide if you can fix them.

Use the same good judgment in choosing used upholstered furniture. Check the underside to see that the frame and springs are sound. Sit on the chair or sofa to discover if it is comfortable and substantial. Look carefully at the cushions and the back. Lumpy cushions can easily be replaced. But if the back is bumpy and uneven, the fabric will have to be loosened and the springs and padding reworked. Again, can you make the repairs or will you

have to pay for it be done? Look carefully at the shape and find out if you can buy slipcovers to fit. Or better, make your own professional looking slipcovers. Bright, well-fitted slipcovers can add years to the life of upholstered furniture.

In general, beware of furniture with loose joints, and wobbly legs. It may not be a bargain. Repair cost can make a used piece of furniture much too expensive. However, if you can make the repairs yourself, you only have to consider the initial cost. The piece may become something quite special and fill a gap in your furnishings needs.

School Fashions

Children's clothes for fall 1972 are in the classic design and made in washable, no-iron fabrics. These styles are particularly good news for mothers buying school clothes.

Young people today, even the very young, are fashion conscious. And while their choices have often clashed with those of their parents, this fall there seems to be a meeting of the minds on what goes in the fashion scene. The classics tidy up the helter skelter of recent seasons and all ages like the direction. But some young people will still want to make their own interpretations of fall fashions.

Fall fashions have a casual look with plaids a major element and fabric textures important, particularly brushed effects that give depth and richness. And the use of fabric softener when laundering will help maintain

that fresh-from-the-store softness.

In the girls department, knit dresses, cuffed pants, stretch body suits, pleated or flared skirts, tops and sweaters, including twin sweater sets, provide endless possibilities for the layered look. Skirts are mostly knee length or to the floor with a generous sprinkling of culotte style shorties. Pants feature turned-up cuffs, flares and modified bell bottoms.

Needle Arts

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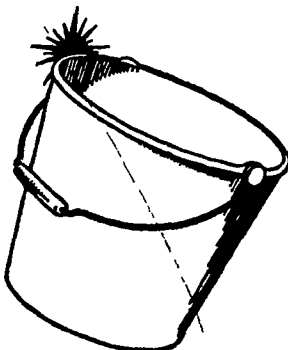
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For boys, jean styling is still the top favorite—but fabrics and special treatments range far and wide with corduroy and denim. Knits and stretch wovens are also becoming more popular because they are sleek, allow body movement, comfort and they snap back to shape after laundering. Often, pants are solid to complement the highly patterned shirt. The knit sport shirt comes in classic, long-sleeved, front-buttoned collar models. In cotton, polyester and blends, patterns include geometrics, animal motifs and leaf prints. Denim work shirts, westerns and lumberjack plaids appeal to boys.

It's back to school in color, comfort, casualness and easy-care clothing. Shop carefully for the most mix-ability and machine wash-and-dry-ability.

The Old Timer



"Some stretch pants have no other choice."

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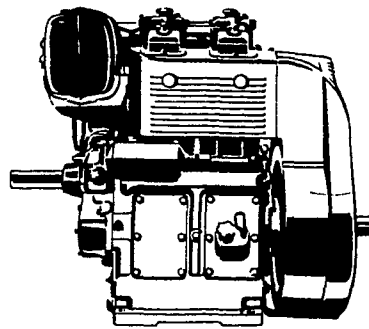
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