

Gifts for the Seamstress

Sewing items make good gifts for the woman who sews. There are many suggestions in shops which sell fabric supplies. Some are useful—others less so. Many sewing gadgets are designed to catch the eye of someone who probably doesn't sew. If the seamstress has an opportunity to choose, she might select a more practical item. If you have a preference for sewing items, pass along a few

hints. It's better than returning the item later. Good dressmaking shears are expensive but essential. If your shears need to be replaced or you want new ones, they make an excellent gift. Gift sets of shears for all purposes are available, too. Electric scissors had a wave of popularity for awhile. However, unless you do a great deal of cutting, you may find that ordinary shears are just as useful.

How about a very special thimble? So many people collect thimbles anymore that there is a wide variety available and at a wide price range. A very special gift of a gold or silver thimble is a lifetime treasure as well as a financial investment. Fancy sewing boxes abound at gift-giving time. Many of these are odd shapes that are difficult to store. Be sure the box is big enough to hold the most used supplies. A handle helps you carry it with you. A sewing hassock is another possibility for storing your sewing supplies.

There are so many sewing books for sale anymore that it may be difficult to make a choice. Your best buys are those prepared by pattern companies. They may not have as many fancy pictures but the information is basic and accurate.

Sewing items that are most useful may not always be the most eye catching. Good dressmaker pins are always needed—and somewhat expensive today. A good tape measure, accurate and sturdy, is another essential. Buy one with both metric and standard measurements so you can get used to the metric system.

A folding cutting board is most useful if cutting space is a problem. Good pressing equipment is absolutely essential and rather expensive to buy. Some manufacturers are making complete sets of pressing hams, seam boards and small press boards which should make a welcome gift.

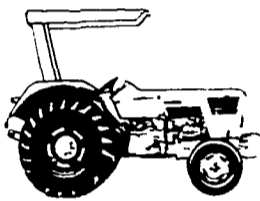
So, if Santa is in a quandry about some last-minute gifts for the seamstress of the house, suggest that he might have a look in a fabric shop or notion department.

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Gerald Metzler (right) of Christiana, Penna. is greeted in Washington, D.C. by National FFA Officers Gerrit DeBruin and Alpha Trivette on his return from a six month work experience program in Switzerland. Metzler was one of 7 FFA members who returned to the United States this week after spending six months living and working on European farms as participants in the FFA Work Experience Abroad program. After a day long evaluation meeting in Washington Metzler returned to the home of his parents Mr. & Mrs. J.

Robert Metzler. Throughout the summer Metzler made a number of slides illustrating his experience program. He will be available to recount his experiences to community groups and organizations during the coming year.

The national FFA officers in the photo are Gerrit BeBruin, National Vice President of the Central Region from Monroe, Wisconsin and National President Alpha Trivette of Ladysmith, Virginia. Both were elected at the recent National FFA Convention in Kansas City, Missouri.

Cartoon Claus

Santa Claus's conventional fat, jolly, red, fur-trimmed image was originally conceived by American cartoonist Thomas Nast in 1863. It has since captured the world's imagination.

Christmas Island

Captain Cook discovered the Western Pacific's Christmas Island in 1777. It was annexed by Britain in 1898. The British first used the island for H-Bomb tests in 1957. American nuclear tests have since been conducted there.

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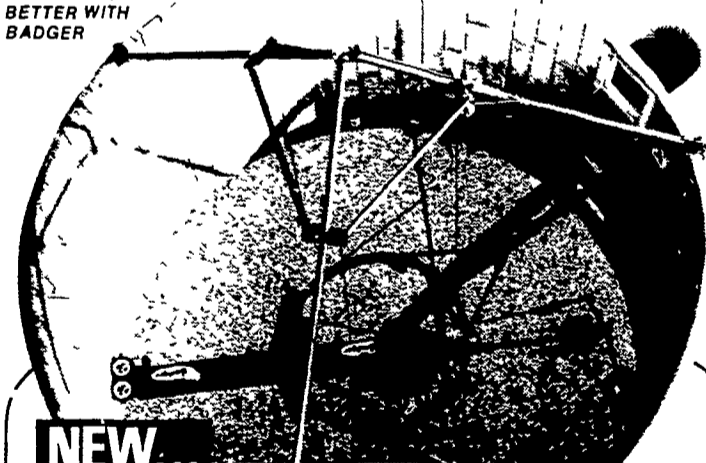
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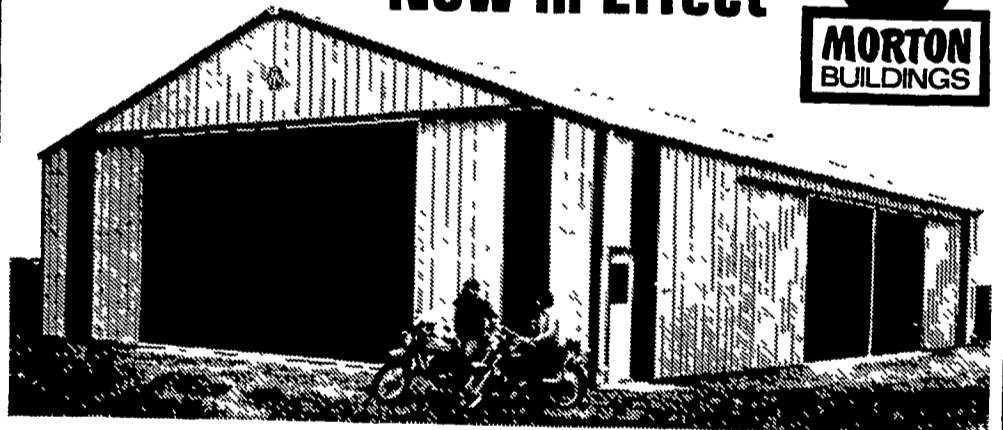
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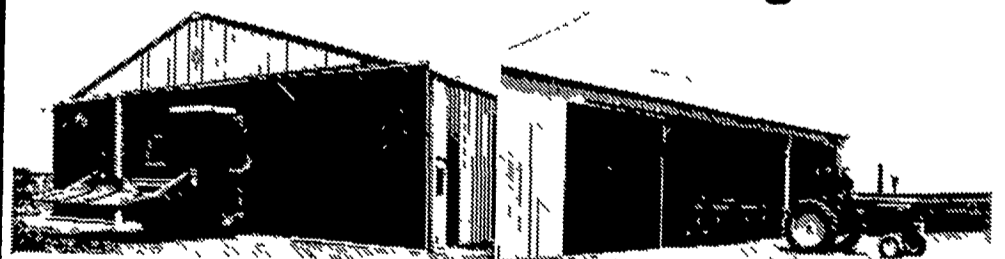
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