On being a farm wife - and other hazards



By Joyce Bupp

For years, I have promised myself to use up some of the fabric odds and ends flying around the house in storage boxes before the accumulation takes over the

Leader needed for 4-H club

SHREWSBURY, Pa. - The Shrewsbury 4-H Clubs are looking for an area adult who is interested in serving as a leader for the summer canning project. The project would cover a period of about six weeks, and would incorporate the use of fruits and vegetables in abundance during July and August.

Potential leaders are asked to contact Mrs. Preston Gantz, Glen Rock R1, by calling 235-3095 or Mrs. Margaret Shaub, Shrewsbury, 235-3309.

place. An inventory recently indicated that most of the leftovers were too small to make into clothing - but much too big and "valuable" to just throw away. So the kids and I set up the

ping-pong table in the basement and began piecing and pinning the assorted scraps into bed - size crazy quilts. Because some of the pieces are fairly large, the quilt progresses rapidly and we could complete one in just a few hours.

I was sewing the latest creation together the other day when I mentioned to Patty that farm women in the past sometimes used feedbags to make quilts.

"What's a feedbag?" she asked, eyes widening.

Launching into a 10-minute explanation, I told her how animal feed was once delivered in bags made of colorful, printed cotton fabric. Then the thrifty housewives opened the bags, washed them and created aprons, tablecloths, pillowcases, etc.

"I can remember your Grandma making me snirts from them when I was a little boy," added her dad. "Mostly, very fine textured chicken feed was what the bags held."

material pieces my mother had given me several months ago-feedbag material stored a long time in her closet and now transferred into ours. After digging them out, we showed the youngsters how the bags had been constructed and where the fastening strings could be pulled out to open the yardage into a flat piece. Patty had seemed very interested in the entire discussion; suddenly she looked at me with a "so what?" expression on her face. Then turning to leave, she announced: "And that's how it was, folks, 200 years ago today."

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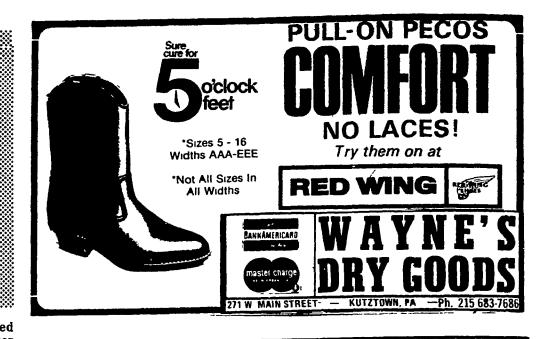
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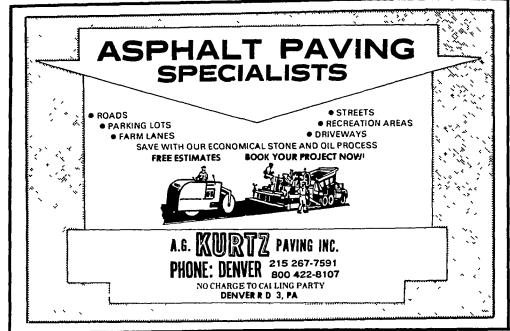
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