

Ladies Have You Heard?

By Doris Thomas

Lancaster Home Economist



CORRECT FREEZING METHODS CAN PRESERVE MEAT FLAVOR QUALITY

Freezing preserves the natural fresh qualities of meat better than any other method of preservation.

Although freezing may tenderize meat slightly, it will not make tough meat tender.

If you cut your own meats, remember that equipment for handling meat products should be as free of seams and cracks as possible and should be scrubbed in hot water with a good detergent and sanitized after each use.

Many families 'prefer' to select cuts of their choice from the market and freeze these at home. All store-packaged fresh meats should be repackaged in freezer materials at home, since "butcher paper" usually is not moisture-vapor proof and contains air pockets.

Recommended storage time in the freezer for roasts, rolled roasts, steaks, chops, stew meat and frying meat is eight to 12 months. Store ground meat for three to four months, and liver no longer than three months.

Use only good quality meat for the best results in the freezer. Cut them as for cooking, removing as much bone and other waste as possible, and package them in family-size servings. Keep meat cold while it is being cut and wrapped. Large pieces should be wrapped individually in freezer foil, film or paper. Steaks or chops should be wrapped the same way except a double layer moisture-vapor-proof material should be placed between each piece of meat to make separation for cooking easier. Ground meat should be packaged in family-size servings and wrapped as large pieces. Ground meat has a shorter

shelf life in the freezer. For short storage periods, the cuts may be frozen in plastic freezer bags.

CHECK PROPERTY VALUE BEFORE BUYING A HOME

Before buying a home, decide how much to spend. One guide on buying is to invest not more than two to two and one-half times your gross annual income, with taxes as they are. A second guide is to select a home and a mortgage plan so that your monthly expenditures for housing-mortgage principle and interest, taxes, sewer rental, etc. - do not exceed one week's take-home pay. Count on a wife's income only if her plans to continue working are firm and definite. If a mortgage must be set up for more than 25 years to permit you to stay within your budget, the house might be too expensive for your income.

Though you might think

you are buying a house to keep for the rest of your life, buy one that is re-salable. Avoid buying a house with faddish architecture, a house priced too much above or below surrounding houses, or one with an odd floor plan. A three bedroom house will be more salable than a one or two bedroom house. Naturally a basement, modernized kitchen and a second bath add to resale value.

Think ahead before buying property. Check at city and county offices for information on school bonds, taxes, water, sewer and garbage assessments, and urban renewal plans. Find out about highway construction, zoning, flood probability, surrounding land values, and business growth. All might influence the future value of your property.

Oil to affect Clothing Prices

As the price of petroleum oil continues to rise, so will the prices of everything made from petroleum-based chemicals, including clothing.

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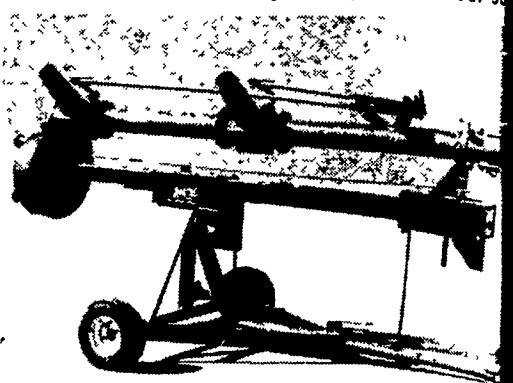
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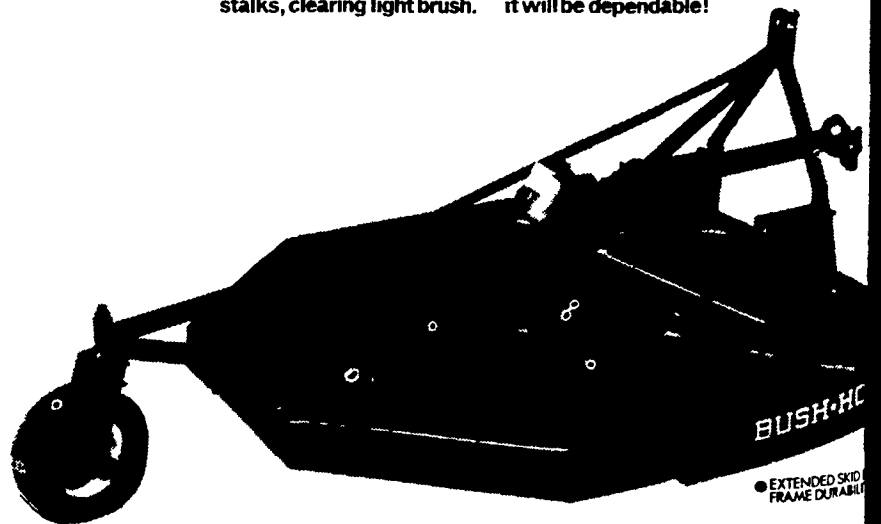
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