

Lancaster Farming, Saturday, March 12, 1983---85



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West

York

Guard Against Garage Sale Goofs Spring is coming and so is the time to move the car out and move the old clothes and other goods in. It's garage sale time. Garage and yard sales can be wonderful ways to stretch the clothing budget, but they must be approached carefully to be truly economical.

The first step to successful buying at these sales is to plan before you even leave the house. Measure yourself and the clothing you have that fits well. Carry these measurements and a tape measure along with you to the sale so you'll be able to check fit accurately. Also, make a list of what everyone in the family needs - then stick to that list. Impulse buying, even when buying bargains, is uneconomical if nobody needs or wants the bargain.

When you find an article of clothing you need, ask yourself some questions before you buy: Will you be able to wear it

with something else? - Is it expensive to clean and

take care of? Check the care instructions.

- Does the garment show signs of wear? If it's too worn, it may not be worth the money.

- Are the fibers of the cloth worn at the knees, elbows, crotch. cuffs, collars or hem folds?

- Are there ripped or pulled out seams or other tears?

- Are there stains? Check especially under the arms.

- If the garment is a sweater or furry garment, is it pilled or matted?

- Are there burn holes in the fabric or holes in the pockets?



MAKITA

Ladies Have You **Heard?**

By Doris Thomas

Lancaster Extension Home Economist

- Are there ripped buttonholes, alterations that might cause strain on the fabric, worn linings or collars and lapels that stick up? - Are the plaids unmatched, hems visible, or zippers not flat or hard to work?

When buying footwear at garage sales, be careful. Shoes and boots usually shape themselves to one owner's foot and may not fit another's. Try them on.

If you buy a garment that needs altering, make sure the time you spend altering is worth it. Sewing on buttons, hemming a skirt or repairing a seam usually doesn't take a lot of effort. But if the garment does not fit quite right and major alterations to the shoulders or bust line must be done, the effort could be too great. Replacing zippers may also cause problems.

Careful planning and shopping at garage sales can make the experience a happy and economical one

Be A Sensible Consumer

Concerned about food prices - if so become a sensible shopper.

One way to be a sensible shopper is to compare the prices of store brands or generic brands of products with those of name brands. Often smart shoppers will find that the generic or store brands cost less.

Sensible consumers also shop only for what they need. They follow their shopping lists made up from planned menus adjusting for store specials and do not buy on impluse. They compare products they have coupons for with those that they don't to see if the coupons are really saving them money.

Being a sensible consumer also means buying foods correctly. For fruits and vegetables, a sensbile consumer compares the different forms to see which is cheaper fresh, canned or frozen. Often when the fruit or vegetable is in season and the supplies are good, the fresh form is the best buy. Certain vegetables like onions. carrots and potatoes are available fresh year round.

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