

## Have You Heard?

By Doris Thomas Lancaster Extension **Home Economist** 

**Caring For Clothes** 

You don't need to see the latest Consumer Price Index to know the cost of new clothes is going up. Even buying a pair of jeans today can strain the budget!

And, because new clothes are getting more expensive all the time, it's more important than ever to get the most wear possible from old favorites. Here are some tips on caring for clothing that can save you money.

When staining occurs, it's important to treat the problem as quickly as you can - immediately, if possible. It's helpful, too, if you know what caused the stain.

As a general rule of thumb, all protein based stains should be washed in cold water. Those include blood, urine, egg, milk,

mayonnaise, gravy, meat juices, baby formula, cream and ice cream. Chocolate, fruit, wine and soft drinks also need cool waster.

Don't be misled into thinking there is no stain if nothing shows once the material has dried prior to any stain treatment. Some soft drinks and fruit stains, including citrus, become invisible when dry but turn yellow with aging or heating.

Ballpoint ink is another common, and tricky problem. Washing removes some types of ink and sets others. Cooking oils and grease splattered on polyester and then laundered can label a new blouse 'old" in just one wearing.

Perspiration stains are another familiar factor in making good clothes look old fast. If perspiration has changed the color of the fabric, you can try to restore it, after washing, as follows: for fresh stains, apply ammonia; for old stains, apply vinegar. Rinse with Lancaster Farming, Saturday, November 1, 1986-89

water.

A few other points to remember. Black coffee stains are treated with hot water; if you like cream with your morning eye-opener, use a cold wash.

Finally, don't daydream about how good you'll look in your old wardrobe while you're touching up those "re-newed" stain-free garments on the ironing board. Severe scorch does not come out.

**Lighten Your Load** 

If you are the "average homemaker," the experts say, you do 6.3 washer loads a week! Of course, you may be doing less, or much more. Those same timemotion-study experts say you spend almost 30 percent of your total household-chore time doing laundry. No wonder it's so high on the most-hated list. Not only is it such an incessant chore, but you don't simply launder when you do

the laundry. You have to gather it, carry it, sort it, pretreat it, wash it. soften it, dry it, fold or hang it, iron it. and put it away.

I want to share the following time-saving laundry tips with you to cut down on laundry time and make the whole process a lot easier!

Buying new bed sheets? Pick a different color or pattern for each size bed, so sorting after laundering will be faster.

Wash dark things inside out, to keep right side from collecting lint.

Prevent tangling by buttoning shirt and blouse sleeves to front buttons.

Close zippers to protect them; fasten hooks to prevent snagging on clothes.

Brush lint from pockets and cuffs before laundering, to prevent it from getting on other wash.

Bulky items like blankets and bedspreads should be washed alone for best results.

Wash knits inside out to protect against snags.

Spray clean sneakers lightly with starch; it protects them from

Save a wash by using your dryer to fluff and remove dust from shag rugs, sofa pillows, draperies and bedspreads, but hang or spread them immediately to avoid wrinkles.

Read labels and instructions, to be sure you are using the right amount of detergent; amounts can vary based on strength of formula, size of wash load, amount of soil and hardness of water.

## Elizabethtown

Elizabethtown Area Grange 2076 recently hosted Pomona Grange with a White Elephant Sale. Proceeds from the sale went to Pomona.

About 50 friends and grange members participated in the event. Ronald Shaffer and Ken Myer were auctioneers.

Three members were accepted at the last meeting - Leroy and Arlene Fackler of Hershey, and Richard Blough of Mt. Joy. Richard is 17 years old and is the Grange's first pianist/accompanist.

Dougherty Robert Susquehanna Fur Farm invited the Grange to visit his farm. The group is making plans to see the local fox farm.

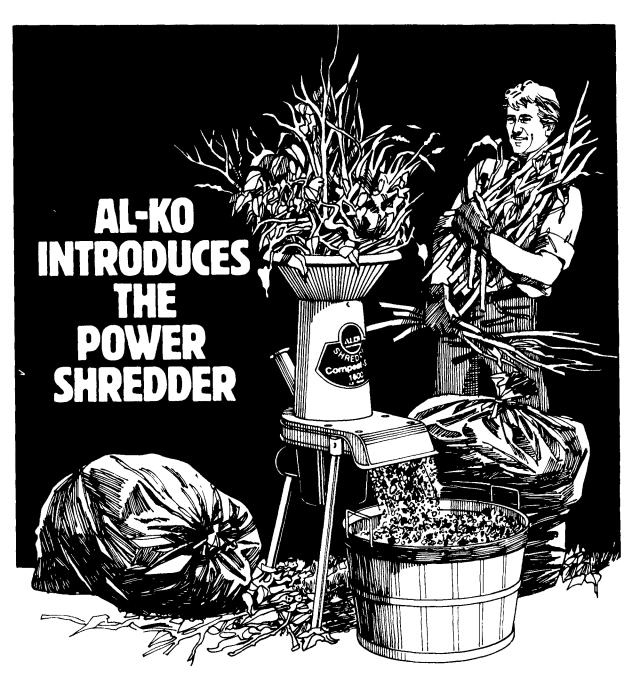
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