

WOMAN'S WORLD

Study Basic Needs Before Buying Linens

By Ertta Haley

BRIDES and their only ones who will be putting in a stock of household linens. Homemakers who have been keeping house for five to ten years may well find that their stocks need replenishing.

Buying linens these days needs thought, care, study and some background of knowledge. As in anything, you do not buy by price alone. You do not even buy by size alone. You must know something about such things as thread count, sizing, absorbency, machine stitches per inch, and all sorts of things which you may never have considered.

Before considering these aspects of buying, check your supplies against what is deemed a minimum practical wardrobe for each bed. This includes six sheets, three pillowcases, per pillow, two mattress pads, one winter bedspread, one summer bedspread, one summer blanket and winter blankets according to the climate.

Good Linens Contribute To Well Being

If you've ever slept on a bed in which the sheet barely covered the surface, you'll know the importance of intelligent selection. Sheets not only protect the mattress, but they contribute to comfort and well-being.

Although spoken of as linens, few women have sheets of actual linen. Cotton is used most frequently because it wears and launders well and absorbs moisture readily.



Read labels carefully . . .

It's estimated that good cotton sheets will wear through several hundred launderings. Whether the sheet is muslin or percale is not the question, since each has different weights and qualities.

Most women choose good quality percale for their "best"; for everyday wear, a good quality muslin is the accepted buy.

Consult Labels When Buying Sheet

There's important information on labels for women who want the most value when buying sheets and pillowcases. Generally speaking, the higher the thread count, the higher the quality and price of the sheet.

Threads per square inch means the total number of threads lengthwise and crosswise. You'll find some sheets rated at 180, and some low as 112.

Weight of the sheet, usually given in ounces per square yard,

Simple Styling



There's new interest in the cream and natural shades and a St. Louis designer catches it in this impeccably tailored suit dress as simply styled as a man's suit. Stitching at the pocket edges and on the revers are the only dressmaker details on the suit. Self-covered buttons and slanted pockets, as well as the slim skirt, are of high fashion importance.

is important but the sheet should not be judged by weight alone. If



To buy linens intelligently.

the yarn count is low and weight high, note the amount of sizing. If

it is 10 per cent or more, you have a poor quality sheet.

The breaking strength of a sheet will tell you how long the sheet will wear. When the count is low the wear is less than when the count is high.

Select a sheet of the proper size for the bed. A standard double bed requires a sheet 81 by 108 inches in size. It should not be less than 42 inches long to satisfactorily cover the bed.

Single beds require a 65-inch wide sheet while three-quarter beds need a 72-inch width.

Look for adequate hems on sheets as well as pillowcases to give best wear.

White has been the generally accepted color for sheets for a long time. However, luscious pastels are now obtainable, if you want them. The colored sheets with matching cases are usually available only in the higher priced muslins and percales.

KATHLEEN NORRIS

Mother Still Gets Her Way

IF EVERY MAN were a mind reader what a fix we wives and mothers would be in, most of the time.

How little they know, as we nod and agree and concede and fix things generally, of what is going on inside of us. How little they know of the opinions and adjustments that even the simplest domestic arrangements involve.

"By the way," says the man of the house, "I asked the Fosters to come in Thursday night. Since you're having a waitress I don't suppose 10 is any more than eight to handle?"

What the wife says is, "Oh, nice, dear."

What she thinks is: "Great heavens. Ten guests for dinner—Minnie can barely get around to four. Only nine of the tulip dolies and napkins, I'll have to use the horrible old yellow ones. Almost all the yellow glasses are broken. I suppose the leg of lamb will be enough—everything seemed right for just Joe and Ellen and the Whites and the Greens and ourselves. But with that horrible Nancy Foster and her big diamond—oh, dear. And then the bridge game; I'm so tired I wanted just to sit restfully playing cards tomorrow night. Ten—you can't do anything with ten. If I just use our garden marigolds, Jim may not think it's smart enough for the Fosters. Oh, aren't husbands stupid—stupid—stupid."

Unexpected Excursions
All that is behind her pleasant, "Oh, nice, dear."
Or perhaps her husband comes in on a Saturday morning to say: "Great break, Mollie. Dawson's old grandmother died this morning and the office is closed for the day. How's about a picnic, hey, kids? I'll get the car ready and you throw some lunch together."

These are the very common places of a good marriage. May they always be. The day all married men become mind readers will be a dark day in the holy state of matrimony.

After a few sweet considerations like this, Bob senior is very apt to break in with "I think you're right, dear. We'll do it later and make it more formal. I've not asked him yet, so just forget the whole thing." So father arrives at this kindly conviction without ever realizing exactly how he got there. He's happy. Mother is happier.

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Be Smart!



New button effects as well as interesting color combinations are being featured on summer shorts. One of the unusual new ideas uses buttons in the back, such as the double row in the design sketched here. One of the very smart color effects is the black jersey for the tops, combined with another color such as blue checks at the left, with white or solid color.

SEWING CIRCLE PATTERNS

Princess Lines Are Flattering Sundress - Bolero for Matrons



Youthful Style

A YOUTHFUL yoked style for a day-long charm—and it's so simple to sew! The comfortable top buttons on each shoulder, slim princess lines accent a lovely figure.

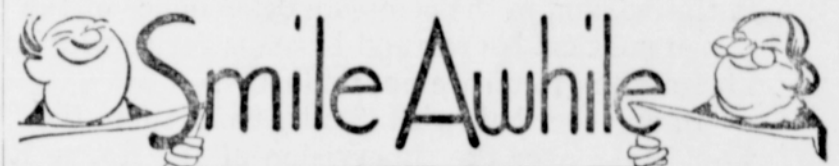
Pattern No. 8441 comes in sizes 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 40 and 42. Size 14, 4 1/4 yards of 39-inch.

The Spring and Summer FASHION will prove a dependable guide in planning a versatile summer wardrobe. Free pattern printed inside the book, 25 cents.

DESIGNED especially for the slightly larger figure is this lovely twosome for summer wear. The neat sun dress is trimmed with crisp white which also finishes the brief jacket.

Pattern No. 8441 is for sizes 36, 38, 40, 42, 44, 46, 48, 50 and 52. Size 38, dress, 3 1/2 yards of 39-inch; bolero, 1 1/2 yards; 1/2 yard contrast.

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\$1,530,942.52 was the figure that Mr. DeKwickrich estimated as his fortune. He had come by it through many years of industrious

Marriage, Divorce Rates Show Noticeable Decline

Throughout the civilized world in 1948, there was a noticeable decline in marriage and divorce rates.

With improved economic conditions, there were indications in 1948 that family life was slowly returning to normalcy.

Many countries, notably England, Finland, Japan, Poland, and Sweden, instituted or broadened provisions designed to make family life more secure.

In the United States, about 1,800,000 marriages were performed, a decrease of 10 per cent from the provisional total of 1,992,354 in 1947, and a drop of more than 20 per cent from the final figure of 2,291,045 in 1946.

The rate of divorce was approaching the pre-war trend, with the number of divorces believed not to exceed 420,000—a decrease of 10 per cent from 1947, and a 30 per cent decrease from 1946.

Certain notable efforts to improve family life were made in the United States in 1948, according to the article. The National Conference on Family Life, authorized by President Truman, convened at the White House in May to explore the factual background of U. S. families, dynamics of family interaction, economic welfare, and related topics.

Institutes on family relations were held at the universities of California, Chicago, Indiana, and Southern California, and the American Institute of Family Relations sponsored workshops at several colleges. The University of Florida extension division conducted seven regional family life institutes.

labor and now was enjoying the fruits of his uphill struggle. He and his wife traveled all over the world and stayed at the finest hotels. There was always one thing he insisted upon at those hotels and that was a swimming pool. His wife was an excellent swimmer and enjoyed her morning dip.

One morning a lackey rushed up to Mr. DeKwickrich to inform him that his wife had had an accident in the pool and had nearly drowned.

"They are applying artificial respiration now," the attendant assured him, "and the doctor thinks she will come around all right."

Mr. DeKwickrich seemed somewhat put out.

"You run back there," he said, "and tell them I can afford the real thing. Artificial respiration, indeed!"

Planning for the Future?

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'Bum' Is No Slander to Tenant

By Will Bernard, LL.B.

Is it Slander to Call A Man a "Bum"

An apartment house tenant had a strong dislike for several of the other occupants. As time went by, all of them moved out except one. When he met this last holdout in the back yard one day, the tenant exclaimed: "You are the last of



the bum tenants in this building!" The other man sued for damages, saying that he had been slandered by being described as a "bum." However, the court denied his claim. The judge said that, so long as no tangible harm was done, the word "bum" wasn't such a serious accusation after all!

May All Children be Forced To Go to Public Schools?

A state law was passed requiring all students between the ages of 8 and 16 to attend public schools. A private school promptly filed a test case, claiming that such a law was unconstitutional. The state officials explained that they wished to give the same kind of education to all children. However, the court held the law unconstitutional, violating "the liberty of parents to direct the upbringing and education of their children." The judge said the state had no power "to standardize its children by forcing them to accept instruction from public school teachers only."

If a Cat Kills a Canary, Must The Cat's Owner Pay Damages?

A woman's cat took a strong dislike to a singing canary, kept in the parlor of the house next door. One evening the cat slipped into the neighbor's house, stole into the parlor, and silenced the canary forever. The neighbor sued the woman for damages, claiming that she must pay for the evil deed done by her pet. However, the court ruled that the woman was not responsible. The judge pointed out that this was an ordinary, peaceful cat, with no special tendency to be vicious. He added that a cat's owner should not be blamed just because the animal occasionally may revert to his "wild nature."

After a Convict Serves His Sentence, May He be Forced to Leave the Vicinity?

A convicted criminal served his term in the state penitentiary and was duly discharged. He soon found a job in a gas station near the prison. One day, he was arrested again. It seems there was a state law requiring discharged convicts to leave the county within 24 hours after their release.



However, at the trial, the court held the law unconstitutional and ordered the man freed. The judge said it was unfair to impose this additional restraint on a man "after he has paid his debt to society."



How's about a picnic, kids?

In which case Mother's "Oh, wonderful!" covers an interior monologue something like this: "Oh, for pity's sake. Last Saturday when we were all ready to go to the beach you thought a thunder storm was coming on and cancelled the whole thing at 11 o'clock. Now when I've got Annie here and was going to take down those dining-room curtains, and my one-bowl cake is in the oven and Shirley's shorts are in the wash, and I promised to sit for two hours this afternoon with Aunt Mattie, and Bob has just asked to go off with Billy Smith for the day and Mrs. Holden is coming at three to help Sally with her French—oh, what are men made of, anyway! Now there he is, out there whistling while he pretends to do something to the car, and Annie and I have to hustle some sandwiches together, and scare up some cake somewhere and get rid of that eternal little hanging about Miller girl—"

An Obtuse Class

Yes, it's a good thing that most men aren't mind readers, but on the contrary are singularly obtuse, as a class. Marriage couldn't get very far without these gracious and temporizing concessions from Mother.

Later on, of course, as all good mothers and wives know, she may get her own way after all. Just a delicate hint, regarding the fun Dad and Bob could have at the ball game—and take Billy, too, and then Shirley could keep her date with Catherine and Mother could see per Aunt Mattie—

And as Dad suddenly sees the glorious possibilities out at the ball park, with two shouting boys dropping peanut shells through the hard, open seats, why everything changes

Ex-Presidents Could Be Used

Might Hold Senate Advisory Position

WASHINGTON.—Herbert Hoover believes that former Presidents might well hold advisory seats in the senate, although he himself wishes no such office.

His view on the suggestion that Presidents retire into senatorial memberships were reported in an interview. It answers one question not included in the exhaustive report by the commission on organization of the executive branch of the government, which Mr. Hoover heads.

"I don't think it would do any harm," the former President said. "I think it would do good. I don't want to go there at my time of life, but I think, as an addition to the efficiencies of the government, it would be greatly worth-while for the future. Any former President carries a lot of seasoned experience which would aid the legislative side. It would be a good thing to do."

"Could that be done with our Constitution?" he was asked. "I understand that it could be done by statutory law," Mr. Hoover went on, "provided the former President had no vote. He could have the privilege of debate, office assistants and a salary."

In questions and answers devoted to the Hoover commission's report, Mr. Hoover said that the program worked out by some 200 prominent private individuals or his "task forces" and a paid staff of another 300 persons indicated eventual savings of about \$4,000,000 annually. Personally he said he thought the savings certainly would exceed \$3,000,000,000 and might touch \$5,000,000,000.

At the same time, he stated firmly that the suggested organization would not contribute to centralization of control in the Presidency.

"We are here considering administrative authority, not political power," he said. "It puts him (the President) in authority as definite as the president of a corporation vis-a-vis his board of directors, which is the congress. This is a thoroughly American concept."

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