

**A STUDY OF THE UTILIZATION OF PARTIALLY-WORN  
CLOTHING WITHIN THE FAMILY GROUP**

By

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## A STUDY OF THE UTILIZATION OF PARTIALLY-WORN CLOTHING WITHIN THE FAMILY GROUP

### INTRODUCTION

During the past few generations America has been operating on an economy of plenty. At present, due to the war situation, citizens have been asked to operate in relation to certain goods on an economy of scarcity. Thus, economists are being forced to take stock of the basic needs of the people to determine the extent to which the American standard of living can be maintained with fewer material goods.

One area of material goods in which limitations on buying and consumption have already been placed, due to war demands, is that of clothing and textiles. Since the supply of silk has been practically cut off and the demand for wool and cotton has been greatly increased, the American citizen has two alternatives in the clothing field-- either doing without many of the clothing items to which he has been accustomed or utilizing to a better advantage the materials already on hand or purchasable.

To receive more service from clothing articles will require much thought in selection and care. When attempting to help the individual make a more adequate use of clothing and textiles, one must face the fact that in the past, as a national policy, little attention has been paid to the efficient utilization of textiles. In fact, the policy of designers has been to create new demands in all phases of textiles

by frequent changes of style. This policy of waste is further emphasized by the fact that the writer has been unable to find a single study which was designed to ascertain the efficiency with which textiles have been used in America, to say nothing of studies directed toward a wiser consumption of the supply of textiles and textile fabrics. The research in the field of clothing and textiles has been limited, on the whole, to such factors as the breaking strength, finishing, water repellancy and absorption, and dyeing properties of fibers, substitution of one fiber for another, weaves, clothing buying, and designs in fabrics.

The use of partially-worn clothing has not been considered by the research workers as this has not presented a problem to the American mind in the past. There are a few studies which include some data on the use of partially-worn clothing. For example, in the study, "Clothing Practices Among Low-Income Families," reported by Thompson and Jalks<sup>1</sup>, it was found that 70 per cent of the low-income families studied remodeled partially-worn clothing belonging to them and that practically all repaired or patched garments. These families needed help in the construction of garments, instruction in the proper methods of mending, etc.

Conservation of material has been practiced by the rural family in America for generations. This is shown in the following statement:

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1. Thompson, Henrietta M. and Jalks, Vivian W. Clothing Practices Among Low-Income Families. Jour. of Home Economics, Vol. 33, pp. 78-81 F '41.

"Making clothing and kitchen linens out of flour and feed bags is a time-honored custom of rural America. Today 3,000,000 American farm women and children of all income levels are wearing print feed bag garments—not only for economy but because the materials are so attractive."<sup>2</sup>

Although research workers have practically neglected the field of partially-worn clothing, interest is being expressed in certain areas. A professor of clothing and textiles at Columbia University states that they are "placing emphasis on the problem of clothing reclamation in one course especially set up for that purpose and in all of our regular courses in the field of clothing."<sup>3</sup> At Cornell University, the head of the Department of Textiles and Clothing reported that their whole extension program is keyed to conservation but the extent to which clothing conservation has been developed cannot be estimated at this time.

For some time commercial industry has been concerned with the use of by-products of the textile industry, but not so much for conservation of fiber as for the profit received.

"Worn-out wool garments have commercial value because they may be reduced to the fiber stage and reworked into new materials. The elimination of reworked wool from the market would cause woolen fabrics to be much higher priced. High-quality fibers can be produced from discarded fabrics. In extreme cases as high as 80% of reclaimed fibers may be used."<sup>4</sup>

2. Allen, Gertrude. Feed Bags Deluxe. The Readers Digest. Mar., 1942. p. 111.
3. Unpublished letter. Teachers College, Columbia University, New York.
4. Ness, Katherine P. Textile Fibers and Their Uses. J. B. Lippincott Co., N. Y. 1936. pp. 136-42-56.

"Spun silk is manufactured from waste silk. All imperfect cocoons, together with the frisons or waste from reeling, comprise the material that is made into spun silk. The shorter lengths of silk waste, material which cannot be utilized in spun silk yarns, have been made into continuous lengths by dissolving them and spinning the solution."<sup>5</sup>

"Linters, which may be considered a by-product of the cotton industry, are one source of raw material for the production of rayon. These short cotton fibers are used also in the manufacture of gun-cotton, cotton batting, stuffing material and paper."<sup>6</sup>

An indication that the country is becoming concerned about the need for conservation in the textile field is noted by the fact that representatives of the men's and boys' clothing industry have recommended to the War Production Board style simplifications designed to save from 25 to 30 per cent on cloth.

In view of the fact that in America citizens will be forced to conserve clothing, and as one means of clothing conservation is to obtain more efficient and lasting use of articles on hand or to be purchased, a study of the use made of partially-worn clothing seems apropos at this time.

#### Purpose of the Study

The purposes of this study are:

- (1) To ascertain the use made of partially-worn clothing by the homemakers within a selected community and the effectiveness of its use;
- (2) to study the factors which seem to influence the utilization

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5. Hess, Katherine P. *Textile Fibers and Their Uses*. J. B. Lippincott Co., N. Y. 1936. pp 177-78.

6. *Ibid.* pp 201.

of partially-worn clothing; (2) to ascertain the extent to which homemakers have changed their practices in the use of partially-worn clothing in light of the present emergency; and (4) on the basis of the findings, to make suggestions for more satisfactory utilization of partially-used clothing.

#### Method of Study

The data for this study were collected from one hundred sixty homemakers living within the city of Marion, Virginia, by the questionnaire method. The families were selected from different income groups, representing as nearly as possible the various levels of living in this city. The questionnaires were distributed as equally as possible among the lower income groups, the factory employees, moderate income, and the higher income groups. The investigator visited all the homes in two areas known to be composed of low-income families. Only two of these homemakers refused to give an interview. All the homes of one area consisting of moderate income families were visited. The factory workers were contacted in groups while at the factory. The remaining women included in the study were contacted at the nutrition class meeting conducted under the auspices of the Virginia State Nutrition Committee and at the meeting of the Women's Club. The purposes of the study and the procedures for filling out the questionnaire were explained by the investigator.

The interviews with the women were used to explain the schedule (see Appendix A). The schedules were left with the women to be

filled in and returned to the investigator by a definite date. Of the 200 schedules given out, 177 were returned. Seventeen of these were returned too late to be used in the study.

## Chapter II

### HOMEMAKERS INCLUDED IN STUDY

The subjects for this study were 160 homemakers of all stages of life, living in Marion, Virginia, a small urban community in the Appalachian section of Virginia.<sup>7</sup>

They ranged in age from seventeen to seventy-seven, with a modal age of thirty-nine years. They had been married, on the average, eighteen years. However, one had been married only six months, while another had been married for forty-three years. The modal age of marriage for these women was twenty-three years.

Table I. Years Married and Ages when Married of Homemakers

Number years married	Homemakers		Age when married	Homemakers	
	Number	Per cent		Number	percent
Less than 10	52	32.5	Under 20	43	26.8
10-20	46	28.8	21-25	62	38.8
20-30	33	20.6	26-30	34	21.3
30-40	16	10.0	31-35	13	8.1
40 or more	10	6.2	Above 35	2	1.2
No information	3	1.9	No information	6	3.8
Total	160	100.0		160	100.0

7. According to the U. S. Census of Population for Virginia, 1940, First Series, 19, this community had a population of 5,177. It is a city that offers a variety of occupational opportunities. Located in or near it are two textile mills, two bottling companies, a furniture factory, a handle mill, three hospitals, including the Southwestern State hospital, the county and city courts, and other business establishments usually found in urban centers.

Although this section of the state has been and is considered a farming area, this particular community has become highly industrialized in recent years.

One-half of these homemakers were reared in the country while only one-eighth were reared in a city. The remainder grew up in small towns.

The women in this study could be classified into the following groups:

(1) Those having a very limited education, who maintain a low level of living, with an approximate income of \$750.

(2) The employees of a garment factory who are not required to have a high school education. Their work is of a mechanical type of sewing for which they receive about \$800 yearly.

(3) A higher type woman working at the hosiery mill, required to have a high school education and receiving a yearly income of around \$1000. These women appeared to be quite intelligent and maintain a higher level of living than those previously mentioned.

(4) Members of the Senior and Junior Woman's Clubs. This group included the majority of those women taking defense classes. Their incomes range from around \$1800 to above \$3500.

(5) A group of less aggressive homemakers with a sincere interest in their homes and families, having moderate incomes.

#### Education of Homemakers

There was considerable variation in the educational background of the homemakers. In Table II it will be noted that the schooling of the homemakers ranged from fifteen women who had stopped before entering high school to nineteen who had done graduate work in college. Of the fifteen attending only grammar school one had gone as far as the fourth grade,

two stopped in the fifth grade and six went as far as the sixth and seventh grades, respectively. About three-fourths of the homemakers had at least a background of high school work.

Table II. Educational Background of Homemakers

Last schooling completed	Homemakers	
	Number	Per cent
Grammar school	15	9.4
1-3 years High School	30	18.7
High School graduate	28	17.5
High School plus special training in business or nursing	9	5.6
1-2 years College work	44	27.5
3 years College work	11	7.0
College graduate	18	11.2
College plus additional specialized training	1	.6
No information	4	2.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>100.0</b>

In comparison to the average schooling of the native white women in Virginia, the women in this study had a decided advantage. According to the 1940 Census report, the average grade completed for all native white women was 8.7 years<sup>8</sup>, while for this group the average was 10.9 years.

Only one-third of the women had any formal training in home economics either in high school or college. No doubt this is a proportion larger than would be expected as home economics in that section of the State is a very recent addition to the school curriculum. Seventy-two per cent had sewing experience before marriage and 19 per cent acquired this accomplishment after marriage.

Only 20 of the 160 women had continued formal school training after marriage. Nine had had academic training, two completed two years

8. 16 Census of the U. S. Population. Second series - Characteristics of the Population, Virginia. U. S. Dept. of Commerce. Bureau of the Census. U. S. Government Printing Office, Wash., D. C. 1941. p. 27.

of college work, and one, a year of graduate work. Two had taken a business course; two had completed nurses' courses, one being a registered nurse; two had studied music; and in each of the following courses, landscape architecture, home service training, teacher training, millinery training, and religious training school work, one person had studied.

There had been a very limited amount of extension work in adult education within this group. This would be due in part to the fact that there is no rural extension work in Smyth County. However, eight women who lived in this community had had training through extension agencies, the time ranging from six weeks to two years, and dating from 1912 to 1942. As a result of the extension courses, the homemakers reported that they had improved their sewing ability, and gained a better knowledge of the values of materials, patterns, fitting, and color.

One homemaker reported training in clothing alterations. Through this type of work, she has provided her family of five with their only income for ten years. Another homemaker attended Girl Scout training school during 1937-38, thus enabling her to conduct all Girl Scout activities.

When the study was made, about 19 per cent of the homemakers were attending nutrition, first aid, or home nursing classes. During the interviews it was interesting to note that the majority of these women attending defense classes demonstrated intense enthusiasm for the work.

Although some adult classes had been offered at the high school, only a few of the women had attended. Sewing and knitting demonstrations had been attended in the last year by only three per cent of the women.

### Sewing Activities

Of the total number of women who said that they could sew, only 33 per cent could sew well, while 53 per cent sewed moderately well. The remainder of the women said that they sewed poorly or not at all.

Even though the majority of these women had learned to sew, only 47 per cent sewed or had sewing done in their homes. Thirty-eight per cent of the women had sewing done outside the home, while ten per cent had sewing done both in and outside the home.

As a whole, the majority of the women had difficulty in estimating the amount of time spent weekly at sewing, many stating that it varied considerably as to season of year. The range of time spent in sewing including clothing construction, mending, and repair (not including sewing as a vocation) was from zero to ten hours per week.<sup>9</sup> The average time spent by all the women was three hours and twenty nine minutes per week.

Eleven per cent of the women engaged in sewing activities for their livelihood. Six per cent did regular sewing in the garment factory, working forty hours a week and receiving an average of \$16.00 a week. One woman worked 56 hours per week doing alterations in a dry cleaning establishment. Two earned more than \$15.00 per week by sewing for private individuals.

Of the 64 families in which there were daughters, 36 per cent of these homemakers were teaching their daughters to sew, while in 65.4

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9. This includes sewing done in the home for the family and part-time sewing for pay.

per cent of the families with daughters over 10 years of age, the daughters were being taught to sew. It was quite apparent that the homemakers whose children were too young to sew, intended to teach them later.

#### The Households Represented

Seventy-five per cent of the families in this study had children at home. Twenty-five per cent had all girls, 22 per cent had all boys and 28 per cent had both boys and girls. The number of children in these families ranged from one to six with ages ranging from six weeks to thirty-five years. The average number of children at home in the 120 families with children were two per family. One-fourth of the families had no children at home.

In the homes of 31.3 per cent of the families outsiders or relatives were living. This is due in part to the increased population of the community which has come from its industrial growth. The number of outsiders per family ranged from one to five. These were usually roomers.

Eighteen of the families had help living with them. Since many of these homemakers are engaged in factory work, housekeepers or relatives are employed to work in the home. In several instances "in-laws" and grandchildren were making their home with these families. The relatives were, on the whole, permanently established in the home. The length of time these relatives had lived with the families ranged from six months to thirty-two years, the average being eight years. The length of time that the hired help had lived in the homes ranged from two months to twenty-two years with an average of four years. Even the roomers were fairly permanent, they having lived in these homes from two months to nine years, with an average of 2.3 years.

Of the homemakers studied 53 per cent were in good health, 40 per cent were in fair health and 3 per cent were in poor health. Only two per cent failed to give this information.

Four-fifths of the women were getting at least eight hours of sleep at night, while the remainder got seven hours, with the exception of two, who were sleeping only six and one-half hours. The modal hour for retiring was 10:00 p. m., and for getting up, between 7:00 and 8:00 a. m. One-third of the women were taking naps during the day. For the most part, the naps were from one-half to one hour of length. The majority of those taking one hour of rest in the afternoon were getting eight hours of sleep at night, while those getting less sleep at night were having from twenty to thirty minutes rest in the afternoon.

The stability of these families was reflected in the proportion of home owners among them. Fifty-one per cent were enjoying home ownership, while several stated they were making a real sacrifice to meet payments on a future home of their own. Several who did not, would like to own a home.

On the whole, these women were not inconvenienced by inadequate clothes closet space, the average being three clothes closets per family. Although twenty per cent of the women had four closets, fifteen per cent had only one, and eight per cent had none. One housemaker reported eleven such closets in her home.

Incomes and Occupations of Husbands

The incomes of the families studied and the occupations of the husbands are shown in Tables III and IV, respectively. It will be noticed that the occupations of this group were quite varied. A small number of the husbands were engaged in professional and semi-professional jobs. Forty-two per cent had jobs definitely of the white collar type, while thirty-eight per cent were engaged in work requiring physical labor. Thirteen per cent were either retired or deceased.

Table III. Incomes of the 100 Families Studied

<u>Income</u> <u>Dollars per year</u>	<u>No. of home-</u> <u>wives</u>	<u>Per cent of total</u> <u>number</u>
500 - 749	14	6.6
750 - 999	9	5.6
1000 - 1249	7	4.4
1250 - 1499	18	11.2
1500 - 1749	12	7.5
1750 - 1999	20	12.5
2000 - 2499	17	10.6
2500 - 2999	16	10.0
3000 - 3499	5	3.1
Above 3500	17	10.6
No set income or no information	26	15.6
<u>Total</u>	<u>160</u>	<u>99.9</u>

Table IV. Occupations of Husbands of the 160 Homemakers Included in the Study

Occupation of husband	Number of husbands in occupation	Per cent of total number of husbands
<b>Professional service</b>	14	8.8
Engineer	2	
Doctor	4	
Lawyer	3	
Minister	2	
Army officer	1	
County agent	1	
Artist	1	
<b>Semi-Professional service</b>	3	1.9
Portistician	1	
Assistant pharmacist	1	
Electrician	1	
<b>Business</b>	31	19.4
Merchant, owner or manager	16	
Real Estate	1	
Salesman or store clerk	12	
Insurance	2	
<b>Clerical Occupations</b>	12	7.5
Book-keeper, cashier	6	
County treasurer	1	
Office executive	3	
Accountant	1	
Mail clerk	2	
<b>Laborers</b>	49	30.6
Skilled laborer	31	
Unskilled laborer	18	
<b>Farmers</b>	10	6.2
<b>Others</b>	41	25.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>99.9</b>

The incomes of 48 per cent of the families were below \$1500 annually. In spite of this, the majority of these families appeared to be fairly stable economically. Only eleven per cent had an income of over \$3000 yearly.

### Clothing Equipment of the Homemakers

In order to appreciate fully the clothing activities carried on in the homes, it is first necessary to give a picture of their equipment. It will be noticed in Table V, that 72 per cent of the women owned sewing machines. One-half of these were listed as being in good condition, while only four per cent were in poor condition.

Only 80 per cent of the homemakers reported electric irons in the home. Whether this means twenty per cent used flat irons for pressing or simply failed to report is not known. Several of these women are known to use flat irons for pressing and the proportion reported without electrical equipment may be correct. Eight of the homemakers owned an electric ironer or mangle.

Slightly more than one-half of these women owned washing machines. However, one cannot conclude that these women washed by hand, for the washing was carried on in only 60 per cent of the homes.

The electrical equipment of 75 per cent of the homes could be conveniently plugged in where needed. Fourteen per cent had difficulty in the placement of the plugs while many had to use extension cords.

From the reports of these women 72.5 per cent were well equipped for sewing to be carried on in the home.

Although the majority of the women felt that they had just the right amount of sewing to do, only 53.1 per cent were engaged in sewing activities to any extent. Eight per cent felt they were doing too much sewing, while nine per cent said they did not have enough to do. The

desire to know how to sew was expressed by several and others wished for more time for home sewing.

Only twenty-two per cent of the homes of these families had a room which could be utilized as a room for sewing. Usually, this activity was carried on in rooms used for other purposes.

Table V. Clothing Equipment Present in the Homes of the 160 Families

Equipment	Number of homes	Per cent of homes
Electric iron	138	86.0
Sewing machine		
Pedal type	92	57.5
Electric	24	15.0
Washing machine		
Electric	76	47.5
Hand	6	3.7
Ironer (mangle)	8	5.0
Tubs		
Stationary	130	81.7
Moveable	33	20.6
Pinking shears	14	8.7
Yard stick or tape measure	127	79.0
Sewing box	126	78.8

### Household Activities of the Homemakers

If the statements of these women can be relied upon, 80 per cent of the women usually planned their housework. Others did some planning but not as a regular practice. Daily plans for work were carried on by 60 per cent, while 30 per cent had tentative weekly plans.

Only seventy-nine per cent of the women enjoyed household work as a whole. Of those who liked housework, the majority did not know why, except for a feeling that they had a "domestic nature." Modern conveniences made it a comfort and pleasure for some. Others had their families at heart in trying to have attractive, interesting and comfortable homes for them. Many others felt it was their responsibility, and some spoke of it as their "duty," their "job," their "work," "something to do," and "accustomed to it." One homemaker said, "There is no greater work for a woman."

Twenty-one per cent definitely did not like housework because it was "lonesome," "drudgery," "monotonous," "uninteresting," "confining," and "repetitious." Three women preferred outside work to housework.

Practically one-half of the homemakers did all their household work themselves. A full-time maid was hired in only 15 per cent of the homes and a part-time maid in 19.4 per cent. Relatives helped with the work in 21.9 per cent of the families. In view of the fact that only five per cent of the households in the United States have paid domestic help, the amount of help in these families was far above the average.<sup>10</sup>

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10. Pidgeon, Mary K. Women in the Economy of the United States of America. U. S. Dept. of Labor, Women's Bureau, 1937. p. 28.

Judging from the women's statements, the majority were more efficient in food preparation than anything else. The responsibility of preparing the food in the home was assumed by seventy-six per cent of the women. Thirteen per cent assisted in the preparation, while eight per cent did not prepare or help with the meals. The other areas, in order of importance, in which the women considered themselves efficient were cleaning and general housework, and the esthetic side of homemaking, such as attractive food arrangements, color schemes, interior decoration and flower arrangements. Only four considered themselves efficient in "household economy," "system," and "thrift." A small number felt they were more efficient in sewing and expressed a desire for more time to spend in doing it.

As a whole, these women represented a group above the average for the State in educational background, although the majority were lacking in home economics training. They appeared to be fairly stable economically with over one-half owning their homes. The family yearly income ranged from less than \$750 to over \$3,500. Seventy-five per cent of the families had children at home. The houses were relatively well equipped for sewing. Although seventy-five per cent of the homes were adequately equipped for sewing, in only 53 per cent was the equipment being used to any extent. Lack of time and knowledge prevented many homemakers from sewing. Approximately 13 per cent of these homemakers were engaged in remunerative work outside the home. About three-fourths of the women enjoyed their housework. The ages of the women ranged from 17 to 77

years. The occupations of the husbands varied from day labor to professional work. Almost one-third belonged to the skilled and unskilled labor class. The majority of the women were most cooperative in furnishing the data and expressed considerable interest in the findings of the study.

### Chapter III

#### CLOTHING PRACTICES OF HOUSEWIVES

The clothing practices of these women varied as greatly as did their incomes and education. There was no consistent clothing pattern or practice among them. Few of these women planned their clothing wardrobes. Although forty-one per cent verbalized the practicability of having a definite plan for buying new clothing, such as a new coat every two or three years, only 5.1 per cent reported having such a plan.

Forty-eight per cent of these women considered possibilities of remodeling when buying a new garment. Extreme styles and skimpy cuts were avoided by many. Not only did many of these women consider the durability and practicability of materials but also color combinations, sleeve and neck lines, and particularly skirt lengths and widths of seams. Some considered the possibility of dyeing and reeking the material into garments for children before buying.

It was of interest to find that 88 per cent of the women said that they could recognize full-fashion hose, while only 2.6 per cent admitted that they could not recognize them. Sixty-eight per cent believed that they could distinguish full-fashion, rayon, nylon and silk hose, while over 80 per cent felt that they could recognize both nylon and silk hose. The investigator questioned the existence of this ability, but had no way of testing the knowledge of the women.

About one-half of these women reported a knowledge of how to judge the quality of fabrics.

Certain guides in buying fabrics were reported as used by these women. Twenty-seven and a half per cent said that they used simple tests to determine the fiber content of the fabrics, while forty-six per cent of the women looked for the brand name on the selvage, tag or bolt before buying fabrics. Others depended upon the merchant's advice relating to the quality of the fabrics.

Although these women did a limited amount of sewing, 55 per cent of the women reported buying new materials to be made in the home.

Why did these women buy new materials? Other than the 22.5 per cent who bought them for economical reasons, 16.2 per cent derived some satisfaction in having better quality materials by home construction than for the same amount invested in a ready-made garment. Others purchased materials to suit their type of figure or to gratify personal preference for designs, colors, color combinations, or to secure a more comfortable and pleasing fit. Satisfaction was secured also by styling their own garments. The women derived pleasure in making their garments, from having more clothes, and expressing their creative ability in their own and children's clothing. Due to odd sizes, two women purchased materials for their husbands' shirts. Several women expressed a desire to buy materials for their own clothing, if an excellent seamstress could be secured for constructing the garments.

In purchasing a coat or dress these women were asked what was considered most--price, style, color, material, quality, becomingness or durability. The attention of the women seemed to be focused mostly on becomingness as 61.2 per cent considered it first. Price was second in

importance. Twenty-four per cent of these women decided upon a definite amount to be spent for a garment before going shopping and they purchased within this price range. Quality and durability of material was a determining factor with 50 per cent. Other factors considered when purchasing in their order of importance were: suitability, style and color, workmanship, prospective usefulness, satisfying a felt desire. Many of the homemakers patronized sales which indicated an attempt to save.

The majority of these women were quite conservative in their selection of shoes for work, dress, and walking. Oxfords and shoes with low heels were worn by 64 per cent of them for work. Others expressed their preference for medium heels, or comfortable and durable shoes. For walking, 48 per cent chose oxfords and shoes with low heels, with 11 per cent preferring those with medium heels. Several were satisfied if the shoes were comfortable. Medium or Cuban heel shoes for dress were desired by 33 per cent and only 21 per cent desired high heels. Fifteen per cent specified a choice for pumps. A few of these women were selecting oxfords for their dress shoes. Many of them wore the same type of shoe for all three occasions.

The prices paid for work and walking shoes ranged from \$1.98 to \$11.60. The modal price was \$3.00. Some women seemed to realize the importance of comfortable shoes for these activities and paid more for work and walking shoes than for dress shoes; however, the average price paid for dress shoes was higher, ranging from \$1.00 on sale to \$14.00. The modal price was around \$5.00. Many paid the same for all three types. One woman stated, "Since I buy conservative style shoes that

change little from season to season, I buy my summer shoes in the fall and my winter shoes in January, thereby getting them at greatly reduced prices."

When buying children's clothing, 69.3 per cent always allowed for growth on the part of the child.

When buying a hat, 77.5 per cent of these women planned to wear it more than one season. Only 2 per cent of the women stated that they definitely did not wear hats two or more seasons, while 3.7 per cent bought a hat to be worn with each ensemble. The majority of the women bought a summer hat to go with their summer clothes and a winter hat to go with their winter clothes. To solve the hat problem, one woman said she always had a light hat and a dark one, one of which went with every ensemble.

About one-half of these homemakers reported that they had difficulty in making clothing decisions.

Visits to stores for new clothing ideas was a very common practice among the majority of these women. Sixty-four per cent visited stores definitely for ideas, while 8.1 per cent visited only occasionally for new ideas. Style magazines and newspapers were also used as aids to receiving ideas before the selection of clothing articles. These were used by 55.6 per cent of the women for ideas in selecting patterns, by 61.8 per cent for clothing ideas, by 43.1 per cent for material suggestions, by 49.9 per cent for new creations in hats, and by 45.8 per cent for styles in shoes.

No doubt the movies afford an excellent opportunity for clothing hints for the ambitious "up-to-date" women, for thirty-one per cent of the women secured ideas for clothing through this means.

Only three of these homemakers felt that they were spending too much time on clothing.

Simplicity patterns were the most popular, since of the 64 per cent of the women who used patterns, 21 per cent preferred the Simplicity. The statement was made that they were "cheaper and fairly well proportioned." McCall's patterns held second place, being used by 19 per cent, while Butterick patterns were preferred by 11 per cent. These patterns were carried in the local stores. Eleven per cent of the women secured patterns by ordering. These were predominately Vogue patterns.

Many changes would be made in the present clothing of these homemakers if they had the opportunity. The outstanding change as stated by 13.7 per cent of these women was a desire for better and higher priced clothing. This included using the best quality of materials for every garment, with many desiring a very high grade of tailored clothing with the best workmanship and the most appropriate lines suitable to their types and figures.

A need for more new clothing in their wardrobes was expressed by 13.5 per cent of these women. Several expressed a wish to replace all old clothing with new garments, to have new clothing each season which was suitable to that season and the styles being worn, and to have new basic articles such as suits and skirts. Better quality shoes and more suitable hats were desired by many.

Six per cent would like to have their clothing "up to date" as to care, comfort and design.

More complete outfits for all occasions, including accessories, would be a desired change for some of these women. Several would like even one complete outfit in their wardrobe.

Four of these women desired fewer but more expensive clothing, as "cheap garments are dear." They would like to buy their clothing without having to look at the price tag, consider the durability or wait for sales. Other suggested changes desired were to be able to start over with a well-planned wardrobe, to have more sport's wear, to have more materials so as to make their own dresses, and to have lighter colors and not have to buy so much black. Only 11 per cent of the homemakers expressed complete satisfaction with their present clothing.

Shopping was a real pleasure for 65 per cent of the homemakers. Many enjoyed it as a recreation, as a change from household activities. Twelve per cent enjoyed it only occasionally and 11.2 per cent definitely did not care for it. Eighteen per cent were rather indifferent toward shopping as an activity. These women went shopping for different reasons. Some went to buy while others enjoyed seeing beautiful displays and keeping up with style changes, acquiring ideas to copy in making new garments and reworking old clothing, and securing ways of stretching the budget by seeking bargains. Others liked it because it was broadening and educational.

Those definitely disliking to shop said it tired them both mentally and physically, was confusing, difficult to satisfy their wants and needs, made them nervous, and consumed too much time.

On the whole these women were rather conservative in their buying habits and appeared to be quite thrifty. However, only a few had a definite clothing budget. A large number reported taking advantage of sales. About one-half felt that they had a good knowledge of the desirable characteristics of fabrics. Possibilities for remodeling or restyling a purchased garment was considered by 50 per cent of those women before buying. Even though the majority of these homemakers expressed ability in buying clothing, only a very small number were satisfied with their present clothing. They attributed this to the lack of sufficient money for purchasing the desired clothes, lack of time for keeping clothing in order and constructing desirable clothes, and difficulty in making decisions relative to clothing.

Chapter IV

REASONS OF PARTIALLY-WORN CLOTHING

With the present emphasis upon saving, the extent to which homemakers are receiving full value from clothing no longer usable in its present condition becomes of importance. In any clothing plan the importance of remodeled garments must not be overlooked, especially in the limited wardrobe. Many clothing specialists feel that a good piece of old material has more real value in it than a piece of new material of inferior quality. However, the extent to which a garment may be remade depends upon its style, value, its becomingness and the durability of the material.

Table VI. Reasons for Remodeling of Clothing by the Homemakers

Reasons for remodeling	Homemakers who reported	
	Number	Per cent
Enjoy satisfaction	118	73.7
To save money	105	66.2
Feel should be thrifty	100	61.8
Large family	64	40.0
Other reasons	27	16.8

It will be noted in Table VI that the satisfaction received from getting something usable out of a non-usable garment and necessity were the chief reasons for remodeling. Several of the homemakers stated

they would like to save money in this way if they knew how to remake clothing.

Sixty-one per cent of these women liked to sew while an additional 19 per cent found moderate enjoyment in this activity. Of the women who did not know how to sew, 11.2 per cent would like to learn. Of the group who did sew, only 2.8 per cent desired to improve their sewing skill.

In order to ascertain the use of partially-worn clothing in these homes the homemakers were asked to list the uses to which sixteen major clothing items were put when they were no longer suitable for wear. The utilization of draperies, scraps of materials, and flour and sugar bags were also included.

Table VII. The Use of Partially-worn Clothing in the Families of the Homemakers

Name of Article	Use made of them	Number of families	Per cent of families <sup>1</sup>
1. Hose	Given away for rags, rummage sales, to needy or relatives - - - - -	53	33.1
	Reused for rags, chair seats, darning thread, pads, mats, pocket-books - - - - -	36	22.5
	Destroyed - - - - -	36	22.5
	Used in cleaning as mops, dusters	23	14.4
2. Slips	Used for cleaning - - - - -	86	53.7
	Given away - - - - -	31	19.4
	Reused for patching, making children's underwear; dyed for rags	22	13.7
	Saved or sold - - - - -	4	2.5

1. Since some families reported more than one use for a given clothing item, the percentages will exceed 100.

Table VII (continued)

Name of Article	Use made of them	Number of families	Per cent of families	
3. Shoes	Repaired - - - - -	120	75.0	
	Given away - - - - -	108	65.6	
	Destroyed - - - - -	21	13.1	
	Completely worn out - - - - -	4	2.5	
	Used for garden wear - - - - -	9	5.5	
	Sold - - - - -	3	1.8	
4. Cloth coats (men's and women's)	Reused for making sons' coats, suits; girls' coats, suits, jackets, shirts; Made into heavy quilts, comforts, rugs - - - - -	37	23.1	
	Given away - - - - -	128	80.0	
	Used as waxing cloths and oil mops in cleaning - - - - -	4	2.5	
	Sold - - - - -	10	6.2	
	5. Shirts (men's and boys)	Reused for making aprons, children's blouses, pants, towels, handkerchiefs, braided rugs; mending - - - - -	34	20.6
		Used for cleaning purposes - - - - -	68	42.8
Given away or sold - - - - -		80	51.2	
Used for other purposes - - - - -		4	2.5	
6. Underwear (men's and boys')		Reused for children's underwear, rugs, wash cloths - - - - -	9	5.6
	Used for cleaning purposes - - - - -	88	55.0	
	Given away or sold - - - - -	23	15.3	
	Destroyed - - - - -	10	6.2	
7. Men's work suits	Reused for making ladies' and children's suits, quilts, rugs - - - - -	12	7.5	
	Used to wear when fishing, gardening - - - - -	3	1.9	
	Given away or sold - - - - -	41	25.6	
	Used for cleaning purposes - - - - -	12	7.5	
	Destroyed - - - - -	10	6.2	
8. Pajamas	Reused for making rugs, children's underwear - - - - -	6	3.7	
	Used for waxing, dusting purposes - - - - -	52	32.5	
	Given away; handed down - - - - -	11	6.8	
	Destroyed - - - - -	7	4.4	

Table VII (continued)

Name of Article	Use made of them	Number of families	Per cent of families
9. Ties	Reused for making rugs, a child's coat, quilts, cushion tops - - -	23	14.2
	Given away - - - - -	26	23.1
	Destroyed - - - - -	23	14.1
10. Fur coats	Reused for children's coats, jackets, trimmings - - - - -	7	4.3
	Given away - - - - -	9	5.6
	Kept - - - - -	2	1.2
	Turned in - - - - -	1	.6
11. Evening	Reused for making slips, pajamas, gowns, housecoats, blouses, street dresses, children's dresses, bed room accessories - -	30	18.7
	Kept - - - - -	12	7.5
	Given away or sold - - - - -	27	16.9
	Destroyed - - - - -	2	1.6
12. Good dresses	Remodeled for own use - - - - -	24	15.0
	Used as house dresses - - - - -	11	6.9
	Reused for making children's dresses, comfort tops, quilts, rugs, blouses, skirts - - - - -	11	6.9
	Given away to remodel - - - - -	4	2.5
	Given away or sold - - - - -	71	44.4
	Worn out completely - - - - -	7	4.4
13. House-dresses	Remade into aprons, children's dresses, pot holders - - - - -	15	9.4
	Used for cleaning purposes - - - -	34	21.2
	Given away - - - - -	38	23.9
	Completely worn out - - - - -	6	3.8
	Sold, kept, destroyed - - - - -	4	2.5
14. Sweaters	Reknitted or saved to reknit - - -	18	11.2
	Used for cleaning purposes - - - -	28	17.5
	Given away - - - - -	44	27.8
	Destroyed - - - - -	3	1.9
	Handed down - - - - -	2	1.2
	Used to make rugs or for quilt linings - - - - -	2	1.2

Table VII (continued)

Name of Article	Use made of them	Number of families	Per cent of families
15. Bathrobes	Reused to make children's clothing, rugs, heavy quilts - - -	13	8.1
	Used for cleaning purposes - -	13	8.1
	Given away - - - - -	28	17.8
	Worn out - - - - -	2	1.2
16. Skirts	Reused to make skirts for children, rugs, quilts; patches - -	22	13.7
	Given away - - - - -	47	29.4
	Used for cleaning purposes - -	4	2.5
	Used for other purposes - - - -	5	3.1
17. Drapery	Reused for making pillow tops, seat covers, rugs, bedspreads, quilts - - - - -	17	10.6
	Given away - - - - -	14	8.7
	Destroyed - - - - -	6	3.7
	Kept - - - - -	1	.6
18. Sugar and	Remade into tea, dish and kitchen towels; - - - - -	115	71.2
	Children's underwear, aprons, pillow cases, quilt linings; -	13	8.8
	Table scarves, table cloths, luncheon sets, kitchen curtains; - - - - -	7	4.4
	Strainers - - - - -	4	2.5
	Given away - - - - -	3	1.9
	19. Scraps of materials	Saved for quilts, rugs, cushion tops - - - - -	84
Put in scrap bag for mending, patching use - - - - -	23	14.4	
Given away for quilts, missions, or sold - - - - -	17	10.6	
Destroyed - - - - -	2	1.2	
Used in sewing for small child, and doll clothes - - - - -	1	.6	

It was evident that possible uses of partially-worn clothing had been given little thought by these homemakers. The partially-worn hose and underclothes were used for non-wearable purposes. Of the hose,

most of them were either given away, used for rugs, chair seats, etc., or destroyed. In a few cases women were saving their hose "expecting to do something" with them later.

Men's hose were not used as extensively as women's. Of the homemakers one-fourth gave the worn men's hose away and one-fourth destroyed them. Often men's hose were used for cleaning purposes. The feet were cut off and made into dusters, pot holders and polishing cloths for shoes. Rag rugs and dolls for children were also made of them.

The majority of the children's socks were either destroyed or handed down to a younger child.

Slips were usually worn as long as possible then used for general cleaning cloths such as for dusting, waxing and cleaning windows. Children's slips were used mostly for cleaning purposes. If they were in good condition, they were handed down to younger relatives.

It is conceivable that much of the leather in partially-worn shoes could be reclaimed; however, this was not practiced in the families studied. The homemaker had given little thought to the use of partially-worn shoes. If they were in fairly good shape they were given away; if not, they were destroyed. Since 75 per cent of the women reported that they had their shoes repaired, no doubt many attempted to wear shoes as long as possible. In a small number of cases the old shoes were worn for garden uses. Three of the women reported selling their shoes after they finished wearing them. The majority of the men's shoes were either destroyed or given away, while the children's shoes were given to other children to wear.

Many uses were found for cloth coats, both men's and ladies'. In eighty per cent of the cases these coats were given to the needy, to relatives, or to the church rummage sales. In 23.1 per cent of the homes these coats were remodeled either for the adult or for the children.

Children's coats were handed down, sold, given to rummage sales or used for quilts.

In Table VII will be seen the use to which men's and boys' shirts were put. In addition to the uses listed, pants and blouses for children, dish towels and mending materials were obtained from the shirts. Some were used for gardening and fishing apparel.

Men's and boys' partially-worn underwear seemed to be of little use except for cleaning purposes.

Very little information could be obtained on the use of partially-worn drapery material. Many of the women did not have drapes and those who did have drapes were still using them. Of the 10.6 per cent who had cast-off drapes, such articles as pillow tops, seat covers, bed spreads, rugs and quilts had been made from them.

Pajamas were used for cleaning purposes by the majority of the families.

It was interesting to learn that one woman had made a child's coat from ties. Twenty-two per cent were saving ties to make rugs, quilts and cushion tops. One woman stated that she had "enough old ties to reach from here to China." The majority of the women gave the ties to missions and rummage sales.

Many of the women saved scraps of material. Quilts alone were be-

ing made by 47.5 per cent, while 6 per cent were making rugs and cushion tops from these scraps. The old-fashion "scrap bag" was used in only 14 per cent of the homes; however, many of the women reported keeping scraps on hand for mending.

Although partially-worn evening dresses had a number of varied uses, only 18.7 per cent of the women were making use of them. Many of the women were sentimental over their evening dresses and did not wish to part with them.

The possibilities for remodeling house dresses proved to be less extensive than for good dresses. No doubt this was due to the fact that the house dresses were less expensive and were more nearly worn out by the homemakers.

Sugar and flour bags were made into tea towels by 33.1 per cent of the women. Oftentimes the bags were dyed for luncheon sets, curtains, etc. Only three women gave the flour and sugar sacks away.

Partially used skirts had a very limited use for these homemakers. Only 13.7 per cent of the women found further use for them by remodeling for children, making rugs, heavy quilts or for patching purposes. The lighter weight materials were used by 2.5 per cent for household cleaning.

Practically one-third of the homemakers had some clothing put away for sentimental or cherished reasons. Amounts ranged from one article to two trunks full. Garments put away included baby clothing such as, layettes, dresses, shoes, undershirts, sweaters, and gifts;

wedding garments and dresses; suits and veils; girlhood dresses; "daughters' dresses"; "mother's jacket and kimono"; and evening dresses.

The women were more inclined to save ornaments than the material of garments. Table VIII shows the ranking of the 33 restoration or repair items from those most often used by the homemakers in the reclaiming of clothing to those least often used. It will be noted that at least 90 per cent of these women saved buttons, pins, and ribbons from used clothing articles for future use. Over 80 per cent saved ornaments and belts from dresses. Many were refreshing old dresses by the addition of collars, cuffs and vests. The saving of lace from old garments, hat ornaments and feathers, fur coat trimmings, etc., was customary among many of the women.

It is interesting to note that 40 to 45 per cent of these homemakers were dyeing clothing to continue its use or for restyling, while approximately one-third were restyling straw and felt hats to continue their use.

Of the families with children, in two-thirds of them the children were wearing handed-down clothing.

**Table VIII. Ranking of the Thirty-three Restoration of Clothing Items from Those Most Often to Those Least Often used and the Percentage of Homemakers Using them.**

Rank of item as to frequency of use by homemaker	Presence of activity	
	In home	Homemakers' responsibility
	Per cent	Per cent
1. Do you save buttons for future use?	97.4	96.2
2. Do you save pins for future use?	96.2	95.0
3. Do you save ribbons for future use?	90.6	90.0
4. Do you save ornaments from dresses for future use?	83.7	82.6
5. Do you save belts for future use?	83.1	81.9
6. Do you darn your stockings?	83.1	81.9
7. Do you save scraps from gingham dresses for quilts?	81.2	80.6
8. Do you add collars, cuffs, vests, etc. to freshen old dresses?	80.0	78.8
9. Do you make tea towels from sugar and salt bags?	73.1	72.6
10. Do you darn children's stockings?	69.4	67.5
11. Do you save ornaments from hats for future use?	66.2	65.6
12. Do you have your shoes half-soled?	65.8	61.8*
13. Do you reuse good lace on new garments?	61.8	61.2
14. Do your children wear handed down clothing?	49.3	49.3
15. Do you save feathers from hats for future use?	45.0	45.0
16. Do you dye clothing to continue its use or for restyling?	48.6	44.4
17. Do you save fur coat trimmings for future use?	40.6	40.6
18. Do you save your old clothing to be utilized in making rugs?	41.2	40.6
19. Do you retrim good straw hats?	37.2	36.2
20. Do you make aprons from bags?	35.0	34.4
21. Do you use feed bags as linings for quilts?	32.4	31.2
22. Do you remodel felt hats?	31.8	30.6
23. Do you reuse inner linings from coats?	31.2	30.0
24. Do you save flowers from hats for future use?	28.2	28.2
25. Do you make table covers from feed or other bags?	24.3	23.7
26. Do you make dummies from old linen, pique or silk dresses?	23.7	23.1
27. Do you make hand towels from linen dresses?	23.1	23.1
28. Do you reknit good yarn in children's sweaters?	19.2	18.6
29. Do you use burlap sacks for hooking rugs?	15.6	15.0
30. Do you reuse knitting bag tops?	13.7	13.7
31. Do you reuse pocket-book tops?	13.1	13.1
32. Do you dye good straw hats?	13.1	13.1
33. Do you make children's underwear from soft cotton bags?	11.9	11.9
34. Do you knit children's clothing from your knitted garments?	07.5	07.5

\*Assume the responsibility of having it done.

It is quite evident from Table VIII that the women saved for future use items of clothing which did not require much effort on their part such as buttons, pins and ornaments. Although they threw away materials with wearing quality, many appeared conscious of clothing conservation. The discarding of garments may not indicate lack of concern, but lack of knowledge of the use of wearable materials. It is conceivable that many articles of clothing, especially undergarments, are worn out when discarded by the homemaker. The small extent to which the homemakers reused partially-worn dresses is probably due to their lack of knowledge and ability for changing the construction lines of the garment, and their unwillingness to donate the necessary time and effort to remodeling.

On the whole these homemakers did not realize the value and possibilities found in remodeling their partially-worn clothing. It was evident that many articles were destroyed long before they were worn out. When they were given away, little thought had been given to the use the recipient would make of them.

#### The Clothing Activities of the Women

In this study the women were asked the extent to which eight clothing activities, including keeping clothing accounts, washing, ironing, mending, assorting and care of clothing, buying of clothing supplies, and sewing were carried on in the home. The extent to which these activities were the responsibility of each homemaker and her attitude toward

the activity were also ascertained.

In Table IX the participation of the homemaker in the activities and her attitude toward each activity are shown. It will be noted that in three-fourths of the homes some attempt was made to keep household accounts, and in two-thirds of the homes this was the homemaker's responsibility. The customary activities of washing, ironing and care of clothing were found in approximately three-fourths of the households. Fifteen per cent of the homemakers reported that mending of clothing was seldom, if ever, carried on in the home. In all cases, if the activity was carried on in the home, it was usually the homemaker's responsibility. The homemakers were not enthusiastic about these activities. In most of these clothing activities, one-third of the homemakers reported liking to carry on the activity.

The women seemed to be interested in the clothing factories located in the city. Over half of these women had recently visited the Royal Oak Hosiery Mill or the Harwood Garment Factory, while 10 per cent had visited both industries. The visiting of these factories may not indicate interest in the conditions under which clothing is produced as much as a general curiosity concerning factories.

Table IX. Clothing Activities of the Women Studied

	Proportion of households where activity was present			Activi-ty by home-maker's respon-sibili-ty	Attitude toward ac-tivity			Average hrs. per week spent by those partici-pating	
	Usual-ly	Some- times	Seldom or none		Like	dis-like	Dis-like		
	Per cent	Per cent	Per cent	Per cent	Per cent	Per cent	Per cent	Number	
Keeping clothing accounts	70.6	4.4	25.0	60.6	43.7	6.1	11.2	37.0	1.6
Washing clothing	60.6	8.7	30.7	45.6	34.3	11.9	13.1	39.8	2.8
Ironing clothing	73.1	6.2	20.7	51.8	31.9	11.3	23.7	33.3	3.1
Mending clothing	85.0	0.0	15.0	68.8	36.2	16.2	21.2	26.4	1.4
Assorting clothing	79.0	0.0	21.0	63.8	35.6	16.9	9.3	38.2	0.9
Care of clothing	77.7	0.0	22.3	65.2	37.5	18.1	3.7	40.7	0.8
Buying clothing supplies	69.4	0.0	30.6	65.6	43.7	6.9	1.3	43.1	2.1
Sewing	65.6	4.3	40.1	53.1	38.7	3.7	6.2	51.4	3.8

Many of these women were interested in handwork. Fifty-five per cent liked embroidery best, 41.8 per cent preferred crocheting, with 33.1 per cent preferring knitting, 10.6 per cent each chose needlepoint and hooking rugs, 8 per cent weaving and 3.7 per cent preferred tatting. Other women enjoyed quilting, hemstitching and crocheting rugs.

The time spent on these handwork activities ranged from a few minutes to twenty hours a week. Many were unable to estimate the average time devoted to handwork as it varied with demands made upon the homemakers and the season of year. The winter months afforded more time for this type of sewing. Several women expressed a desire for more time to be spent on handwork.

The average homemaker subscribed to 1.7 magazines with articles on clothing. It will be noted in Table X that the most widely read of these magazines were: Good Housekeeping, Ladies' Home Journal, McCall's, and Woman's Home Companion. Harper's Bazaar and movie magazines were the least read.

The magazines most popular among the women were of good quality. Most of them were devoted to the home and carry articles of help in homemaking.

Eighty-five per cent of the women in this study were reading magazines but with varying degrees of enjoyment. Seventy-eight per cent liked to read magazines, but only 4.4 per cent enjoyed greatly such reading.

**Table X. Extent to which the Listed Magazines were Read by the Homemakers and were Taken in the Home**

Magazine	Homemaker read		Taken in home
	Usually Per cent	Occasionally Per cent	Per cent
Ladies' Home Journal	47.0	27.5	35.0
McCall's	44.3	25.0	30.6
Good Housekeeping	52.5	20.6	36.8
Harper's Bazaar	3.7	29.3	2.6
Woman's Home Companion	28.2	29.3	19.3
Vogue	7.5	32.5	3.1
Mademoiselle	10.0	26.8	5.6
Movie Magazines	7.5	18.7	4.3
Hollands	18.7	23.7	16.8
The Household Magazine	9.3	15.0	6.8
Pathfinder	10.0	18.0	8.1
Others	30.6	12.5	24.3

Necessity and the satisfaction received from getting a usable garment out of a non-usable one were the major reasons for remodeling. Little thought had been given to the effective uses of partially-worn clothing by these homemakers. On the whole, partially-worn clothing was used for cleaning purposes, destroyed or given away. It appeared that these women gave little thought to the value of material in garments after they had gone out of style. If they gave the garment away, little attention was paid to the way in which the recipient intended to use it. A larger number were utilizing sugar and flour bags and scraps of material than were reusing the yardage found in partially worn clothing. It is conceivable that these women were not acquainted with the possibilities of renovating clothing and may not have had the skill to produce satisfactory garments. Most of the homemakers saved clothing ornaments.

On the whole these women displayed little enthusiasm relative to clothing activities carried on in the home. In the majority of cases these activities were the responsibility of the homemakers. They seemed to be interested in handwork and were enjoying various types of handwork.

Some interest in the reading of articles on clothing was indicated by these women, although the enthusiasm for such reading was not pronounced.

## Chapter V

### CLOTHING PROBLEMS AND INTERESTS OF HOMEMAKERS

In order to gain some insight into the clothing problems of these homemakers each homemaker was given a list of twenty clothing items and asked to indicate the degree to which each item was a problem to her, by checking it as "much," "medium," or "little or none." The ranking of these problems from greatest to those of least importance is shown in Table XI. It will be noticed from the table that there were only three items which one-third or more of the women felt to be "much" of a problem; namely, "not being able to do the things that you wish most to do", "feet that are difficult to fit" and "deciding what to buy." Problems of fitting and money appeared common to many. Such factors as "keeping up with your friends," "difficulty in pleasing husband," and "dissatisfaction with present clothing" were seldom problems of these women.

Table XI. The Ranking of the 30 Clothing Problems from Those of Greatest to Those of Least Importance for the Homemakers

Rank of item by homemaker	Degree of problem		
	High	Medium	Little
1. Not being able to do the things that you wish most to do.	36.4	29.6	34.0
2. Feet that are difficult to fit.	34.5	23.5	42.0
3. Deciding what to buy	33.3	34.8	31.9
4. Nervous in sewing	31.6	25.4	43.0
5. Fitting of garments	28.5	37.4	34.1
6. Insufficient money for clothing needs.	24.9	49.6	25.5
7. A figure that is difficult to fit.	24.6	27.6	47.8
8. Lack of sewing skill.	24.4	41.5	34.2
9. Finding comfortable clothing that is good looking.	21.4	32.0	46.6
10. Meeting demands of the family.	20.4	41.5	38.2
11. Lack of self-confidence.	20.3	35.7	44.0
12. Following pattern directions.	16.1	26.2	55.7
13. Selecting of suitable material.	15.2	39.1	45.7
14. Worry over being well or suitably dressed.	14.6	32.0	53.4
15. Keeping clothing in good condition.	13.6	39.0	48.2
16. Lack of sewing facilities.	12.7	26.0	61.3
17. Choosing suitable accessories.	12.5	29.4	58.1
18. Dissatisfied with present clothing.	8.7	30.0	61.5
19. Difficulty in pleasing husband.	8.3	10.9	80.8
20. Keeping up with your friends.	5.1	13.9	83.1

The major interest of the majority of the women was centered around homemaking, for "to be a successful homemaker" and "to learn to buy more efficiently" occupied the two highest places relative to interest. (See Table XII) "How to enjoy beautiful things" was rated third place, and "how one's clothes affects one's health" fourth place. Neither of the first four pertain to the personal appearance of the women.

The items in which the homemakers expressed the least interest were "keeping up with style changes," "helping others with clothing problems," and "making things such as hooked rugs, crocheting and knitting."

Table XII. The Ranking of the 19 Clothing Interest Items from Those of Greatest to Those of Least Interest and the Percentage of Homemakers Expressing the Varying Degree of Interest in Each Item.

Rank of item by homemaker	Degree of interest		
	Much	Medium	Little or none
1. To be a successful homemaker.	70.7	7.5	21.8
2. To learn to buy more efficiently.	70.6	7.5	21.9
3. How to enjoy beautiful things.	63.7	8.7	27.6
4. How one's clothes effects one's health.	63.0	8.1	28.9
5. To appear well dressed at all times.	61.8	17.5	20.7
6. To know what to consider when choosing a garment.	56.2	16.8	27.0
7. Learning to choose decorative accessories tastefully.	56.2	14.3	29.5
8. How to use colors effectively.	55.0	23.1	21.9
9. What one should learn about children's clothes.	53.0	8.1	38.9
10. To know the trade names of the best materials.	53.0	14.3	32.7
11. To dress according to your type.	52.1	10.6	37.3
12. How to be well dressed.	51.5	24.3	24.2
13. To know the trade names of the best garments.	50.5	18.7	30.8
14. How to acquire personal charm and poise.	47.4	25.6	27.0
15. When children should be permitted to buy their own clothing.	46.8	12.5	40.7
16. Learning to do handwork.	45.0	16.2	38.8
17. To make things, hooked rugs, crocheting, knitting.	44.9	18.1	37.0
18. Help others with clothing problems.	40.5	22.5	37.0
19. To keep up with style changes.	39.3	31.2	29.5

These women were more interested in the items which affected the whole household rather than the items pertaining to their own personal appearance.

The present emergency had changed the clothing practices of 33.1 per cent of these women. Many reported taking better care of their present supply of clothing in order to secure longer wear. Some were trying to buy more economically. Intentions to do more mending, remodeling, and sewing were expressed by many. One woman who had done very little

sewing stated that she intended to make all her clothing; another was reknitting old dresses and sweaters into new styles for herself and her children. Although in the past only 9 per cent had practiced remodeling and wearing their clothing as long as possible, 33 per cent hoped to do this in the future, whereas over 50 per cent were continuing as formerly relative to their clothing practices.

The women were being affected by the emergency. Ninety-one per cent said that the rising cost of clothing was affecting them. The attitudes of the women toward conservation of clothing varied. For example, one woman said, "I'm glad to remake and wear old garments if that will help win the war," while another stated, "It looks as if we will have to do without practically everything. Just when I hoped to get at least one round apiece of nice new things, the war had to come."

The difference in quality of materials on the market since the emergency had been noticed by 66.5 per cent of the homemakers. The majority of these women reported that a inferior quality of materials was offered for sale. Higher prices for the same quality was noticed. One woman stated that she had been purchasing nice remnants of most materials for ten and fifteen cents a yard for years but now they had either doubled in price or disappeared from the market.

The emergency was changing the sewing habits of some of these women. Fourteen per cent were sewing more now than formerly, while several expected to do more sewing. Since expenditures had to be kept at a minimum, 16.9 per cent had found that home construction of some garments

was one means of saving money. Some of the women were sewing less than formerly, however, but this was due to poor health and eyesight and lack of time and ability.

Red Cross activities such as sewing and knitting were participated in by a fairly large proportion of these women, as 33.7 per cent were sewing and 14.4 per cent were knitting for the Red Cross. Of these, 7.5 per cent were doing both knitting and sewing.

The women studied had planned to meet the rising cost of living in a variety of ways. These were as follows:

<u>Clothing plans to meet rising cost</u>	<u>No. of</u> <u>households</u>	<u>Per</u> <u>cent</u>
Buy necessities only	25	15.6
Better planning - proper care and mending	17	10.6
Better materials and use longer	15	9.4
Remodel and use to best advantage	13	8.1
Do practically all sewing	12	7.5
Dress more practical - simple lines	6	3.7
Do without and use what have	10	6.2
Use more cotton - watch bargains	3	1.9

If the statements of these women are correct, plans to meet the rising cost in clothing were being made by 63 per cent of them. Many old suits and dresses had been touched up by new accessories or the addition of different collars and cuffs.

The reasons for saving on clothing varied. About ten per cent of the women reported that economy in clothing was practiced in order to meet the rising cost of living and to meet tax payments. Other reasons for saving were: to meet all future household needs and expenses, improve the home and meet payments on homes, education of children, make ends meet, and donate to worthy causes. Defense stamps and bonds were

being purchased by 19.4 per cent.

It was evident that some of these women gave considerable thought to economy when purchasing garments or materials. For example, one homemaker made the following report concerning the selection of material for a cotton evening dress for her high school daughter:

"The wide full circular skirt was made of white pique, the bodice of flowered chints with flowers from the chints cut out and applied on the skirt. The materials and pattern for the dress cost less than \$2.75. This evening dress was to be washed instead of being sent to the cleaners and when it reached the stage of 'that-some-old-dress' it was to be 'cut off to the knees' for a day-time frock, for general wear."

The following statements from some of the homemakers indicate possibilities for remodeling:

"Since I signed the pledge to save everything possible I went to the attic and found several good dresses to make over. Among them was a very good quality blue seersucker evening dress with white collar and cuffs. From it I cut a very plain neat looking shirt-maker dress, using a pattern I had and the same collar, cuffs and zipper, making the dress at no cost at all. I am now enjoying wearing this dress and have derived a great deal of satisfaction out of an otherwise unusable garment."

"One of the most satisfactory shirt blouses I ever possessed was made from the trousers of a pair of men's pajamas of yellow pure-dye silk, dobby weave material. I am especially proud of this blouse since silk is at a premium now. Had I been able to purchase this blouse it would have been very expensive."

"I am small as you would guess when I told you I wore a nine junior dress. This size is very hard to find in a lady's coat. After searching three years for a coat and not finding my size or what I wanted, I decided to have a coat made from a coat my mother wore twenty-five years ago. Since that time it had been used for a car robe.

"The material in the old coat looked very much like the material of the new coats in the stores, but upon close investigation I found the old material to be of superior quality and the lining much better. A new coat would cost about \$45.00 and have to be made over to fit. Why pay that for a coat when you could have one just as good simply by asking for it? Was \$45.00 worth asking for? Well, I should think so, and especially since the moths would probably destroy it if it were not made into something that was useful and taken care of. The dressmaker I secured was glad to have the sewing. She did not need a pattern, only my measurements. She furnished the thread and said she would make it for seventy-five cents, but when I went for it I gave her eighty-five cents and felt it was worth much more. I have already worn it four winters and by having it relined I will wear it several more.

"Each season I receive many compliments on my coat from my new friends and many people talk of my nice warm coat. I am very proud of my 85-cent coat and am glad I had an economical mother who taught me to buy quality rather than quantity in material."

"I had a navy-blue coat of medium weight all wool crepe, that had been worn four seasons. The elbows were worn through. It was useless as a coat, yet there was still some good material in it. After ripping it apart I found I could get a six eared skirt from the good parts. I made the skirt and my daughter has worn it three years to school. I feel that I saved the price of a skirt which would have been around \$4.00."

"From a rather large man's suit of beautiful light weight tan material with a contrasting stripe, I made a girl's two-piece suit. I turned the legs of the trousers top side down and made a four-eared skirt with a kick pleat in the front. It made a good all-round suit which my daughter has worn for three years."

Clothing did not seem to present a major problem to the majority of these women. Problems in fitting and money appeared to be the most keenly felt.

The major interest of these women was centered around being an efficient homemaker. Personal clothing factors such as "to dress according to your type" and "how to be well dressed" appeared to be of less

interest in comparison to the factors affecting the household and family at large.

It appears from these data that the majority of the women were conscious of the emergency; however, it is not known to what extent changes in their clothing practices will be forthcoming.

Economy in the use of clothing on hand and in buying clothing appeared to be foremost in their intentions. In addition, sewing and re-use of partially-worn clothing were being practiced by some of these women. Many others stated that they planned to do more sewing and remodeling of clothing in order to conserve clothing materials to meet the increased demand for clothing and to counteract the rising cost of living. It was stated on the part of several women that money to be saved through a wise use of clothing would be used for buying defense stamps and bonds.

## Chapter VI

### FACTORS INFLUENCING THE UTILIZATION OF PARTIALLY-WORN CLOTHING

In the foregoing pages the uses of partially-worn clothing have been shown. The question may be asked: "Is there any association between the use of partially-worn clothing and such factors as family income, age and education of homemaker, size of household, and the sewing ability and extent of home economics training of the homemakers?"

#### Coefficient of Contingency

In order to measure the association between the use of partially-worn clothing and factors in the lives of these women, the contingency coefficient was used. The coefficient of contingency (C) is a statistic which measures the degree of departure from dependence or the association between the attributes of two or more variables. In other words, it simply shows whether the distribution of the observed results varied in a significant way from the normal distribution.

"When the qualities or degrees of occurrence of one phenomenon increase or decrease as the qualities or degrees of occurrence of another phenomenon increase or decrease, or if one increases as the other decreases, they are said to be associated. If the qualities of these phenomena increase or decrease at exactly the same rate, they are said to have perfect association, and their coefficient of association is,

1. If the qualities of these phenomena increase or decrease with no relation to each other, their coefficient of association is 0. When it is desired to calculate the association between three or more qualities or degrees of two or more given phenomena, the contingency method is used and the resulting association is expressed by the coefficient of contingency."

Table XIII. Contingency Table Setup to Show the Steps Involved in Calculating the Coefficient of Contingency Between Remodeling and Income

Income of Homeowner	Extent of Remodeling				Calculation of "expected" or "independent" values
	High	Medium	Little	Total	
\$500- (obs)	12	23	11	46	$\frac{46 \times 27}{135} = 9.2$ (m in cell 1)
(m)	9.2	21.8	14.9		
\$1499 (d)	2.8	1.2	3.9		
(d <sup>2</sup> )	7.84	1.44	15.21		$\frac{46 \times 64}{135} = 21.8$ (m in cell 2)
(obs)	11	23	17	51	
\$1500- (m)	10.2	24.1	16.6		$\frac{46 \times 44}{135} = 14.9$ (m in cell 3)
\$2499 (d)	.8	1.1	.4		
(d <sup>2</sup> )	.64	1.21	.16		$\frac{51 \times 27}{135} = 10.2$ (m in cell 4)
(obs)	4	18	16	38	
\$2500 (m)	7.6	18.0	12.3		$\frac{51 \times 64}{135} = 24.1$ (m in cell 5)
6 above (d)	3.6	0.0	3.7		
(d <sup>2</sup> )	12.96	0.0	13.69		$\frac{51 \times 44}{135} = 16.6$ (m in cell 6)
Totals	27	64	44	135	$\frac{38 \times 27}{135} = 7.6$ (m in cell 7)
$\chi^2 = 4.87 \quad C = .1865 \quad P = .30$					$\frac{38 \times 64}{135} = 18.0$ (m in cell 8)
					$\frac{38 \times 44}{135} = 12.3$ (m in cell 9)

(obs) observed value; (m) frequency expected; (d) deviation - difference between and expected values; (d<sup>2</sup>) deviation squared.

For example, if we wished to find the coefficient of contingency between reuse of partially-worn clothing and the income of a given sample of families we should wish to answer the question: Is the extent to which the families reuse partially-worn clothing, on the whole, distinctly dependent upon the income of the family; and if so, is this dependence very close or the reverse? If the tendency to reuse clothing increases or decreases at the same rate as the income increases or decreases, the coefficient of contingency between the two phenomena is 1. If the reuse of clothing increases or decreases at a rate very dissimilar to the increase or decrease in income, the coefficient of contingency approaches 0. The coefficient of contingency simply shows whether the attributes of the variables are or are not independent and nothing more. The coefficient of contingency does not tell whether the association is positive or negative; this must be determined in each case by an analysis of the contingency table.<sup>1</sup> When preparing contingency tables, it is desirable to test whether the observed departure from independence is significant or whether such departure may have been due to chance without any actual association existing.

In order to measure whether the association between paired groups (for instance Remodeling and income) differed significantly from the

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1. Adapted from a Study of Selected Factors in Family Life as Described in Autobiographies - Mildred E. Tharow, Cornell University Agricultural Experiment Station, Ithaca, N. Y., Memoir 171, February 1935, pp. 4-6.

distribution by chance, the factor "P" was introduced into statistical analysis by R. A. Fisher. "P" (probability) indicates whether the contingency coefficient might have been due to chance alone. For example, a "P" equal to .50 means that in fifty out of one hundred cases the association could be due to chance alone. The coefficient of contingency is considered significant if the "P" value was equal to or smaller than (>) 0.05.

Table XIV. Remodeling and Reuse of Partially-worn Clothing by the Homemakers as Related to their Incomes

Income	Reuse of Partially-worn clothing			Total Homemakers No.
	Much Per cent	Medium Per cent	Little or None Per cent	
\$ 500-\$1499	26.1	50.0	23.9	46
\$1500-\$2499	21.6	45.1	33.3	51
\$2500-Above	10.5	47.4	42.1	38
No information	4.0	56.0	40.0	25
<b>Total number of homemakers</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>160</b>

$X^2 = 4.87$      $G = .1865$      $P = > .30$

Table XV. Size of Household of the Homemakers Studied in Relation to the Amount of Remodeling and Reuse of Clothing done by them.

Size of Household	Reuse of Clothing			Total Homemakers No.
	Much Per cent	Medium Per cent	Little or None Per cent	
Less than 4	14.6	48.3	37.1	89
4 - 5	20.0	48.3	31.7	60
6 - above	27.3	54.5	18.2	11
<b>Total number of homemakers</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>160</b>

$X^2 = 2.553$      $C = .1253$      $P = > .50$

Table XVI. Age of the Homemakers Studied in Relation to the Amount of Remodeling and Reuse of Clothing Done by Them

Age of homemakers	Reuse of Clothing			Total Homemakers No.
	Much Per cent	Medium Per cent	Little or None Per cent	
Less than 35	14.3	44.6	41.0	56
35 - 55	18.9	50.0	31.0	74
55 - above	24.0	52.0	24.0	25
No information	0.0	60.0	40.0	5
<b>Total No. of homemakers</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>160</b>

$\chi^2 = 3.35$

$C = .1453$

$P = > .50^1$

Table XVII. Degree of Skill in Sewing of the Homemakers in Relation to Amount of Remodeling and Reuse of Clothing done by Them

Degree of skill in sewing	Reuse of Clothing			Total Homemakers No.
	Much Per cent	Medium Per cent	Little or None Per cent	
Very well	23.5	51.0	25.5	51
Moderately well	15.3	51.8	32.9	85
Poor or none at all	11.1	38.9	50.0	18
No information	16.7	16.7	66.6	6
<b>Total No. of homemakers</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>160</b>

$\chi^2 = 4.789$

$C = .1738$

$P = > .30$

1. Fischer, R. A. Biological Monographs and Manual. London, England. 1938. p. 118.

**Table XVIII. Education of Homemakers Studied in Relation to Remodeling and Reuse of Partially-Worn Clothing Done by Them**

Education of homemaker	Reuse of Partially-Worn Clothing			Total Homemakers No.
	Much Per cent	Medium Per cent	Little or None Per cent	
Grammar School	41.2	47.0	11.8	17
High School	9.5	50.8	39.7	63
College - above	18.4	48.7	32.9	76
No information	25.0	25.0	50.0	4
<b>Total No. of homemakers</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>160</b>

$$\chi^2 = 11.3000$$

$$O = .2598$$

$$P = < .05$$

**Table XIX. Amount of Home Economics Training in Relation to the Amount of Remodeling and Reuse of Clothing Done by the Homemakers**

Home Economics training	Reuse of Clothing			Total Homemakers No.
	Much Per cent	Medium Per cent	Little or None Per cent	
Yes	18.5	42.6	38.9	54
No	17.0	51.9	31.1	106
<b>Total No. of homemakers</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>160</b>

$$\chi^2 = 1.28$$

$$O = .0888$$

$$P = > .98$$

What factors, if any, are associated with the extent to which these homemakers remodel and reuse partially-worn clothing? In Tables 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, and 19 the association between extent of reuse of partially-worn clothing and such factors as family income, size of household, age, sewing ability, education and home economics training of the homemakers are shown.

If remodeling means saving for a family, one might expect more remodeling and reuse of clothing to be practiced among the low income group than within the higher income class. However, there was no significant association between income and extent of remodeling. In Table 14 it will be noted that a larger proportion of homemakers in the low income group remodeled clothing than was true of the high income group. The difference was not sufficiently large to be significant.

The same picture is true for the factors, size of household and age of homemaker. As the size of the household and the age of the homemaker increased, the amount of reuse of clothing increased. However, the increase was not sufficiently great to produce a significant association between reuse of clothing and size of household or age of homemaker. Of the eleven families with six or more members, six of these fell in the low income group which may have influenced the extent of remodeling for Table 14 shows some tendency for the low income families to do more remodeling.

Although one might expect the sewing skill of the homemaker to be associated with the amount of remodeling, the association was not significant. However, in Table 17, it will be noted that those with greater sewing skill did the most sewing.

The education of the homemaker is one factor which appears to be associated with the amount of remodeling and reuse of clothing done by the homemaker. The women with elementary or less schooling did the most remodeling and reuse of clothing, with the college group ranking second. A partial explanation of the more extensive reuse of clothing among the college group, as compared with the high school group, may be the fact

that a larger proportion of the high school group were engaged in work outside the home which would decrease time available for remodeling.

If these data are correct, one cannot expect a limited amount of home economics training to increase the amount of remodeling done by the homemakers. Those without home economics training did just as much remodeling as those with it. A question may be raised as to whether those with home economics training were better equipped for sewing than the non-home economics group. The home economics instruction obtained, in all probability, was not sufficient to train the women to change lines of garments, necessary for restyling. The investigator had no way of knowing what was included in the so-called home economics training obtained by these women.

These data seem to indicate that the reuse and remodeling of partially-worn clothing is associated with the personality of the homemakers. If the homemaker is interested in this practice and has the skill to do it, it will be carried on in the home; if not, it will not be done irrespective of the need of the family. There are, however, many factors which must be considered when analyzing these associations. The fact that the low-income group did not make a significantly greater use of partially-worn clothing may not indicate a lack of thrift. It is possible that this low-income group of necessity buys inferior clothing, which wears out quickly and is not available for remodeling. A dress purchased for \$2.98 would, in all probability, be worn out at the end of the year, while a dress purchased for \$25.00 may have considerable wearing quality remaining after two years of service.

Due to the fact that the majority of the large families fell among the low-income group, the little association between size of household and extent of remodeling may be due to the cheaper type of clothing owned by the members of the larger households.

Why do women who sew well spend little time in remodeling? Perhaps the satisfaction received from constructing garments from new material is greater than that received through remodeling. Some women consider their time and workmanship in sewing too valuable to be spent on the remodeling of clothing. The women in the higher income group would probably tire of garments even though they know their possibilities for remodeling and prefer to discard them in favor of new materials of later style, color and design. Lack of interest in and a felt need for remodeling garments undoubtedly would give way to a desire for new ready-made garments.

To remodel clothing takes considerable skill and ingenuity, which, in all probability, was not possessed by the lower income group. The practice of handing down garments within a large family may not necessitate remodeling as the garments generally are used in their original form. The care of large families, especially in the lower income group, requires an exceedingly large amount of the homemakers' time for household activities which would limit time available for remodeling.

The little association between age of the homemaker and extent of remodeling may portray a change in practices in the general clothing field. In the past home construction was essential because commercially-made garments were not easily procured. The older women developed the

habit of home construction. The younger women have grown up during the era of commercially-made clothing and may not feel the need for developing sufficient skill to sew. Thus, the difference in amount of remodeling may not be due to difference in interest between the age groups but to habit.

In order to fully understand why the practice of remodeling did not associate itself with the factors in family life considered would, no doubt, require a detailed study of each family.

## SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

As the Nation is forced to move from an economy of plenty to one of scarcity, the more efficient use of materials on hand or purchasable becomes increasingly important. This is true not only in the field of material for armament, but also in food, clothing and textiles.

The purpose of this study was to ascertain the use made of partially-worn clothing by the homemakers within a selected community, the factors which seemed to influence its utilization, and changes in the use of partially-worn clothing by homemakers in light of the present emergency.

The data for the study were obtained from 160 homemakers living in Marion, Virginia, through personal and group interviews using schedules for recording the data. These women represented various levels of living and were between the ages of seventeen and seventy-seven years.

The homemakers studied were better educated than the average for the state, their average schooling being 10.9 grades. Over half of them had had some special training or college work beyond high school. Less than one-third of these women had had any formal training in home economics. Very few had received extension training or adult education instruction. Although seventy-two per cent of these women had learned to sew before marriage, only forty-seven per cent were doing sewing in the home. Those who did sew spent a limited number of hours in the activity. About eleven per cent of the women were engaged in sewing activities for a livelihood. The average time spent by all the women in home sewing, including mending and darning and handwork was a little over three hours per week.

Although these homes were well equipped for sewing, the equipment appeared to be of little use since more than half of the homemakers did no sewing that required the services of a machine. It appears that these women were either inadequately prepared to sew well or had given up home construction for manufactured clothing.

The husbands were engaged in professional, semi-professional, business, and clerical work, as well as manual labor. They represented various income groups with a yearly income ranging from \$500 to above \$3,500. Many owned their own homes and the majority seemed to be fairly stable economically.

These women as a whole reported enjoying household work. However, they found more pleasure in meal preparation and general cleaning than in sewing and clothing activities. The majority preferred to be successful at homemaking than at any other activity.

While the majority of these women usually planned their household work, less than one-half gave any thought at all to a clothing plan and very few had inaugurated such a plan. However, in purchasing clothing, about one-half of the women reported that they considered possibilities for remodeling or restyling when selecting a garment. Although fifty per cent of the women felt that they had adequate knowledge for judging fabrics, the investigator questioned this evaluation. In buying clothing materials and household textiles many depended on simple tests, brand name or tags and recommendations from the merchants rather than their own judgment in selection.

Only eleven per cent of these women expressed complete satisfaction with their present clothing, yet dissatisfaction with their clothing wardrobe did not seem to be a problem to them. If the opportunity presented itself the majority of these women would make some changes in their present clothing. Some of the desired changes were better quality in clothing, smart tailored clothing, higher priced clothing, more new clothing, and more complete outfits. Some of the women would make changes in their clothing if they had the ability to design, make and remake their clothing to suit their personal types. Others wished to be able to buy without looking at the price tag or waiting for sales. Summed up in the viewpoint of the homemaker, sufficient money for clothing would make it possible to make desired changes. The fact that their needs might be met by a better knowledge of how to select suitable and appropriate clothing, a little ingenuity, and more thought of the serviceability of clothing did not appear to be a part of their thinking.

On the whole these women appeared to be rather conservative, practical and thrifty in the buying of their clothing supplies. Shopping for clothing ideas not only in the local stores but through magazines and newspapers and taking advantage of sales was practiced to a great extent. The majority of these women enjoyed shopping not only for the pleasure of buying but also for the satisfaction derived by seeing beautiful new style displays and creations. Many ideas secured in shopping were carried out in the construction of clothing.

The women showed more interest in economy when buying new articles of clothing than in studying and planning for the reuse of partially-worn clothing.

Undoubtedly few of the women found any value in partially-worn clothing, as it usually was used for cleaning purposes or given away. Remodeling was not done to conserve materials. The chief reasons for remodeling were, satisfaction derived from getting something usable out of a non-usable garment and of being thrifty, while some did it because of necessity.

The saving of clothing ornaments was practiced extensively by these women. Possibly this was due to the fact that little effort was required on their part to save ornaments and ornaments are expensive and difficult to procure.

If the statements of these women are correct, they had few clothing problems. Of the clothing items presenting such of a problem to the homemakers were "not being able to do the things you wish most to do," "feet that are difficult to fit" and "deciding what to buy." The major interests of these women centered around the household as the women were more interested in the items which affected the whole household than those pertaining to their own personal appearance.

The extent to which partially-worn clothing is reused in the home seems to depend upon the personality of the homemaker. There was no significant association between the extent of remodeling and reuse of partially-worn clothing and such factors as family income, size of household, age of homemaker, sewing ability of the homemaker, and amount of home economics training of the homemakers as measured by the coefficient of contingency. The amount of reuse of clothing did associate itself with the education of the homemaker. The women with grammar school or less formal education did considerable more remodeling than the high school

or college educated groups, while the college did more than the high school group. This difference between the high school and college groups may be due to the fact that a larger proportion of the high school group were employed outside the home.

Only about one-third of these homemakers reported any change in clothing practices in an attempt to meet the present emergency. Those who were attempting to meet the needs of the situation were taking better care of their present clothing, extending its use through remodeling, and buying more economically. Twenty-two per cent reported increased home sewing already. This was to save money, rather than to save material. Many more women were expecting to make similar changes in their clothing practices in the near future. More remodeling and mending as well as construction of new clothing was being planned. The extent to which these plans will materialize may be questioned. There was little indication that these women would be more conservative in their use of textiles. Although many of the women stated that they planned to do more reusing of partially-worn clothing during the emergency, they gave as their reasons for not reusing this clothing now, lack of time, interest and skill in sewing. If these are reasons for no remodeling now, it seems unlikely that the war will change materially the amount of remodeling and reuse of clothing.

The majority of these women had felt the rising cost in ready-made clothing and materials, and had noticed an inferior quality of materials on the market since the emergency. Reported plans to meet the rising cost of living were as follows: strict economy, using only the

necessities, buying less and more carefully, better planning as to purchase, better care of materials, more remodeling, more home sewing, dressing more practically, and doing without.

The findings in this study indicate that the reuse of partially-worn clothing has been given little thought by the average homemaker. The policy of the clothing and textile field in the past has been to create desires for new purchases through frequent changes of styles and materials. In addition there has been the emphasis that the American woman and her family must be well dressed. Style, rather than serviceability and appropriateness, has been the keynote. With a change from an economy of plenty to one of scarcity in the clothing fields, at the same time as the family income increases, the question is: how can the homemaker furnish the clothing and textiles needed for the physical and emotional well-being of her family members and at the same time operate on an economy of scarcity? The answer is, no doubt, better use of the materials on hand and more planning and wiser purchasing.

Before this program can be carried on in the homes of the average American family, certain obstacles in the clothing practices of homemakers need to be removed. The lack of skill on the part of the homemaker for the reusing of partially-worn clothing should be remedied. Many women, due to their inability to design, cut and construct garments, produce an inferior article at home which demands little respect from the wearer. In the renovating of partially-worn clothing the most skilled ability in sewing is required for the creating of a satisfac-

tory garment of lasting beauty. The average homemaker does not possess this skill.

The lack of knowledge of how to reuse partially-worn clothing is indeed prevalent. Few women take the time to think of the most effective uses to which their partially-worn clothing can be put. Street dresses usually become housedresses after the homemaker has tired of them. A street dress still possessing several seasons wear would be more effectively used in the same capacity by someone else. The same is true of many other articles of clothing, such as men's tailored suits. Often good wool trousers are worn in the garden or in the garage while cotton trousers, purchased for \$1.98 a pair would serve the purpose. Much thought should be given to the materials in partially-worn clothing and the most effective use to which all the good part may be put. It would be a waste to make a child's dress if a lady's dress could be made from the same material.

The established practice of destroying or giving away partially-worn clothes without any knowledge of the use to which the recipient will put it should be discouraged. Women, as a rule, are not interested in the uses to which their clothing are put after they have no further need for them. Any article of clothing which is available for further use should never be destroyed.

The inability to recognize the value in partially-worn materials is a limitation on the part of many homemakers. Women must be trained to see that as much wear may be received from garments after they have been reclaimed as before.

The appeal to have the latest in material or fashion influences the buying practices of many homemakers. In order to get maximum wear out of textiles, changes in style and materials should be brought about slowly. If women's clothes could be as well standardized as men's, much waste could be eliminated in the clothing field.

The inability to operate on a long-time plan when purchasing clothing is a handicap not comprehended by the less thrifty homemakers. Such a plan requires considerable knowledge of textiles, line, color and construction.

The lack of general interest in clothing conservation is another hindrance to a functional clothing program. Not until recently has any effort been made on the part of educational institutions to train for clothing conservation. In the past some work was given in clothing classes on remodeling. However, the point of emphasis was not on saving material but saving money for the homemaker. The lack of concern is further emphasized<sup>by</sup> the dearth of "economy hints" on clothing found in popular literature. Magazines are full of recipes for ways of utilizing left-over foods; yet, until the present emergency very little or nothing could be found on the utilization of partially-worn materials.

The inability to distinguish between fibers and judge the suitability of a piece of material for the purpose intended are problems to be overcome. The women in this study did not have confidence in their own judgment of materials and frequently depended on the sales person for a decision. Unless the sales person is trained and discreet, the homemaker often may be misled for the sake of making a sale. The pur-

choice of materials of inferior quality usually is expensive in the long run.

How can conservation of clothing materials be furthered as a public policy in this country? The following suggestions are offered to stimulate thought on this question:

Adult and extension classes in both rural and urban areas on the use of clothing for non-school groups should create interest and develop skill in better use of clothing materials. In addition, such help could be given in planning clothing buying as well as in the wise use of them.

A clothing center could be operated in a community for the purpose of remodeling and reclaiming clothing. This should prove to be a paying commercial adventure for those who have ingenuity and skill in the reuse of clothing. In most communities it is difficult to obtain the services of a skilled person in clothing construction.

A clothing clinic for the purpose of giving instruction in the care, repair and remodeling of clothing should be of service. The clinic could be installed in a vacant room in a public building with equipment being loaned and donated by philanthropic members of the community. Expert supervision could come through voluntary service of the local women. A group class should be held at the beginning of the clinic with direction in the preliminary steps of remodeling, such as choosing the garment to be remodeled, deciding on article to be made from it, ripping, cleaning, pressing and laying of pattern. Instruction in mending and darning should also be given.

In order to help the lower income groups with their clothing problems, some philanthropic women's club could establish a second-hand

store. The salesgirl should be instructed in the possibilities of reuse of clothing and enlighten the customers in the most practical ways of utilizing these garments. This practice would possibly stimulate a more effective use of clothing already on hand.

The slogan, "it's smart to be thrifty", could be practiced widely among the students in high schools. They should be encouraged by their instructor to practice thrift through making use of partially-worn clothing and be receiving full value from all clothing items.

The training in consumer education of store employees who sell clothing articles might be of considerable help to the homemakers. With this training the saleswomen would be in a position to advise the homemakers in buying types of garments and materials most suitable to their individual purposes.

It seems reasonable to assume that all high school girls should have some training in the selection, care, and use of clothing articles. It would be advisable for all of them to be taught to remodel garments. However, it may not be feasible to develop this degree of sewing skill in all high school girls.

Attention on the need for conservation of clothing could be focused through the local newspapers playing up the reasons for a conservation program. It is easier for individuals to recognize such a need during a war period when the supply of textiles for the civilian population is greatly curtailed. What will happen after the war? If the war is followed by a period of decreasing family income, and then a long period of relatively low family incomes, the training given now in the reuse of clothing materials may be of lasting value.

**APPENDIX**

A STUDY OF THE UTILIZATION OF PARTIALLY WORN  
CLOTHING WITHIN THE FAMILY IN A SELECTED COMMUNITY

I. Personal Data

1. How long have you been married? \_\_\_\_\_ Age at marriage \_\_\_\_\_  
Age now \_\_\_\_\_
2. How far did you go in school before marriage? \_\_\_\_\_
3. What schooling have you acquired since marriage? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Were you reared in a rural community? \_\_\_\_\_, village? \_\_\_\_\_  
city? \_\_\_\_\_.
5. Did you have any Home Economics training in school? \_\_\_\_\_
6. Have you received extension or adult instruction in clothing? \_\_\_\_\_  
How much? \_\_\_\_\_ When? \_\_\_\_\_
7. In what ways did you benefit by this training? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. Did you learn to sew before marriage? \_\_\_\_\_ After? \_\_\_\_\_
9. Do you have sewing done in the home? \_\_\_\_\_ Outside? \_\_\_\_\_
10. How well do you sew? Very well \_\_\_\_\_ Moderately well? \_\_\_\_\_  
poor or not at all \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. Are you or have you taught your children to sew? \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. What modes of patterns do you prefer to use? \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. How many hours a week do you spend sewing? \_\_\_\_\_
11. Do you do any sewing other than for your family? \_\_\_\_\_  
To what extent? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

12. Do you make any money by sewing? \_\_\_\_\_ In home \_\_\_\_\_ Outside \_\_\_\_\_

Approximately how much per week? \_\_\_\_\_

Have you visited the hosiery mill in your community? \_\_\_\_\_

Have you visited the garment mill in your community? \_\_\_\_\_

13. List number of children at home and age of each: No. \_\_\_\_\_

Boy or girl	-----	Age
-----	-----	-----
-----	-----	-----
-----	-----	-----
-----	-----	-----
-----	-----	-----

-----	-----
-----	-----
-----	-----
-----	-----
-----	-----
-----	-----

14. Would you rate your health as good, fair or poor? \_\_\_\_\_

How many persons outside of your immediate family stay with you in your home? \_\_\_\_\_

Who? _____	How long have _____
_____	they been here? _____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

15. What is the occupation of your husband? \_\_\_\_\_

Check the income range in which your family yearly cash income would fall--

\$500 to \$750 \_\_\_\_\_; \$750 to \$1,000 \_\_\_\_\_; \$1,000 to 1,250 \_\_\_\_\_;

\$1,250 to \$1,500 \_\_\_\_\_; \$1,500 to \$1,750 \_\_\_\_\_; \$1,750 to \$2000 \_\_\_\_\_;

\$2,000 to \$2,500 \_\_\_\_\_; \$2,500 to \$3,000 \_\_\_\_\_; \$3,000 to \$3,500 \_\_\_\_\_;

Above \$3,500 \_\_\_\_\_.

II. Household Activities

1. Do you plan your household work? \_\_\_\_\_

Daily? \_\_\_\_\_ Weekly? \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly? \_\_\_\_\_

2. Do you like housework? \_\_\_\_\_ Why? \_\_\_\_\_

In what phases are you the most efficient? \_\_\_\_\_

3. Do you do all of the household work in the home? \_\_\_\_\_

Have a full-time maid? \_\_\_\_\_ Part-time maid? \_\_\_\_\_

Relative in home who helps? \_\_\_\_\_

4. Fill in the following information for the listed activities:

Activities	:Is it : :carried: :on in : : the : : home?	: Is it : :respon-: :sibili-: :ty?	: Time : :spent in: :this act-: :ivity : : each : : week	: Check your :attitude toward it : : : : : Like:Indifferent:Dislike
Keeping household accounts	:	:	:	:
Washing clothes	:	:	:	:
Ironing	:	:	:	:
Mending	:	:	:	:
Assorting clothes	:	:	:	:
Care of clothing from season to season	:	:	:	:
Buying clothing supplies	:	:	:	:
Sewing	:	:	:	:
Others	:	:	:	:

5. Have you attended sewing or knitting demonstrations or classes in the last year? \_\_\_\_\_ How often? \_\_\_\_\_

6. Do you prepare the meals in your home? \_\_\_\_\_

7. What time do you usually go to bed? \_\_\_\_\_

What time do you usually get up? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you take a nap in the day time? \_\_\_\_\_ For how long? \_\_\_\_\_

8. Do you own your home? \_\_\_\_\_ Is there a room for sewing? \_\_\_\_\_

How many clothes closets are in the house? \_\_\_\_\_

9. Please check the equipment that you have in the home.

Electric pressing iron \_\_\_\_\_ Sewing machine (pedal type) \_\_\_\_\_

Condition of: good \_\_\_\_\_ Average \_\_\_\_\_ Poor \_\_\_\_\_

Sewing machine (electric type) \_\_\_\_\_

Condition of: Good \_\_\_\_\_ Average \_\_\_\_\_ Poor \_\_\_\_\_

Washing machine? Electric \_\_\_\_\_ Hand \_\_\_\_\_ Others \_\_\_\_\_

Ironer or mangle \_\_\_\_\_ Tubs? Stationary \_\_\_\_\_ Moveable \_\_\_\_\_

Pinking shears? \_\_\_\_\_ Yard stick or measuring tape? \_\_\_\_\_

Sewing basket or box? \_\_\_\_\_

10. Do you feel that your clothes and linen storage space is adequate?  
\_\_\_\_\_

11. Can you plug your electrical equipment in where you need it? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

12. Do you feel that you have: 1. Too much sewing to do? \_\_\_\_\_

2. Just the right amount? \_\_\_\_\_

3. Not enough \_\_\_\_\_

III. Use of partially worn clothing

1. What do you do with the following garments when they are no longer suitable to wear?

a. Hose

Yours

Men's

Children's

---

---

---

b. Slips

Yours

Children's

---

---

---

c. Shoes

Yours

Men's

Children's

---

---

---

d. Cloth coats

Yours

Men's

Children's

---

---

---

e. Shirts

Men's

Children's

---

---

---

f. Underwear

Yours

Men's

Children's

---

---

---

g. Work suits

Yours

Men's

Children's

---

---

---

h. Drapes

i. Pajamas

---

---

---

j. Scraps of materials

k. Ties

---

---

---

l. Fur coats

m. Evening dresses

---

---

---

n. Good dresses

---



---



---

o. House dresses

---



---



---

p. Sugar and flour sacks

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---



---

q. Sweaters

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---



---

r. Bathrobes

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---



---

s. Skirts

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---



---

t. Do you have clothing stored away for sentimental reasons?

How much? \_\_\_\_\_

IV. Please check each question as to whether you do this yourself or have it done. If it is not done in your home, you need not check

the item.

	:Do you do :this your- : self?	:Do you have : it done?
1. Do you make tea towels from sugar and salt bags? _____	:	:
2. Do you make children's underwear from soft cotton bags? _____	:	:
3. Do you make aprons from bags? _____	:	:
4. Do you reknit good yarn in children's sweaters? _____	:	:
5. Do you knit children's clothing from your knitted garments? _____	:	:

- |  | Do you do<br>this<br>yourself? | Do you<br>have it<br>done? |
|--|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 6. Do you dye clothing to continue its use or for restyling? _____ |                                |                            |
| 7. Do you reuse good lace on new garments? _____                   |                                |                            |
| 8. Do you reuse inner linings from coats? _____                    |                                |                            |
| 9. Do you use feed bags as linings for quilts? _____               |                                |                            |
| 10. Do you remodel felt hats? _____                                |                                |                            |
| 11. Do you retrim good straw hats? _____                           |                                |                            |
| 12. Do you dye good straw hats? _____                              |                                |                            |
| 13. Do you save blomers from hats for future use? _____            |                                |                            |
| 14. Do you save feathers from hats for future use? _____           |                                |                            |
| 15. Do you save ornaments from hats for future use? _____          |                                |                            |
| 16. Do you save ornaments from dresses for future use? _____       |                                |                            |
| 17. Do you save belts for future use? _____                        |                                |                            |
| 18. Do you save buttons for future use? _____                      |                                |                            |
| 19. Do you save pins for future use? _____                         |                                |                            |
| 20. Do you save ribbons for future use? _____                      |                                |                            |
| 21. Do you reuse pocket-book tops? _____                           |                                |                            |
| 22. Do you reuse knitting bag tops? _____                          |                                |                            |
| 23. Do you save fur coat trimmings for future use? _____           |                                |                            |
| 24. Do you make hand towels from linen dresses? _____              |                                |                            |
| 25. Do you use burlap sacks for hooking rugs? _____                |                                |                            |
| 26. Do you make table covers from feed or other bags? _____        |                                |                            |
| 27. Do you save scraps from gingham dresses for quilts? _____      |                                |                            |

	:Do you do:	Do you :
	: this :	have it :
	: yourself :	done? :
28. Do you add collars, cuffs, vests, etc to freshen old dresses? _____	_____	_____
29. Do you have your shoes half soled? _____	_____	_____
30. Do you darn children's stockings? _____	_____	_____
31. Do you darn your stockings? _____	_____	_____
32. Do you make dickies from old linen, pique or silk dresses? _____	_____	_____
33. Do you save your old clothing to be utilized in making rugs? _____	_____	_____
34. Do your children wear handed-down clothes?: _____	_____	_____

V. Remodeling and buying of clothing

1. Do you remodel clothing? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Reasons for remodeling clothing
  - a. Do you remake clothing to save money? \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. Do you remake garments because you feel that homemakers should be thrifty? \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. Do you enjoy the satisfaction of getting something usable out of a non-usable article? \_\_\_\_\_
  - d. Does a large family necessitate the remaking of clothing? \_\_\_\_\_
  - e. Are there other reasons? \_\_\_\_\_
3. Do you like to sew? \_\_\_\_\_
4. If you do not sew, would you like to learn? \_\_\_\_\_

5. Do you buy new materials to be sewed in the home? \_\_\_\_\_  
Why? \_\_\_\_\_

6. Has the present emergency changed your practices in using  
partially worn clothing? \_\_\_\_\_  
In what ways? \_\_\_\_\_

7. Do you feel that prices will go up? \_\_\_\_\_  
How will this affect your practices in using partially worn  
clothing? \_\_\_\_\_

8. Have you noticed any difference in the quality of materials on  
the market since the emergency? \_\_\_\_\_

9. Are you sewing more now than formally? \_\_\_\_\_  
Why? \_\_\_\_\_

10. What plans are you making to meet the rising cost in clothing?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

11. Do you sew for the Red Cross? \_\_\_\_\_

12. Do you knit for the Red Cross? \_\_\_\_\_

13. If you save on clothing, what do you plan to do with the money?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

14. In buying, do you have difficulty in making decisions? \_\_\_\_\_

15. Do you consider the possibilities of remodeling when buying a garment \_\_\_\_\_ In what ways? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
16. What type of shoes do you buy? For work \_\_\_\_\_  
For dress \_\_\_\_\_  
For walking \_\_\_\_\_
17. What do you usually pay for shoes? For work \_\_\_\_\_  
For dress \_\_\_\_\_  
For walking \_\_\_\_\_
18. When buying a hat, do you plan to wear it more than one season?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Do you buy a hat to go with each ensemble? \_\_\_\_\_
19. In buying fabrics do you ask for certain brands? \_\_\_\_\_  
Do you use simple tests to determine the fiber content of materials before buying? \_\_\_\_\_  
Do you look for brand name on selvage, tag or bolt before buying? \_\_\_\_\_
20. When buying children's clothing, do you allow for growth? \_\_\_\_\_
21. Do you shrink your cotton materials before cutting? \_\_\_\_\_
22. What determines the amount that you pay for a dress or coat? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
23. Do you have a definite clothing budget? \_\_\_\_\_
24. Do you have a plan for buying new clothing? (Such as a new coat every two or three years?) \_\_\_\_\_
25. Do you know how to judge quality in fabrics? \_\_\_\_\_

26. Can you recognize full-fashioned hose? \_\_\_\_\_ Rayon? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Nylon? \_\_\_\_\_ Silk? \_\_\_\_\_
27. Which do you pay the most attention to in buying coats and  
 dresses? Price \_\_\_\_\_ Style \_\_\_\_\_ Color \_\_\_\_\_ Material \_\_\_\_\_  
 quality \_\_\_\_\_ becomingness \_\_\_\_\_ Durability? \_\_\_\_\_
28. Do you take advantage of sales? \_\_\_\_\_

VI. Clothing Problems

Please check the column at the right which more nearly expresses the  
 extent to which each item listed is a problem for you.

Problem	Extent of Problem		
	Much	Medium	Little, if any
1. Selecting of suitable materials	:	:	:
2. Deciding what to buy	:	:	:
3. A figure that is difficult to fit	:	:	:
4. Feet that are difficult to fit	:	:	:
5. Nervousness in sewing	:	:	:
6. Not being able to do the things <del>that</del> you that you wish most to do	:	:	:
7. Worry over being well or suitably dressed	:	:	:
8. Meeting demands of the family	:	:	:
9. Dissatisfied with present clothing	:	:	:
10. Lack of sewing facilities	:	:	:
11. Difficulty in pleasing husband	:	:	:
12. Keeping up with your friends	:	:	:

	Extent of Problem		
	Much	Medium	Little, if any
13.	:	:	:
13. Following pattern directions _____	:	:	:
14. Lack of sewing skill _____	:	:	:
15. Fitting of garments _____	:	:	:
16. Lack of self confidence _____	:	:	:
17. Choosing suitable accessories _____	:	:	:
18. Keeping clothing in good condition _____	:	:	:
19. Finding comfortable clothing that is good looking _____	:	:	:
20. Insufficient money for clothing needs _____	:	:	:

What changes would you make in your clothing if you had the opportunity to do so? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

VII. Clothing interests

1. Please check the column at the right-hand side of the page that more clearly expresses your interest in each of the listed items.

Clothing Interests	Extent of Interest			
	NonLittle	Mod-	Much	Very
	e:	ium	:	:much
a. How to acquire personal charm and poise _____	:	:	:	:
b. How to be well-dressed _____	:	:	:	:
c. How to use colors effectively _____	:	:	:	:
d. To appear well-dressed at all times _____	:	:	:	:
e. To be a successful homemaker _____	:	:	:	:
f. Help others with clothing problems _____	:	:	:	:

Clothing Interests	Extent of Interest				
	None	Little	Medium	Much	Very much
g. To know what to consider when choosing a garment	:	:	:	:	:
h. Learning to do handiwork	:	:	:	:	:
i. Learning to choose decorative accessories tastefully	:	:	:	:	:
j. How to enjoy beautiful things	:	:	:	:	:
k. To learn to buy more efficiently:	:	:	:	:	:
l. To keep up with style changes	:	:	:	:	:
m. To dress according to your type	:	:	:	:	:
n. What one should learn about children's clothes	:	:	:	:	:
o. When children should be permitted to buy their own clothing	:	:	:	:	:
p. To know the trade names of the best materials	:	:	:	:	:
q. To know the trade names of the best garments	:	:	:	:	:
r. How ones clothing affects ones health	:	:	:	:	:
s. To make things--hooked rugs, crocheting, knitting	:	:	:	:	:

2. Do you visit stores for new style ideas? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you read style magazines or newspapers before selecting: Your patterns? \_\_\_\_\_ Clothing \_\_\_\_\_ Materials \_\_\_\_\_ Hats \_\_\_\_\_ shoes \_\_\_\_\_.

3. Do you like to read magazines? \_\_\_\_\_

Check the magazines that you read for clothing help in the following list. Place a "U" after the magazine if you usually read it and an "O" if you only occasionally read it.

Name of Magazine	:U or O:	Do you take it in your home?
Ladies' Home Journal	:	:
McCall's	:	:
Good Housekeeping	:	:
Harper's Bazaar	:	:
Woman's Home Companion	:	:
Vogue	:	:
Mademoiselle	:	:
Movie Magazines	:	:
Hollands	:	:
The Household Magazine	:	:
Pathfinder	:	:
Others	:	:

4. Do you think that you spend too much time on clothing? \_\_\_\_\_

5. Do you get clothing hints from the movies? \_\_\_\_\_

6. Which of the following types of handiwork do you like best?

Knitting \_\_\_\_\_ Crocheting \_\_\_\_\_ Tatting \_\_\_\_\_ Weaving \_\_\_\_\_  
Embroidering \_\_\_\_\_ Doing needlepoint \_\_\_\_\_ Making hooked rugs \_\_\_\_\_  
Other \_\_\_\_\_.

About how much time do you spend each week on these activities? \_\_\_\_\_

7. Do you enjoy shopping? \_\_\_\_\_ Why? \_\_\_\_\_