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Helen Day Lorshbough

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Extension Circular No. 185.

UTILITY OF SACKS

By

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Cooperative Extension Work in Agriculture and Home Economics,
South Dakota State College and United States Department of
Agriculture Cooperating.

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SUGGESTIONS FOR USES OF FLOUR SACKS, SUGAR SACKS, & SALT SACKS.

Wearing Apparel

Dresses
 Aprons
 Nightgowns
 Slips
 Kimonos
 Men's shirts
 Boy's shirts
 Boy's Blouses
 Petticoats
 Baby dresses and petticoats
 Handkerchiefs
 Rompers
 Corset Covers
 Combination Suit or Step-in
 Wash Cloths

Household Furnishings

Bed Spreads and Shams
 Curtains
 Window Drapes
 Dresser Scarf or Set
 Lunch Cloth and Napkins
 Table Cloths
 Doilies
 Towels
 Pillow Slips
 Buffet Scarf or Set
 Porch Pillow Covers
 Wash Cloths

Kitchen Supplies

Tea Towels
 Holders
 Pads
 Dish Cloths

Finishes

A little touch of color added to many of the articles made from the sacks will make them more attractive.

1. Colored borders of gingham, chambray or pieces of the sack material dyed.
2. Braids such as rick rack, stickeri and military.
3. Bias tape
4. Piping
5. Cable Stitching.

6. Simple embroidery designs
7. Applique

DYEING

Flour and Sugar sacks take dye well, therefore, they can be dyed a solid color or tie dyed.

USES OF GUNNY SACKS

Attractive pillow tops and rugs can be made from gunny sacks. Since these sacks are a very open weave, designs in cross stitch with yarn can easily be made. Patterns of plain stitch can also be worked in bright colors. If sack is very flimsy a piece of material can be stitched to sack to help keep it in place.

USES OF GRAIN SACKS

When grain sacks are laundered they lose some of their stiffness.

An excellent heavy laundry bag can be made from a grain sack by simply running a draw string in the top. A larger hem may be turned or eyelets made about 3 inches down from the top.

A good servicable roller towel can be made from a grain sack. Cut off or open hem at top. Cut down each side lengthwise; do not cut double lower end of sack; stitch two top edges of sack together. Flat felled seam is best to use. Hem or bind the two long edges.

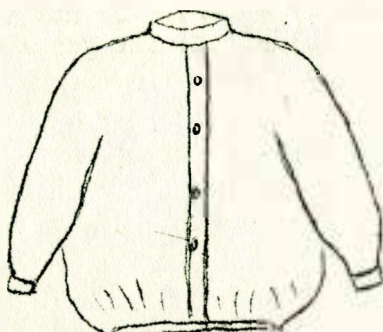
PRICES OF SACKS

Flour sacks vary in price from 5¢ to 15¢ each.

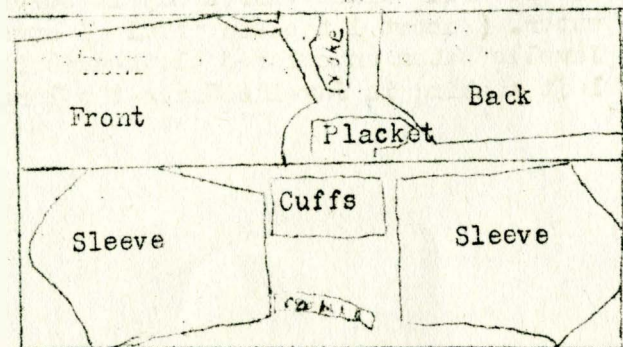
Sugar sacks usually 10¢ each.

This circular however, was written with the thought of economizing and using the sack material on hand rather than purchasing sacks.

PRACTICAL USE OF SUGAR SACKS (50 Lb)



Boy's Blouse



UTILITY OF SACKS

The question is often asked "What use can I make of sugar sacks and flour sacks"? Also "What material can I use for a child's dress or pair of rompers since I must have some to use at once and have no new material to use"? These questions can be answered in variety of ways. The aim of this circular however, is to suggest the use of sacks of various kinds.

Sugar sacks and flour sacks are perhaps the most common kinds of sacks. There are also salt sacks and gunny sacks which may be used to good advantage in the household.

FLOUR SACKS

Come in two sizes - the 50 lb and the 100 lb size. The 100 lb size cut to best advantage for making larger articles.

PREPARING SACKS

One of the big problems when using flour sacks is the removing of the printing on the outside of each sack. There are several methods which might be used. The two described are successful methods.

1. In most cases the sacks need to be ripped open - then soaked in warm water which a little kerosene and soap powder has been added, then boil in the same water for ten or 15 minutes. Wash in good soap suds, boil, rinse and blue.
2. Rinse flour sack then soak in Javelle water solution until colored stamping disappears.

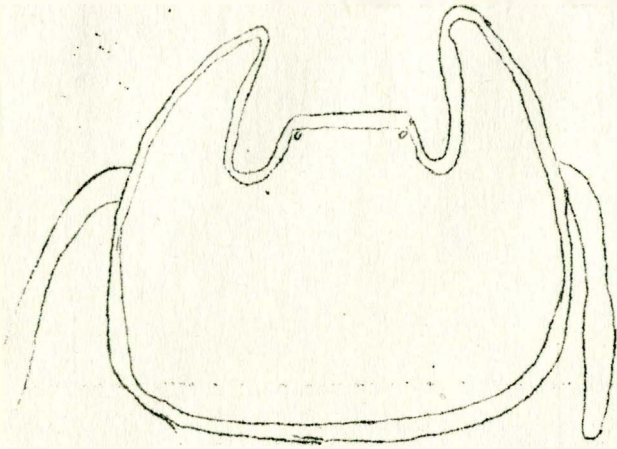
JAVELLE WATER

1 lb washing soda	2 qts. cold water
1 qt. boiling water	$\frac{1}{2}$ lb chloride of lime

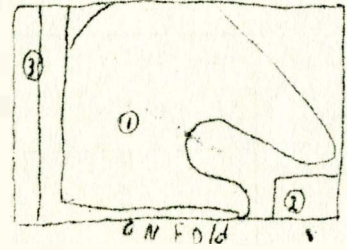
Put the soda in an agate pan and add the boiling water. Mix the lime in cold water and let settle. Pour the clear liquid into the dissolved soda. Bottle, label and keep in a dark place.

Soak the sack in equal parts of Javell Water and hot water until the stain disappears. Rinse thoroughly in several waters and finally in diluted ammonia water. (about 1 tablespoonful of ammonia in two quarts of water). Do not use Javelle Water on colored clothes as it will remove the color. If the garment is left soaking in Javelle Water too long it will injure the fiber.

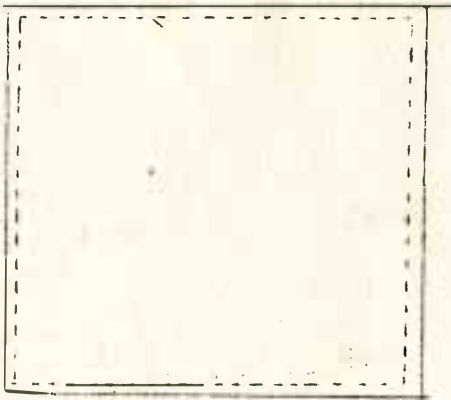
WAYS TO USE 1 FLOUR SACK



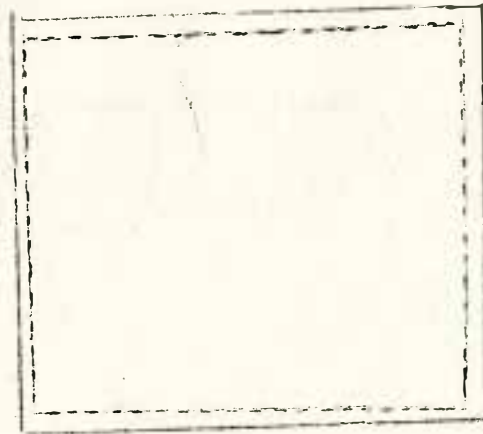
Child's apron trimmed with bias tape



- (1) Body of Apron
- (2) Pockets
- (3) Ties



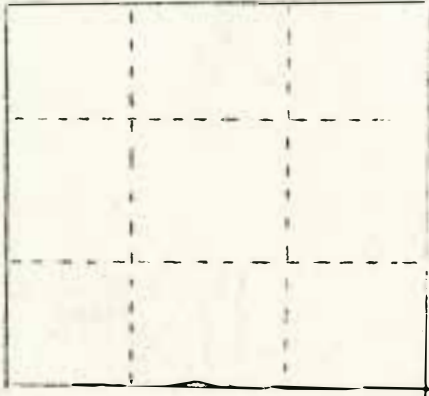
Dish Towel



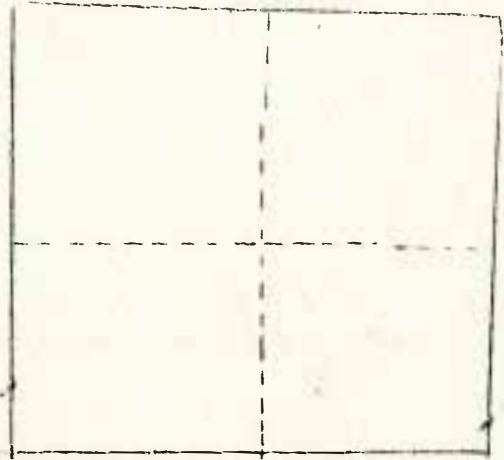
Sash Curtain
Cable Stitched

5.

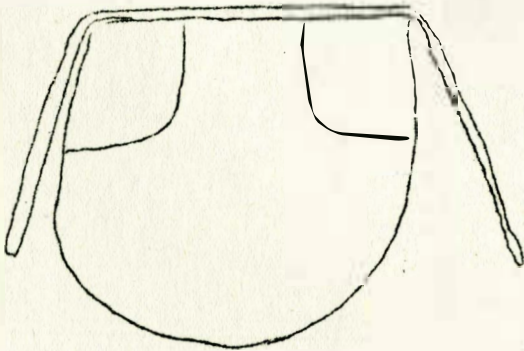
ONE FLOUR SACK (Continued)



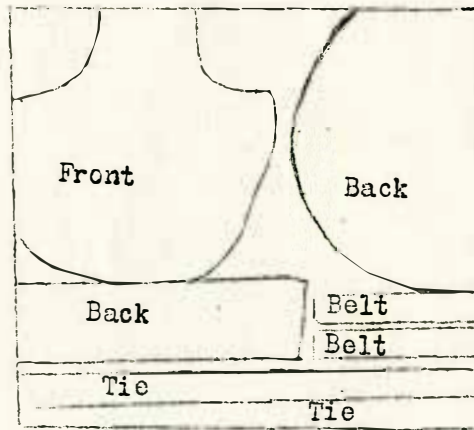
9 Handkerchiefs for women & children



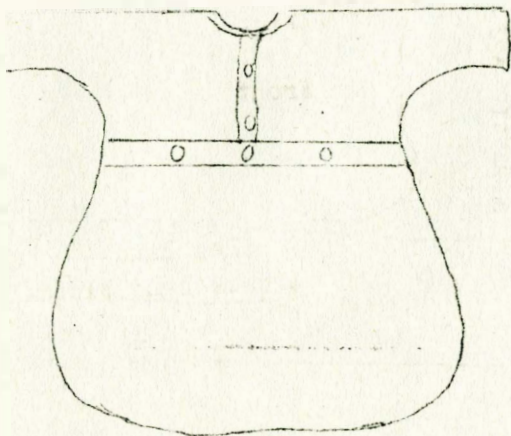
Handkerchiefs for Men



Clothespin Apron

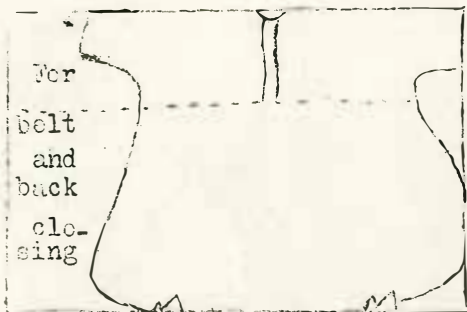


SUGGESTING USES OF 2 FLOUR SACKS

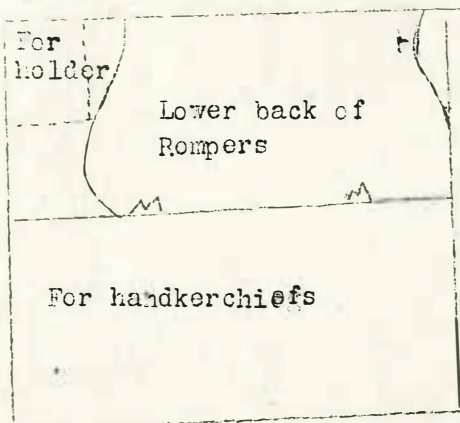


Child's romper

On fold



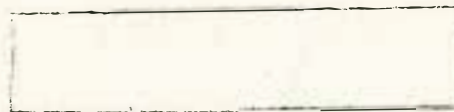
For
belt
and
back
closing



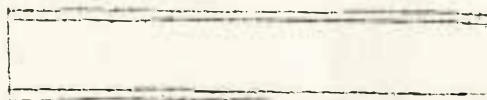
For
holder

Lower back of
Rompers

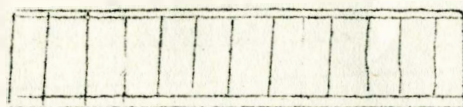
For handkerchiefs



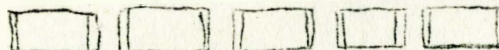
Cut strip (as wide as buttons are to be apart on the belt and back closing) to make tape bound buttonholes



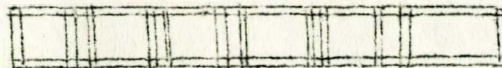
Bind two long sides with bias tape.



Cut in strips. Strips should be as wide as belt and back closing are desired.

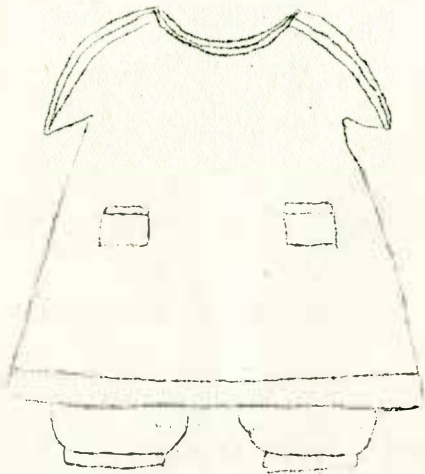


Place strips for belt bias taped ends together. Stitch along both sides to hold pieces together. Do same with strips for back closing.

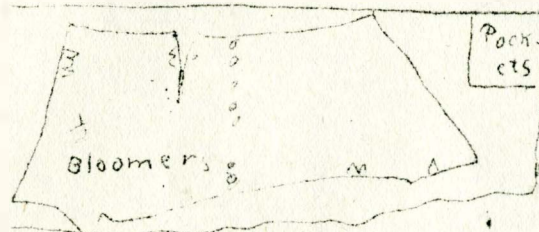
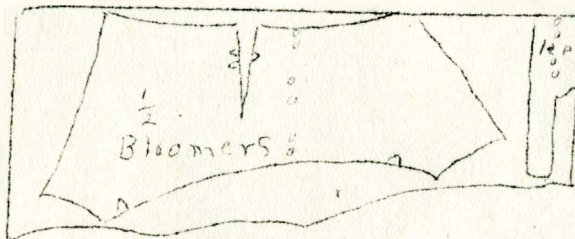
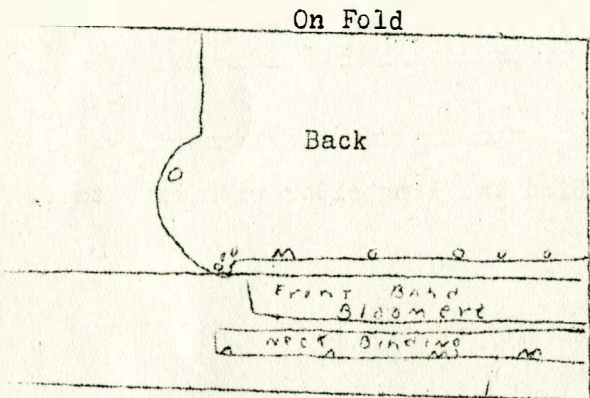
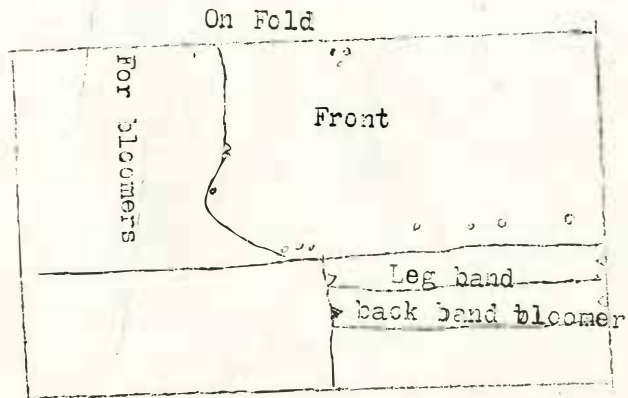


Bind both edges with bias tape.

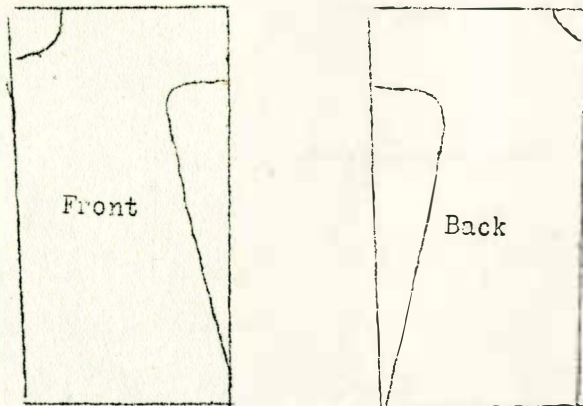
MAKING THE MOST OF 2 SUGAR SACKS



Child's dress & bloomers



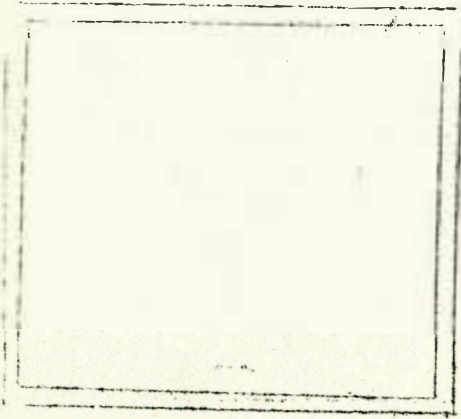
Child's nightgown



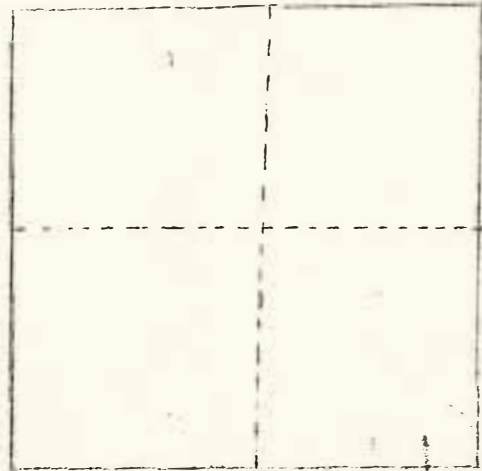
Fold sack thru center

OF WHAT VALUE ARE 2 SUGAR SACKS

LUNCHEON SET

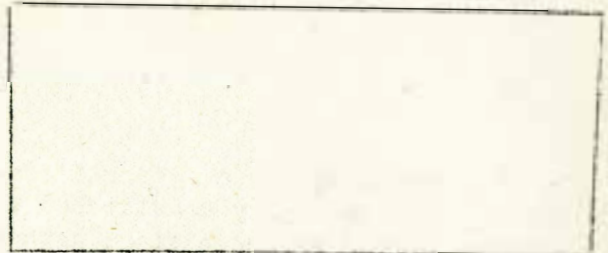
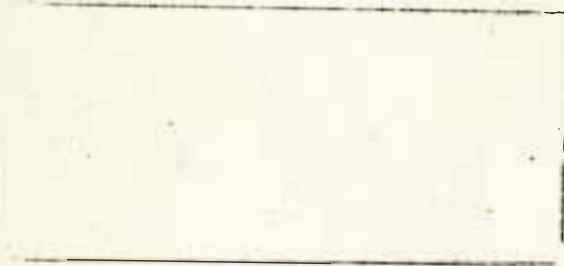


Lunch Cloth
(Gingham Hem)



4 Napkins to match Lunch Cloth

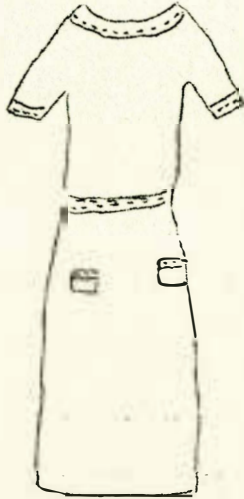
WINDOW DRAPES



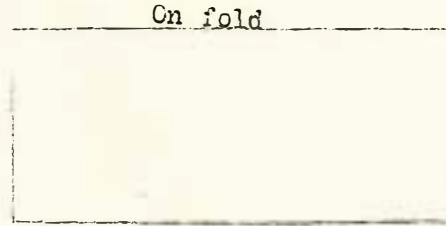
Cut thru both sacks on center fold. Place two pieces end to end; stitch together. Do likewise with other two pieces. There are then two long strips. Hem raw edges; hem top and bottom. These may be tinted pretty colors with the use of a little dye. Stenciling simple embroidery designs, fancy stitches or narrow edging might be used. Seams thru center of curtain might be covered with a strip of material or stitching. Machine hemstitching is also pretty.

9.

SUGGESTIONS FOR USING 3 SUGAR SACKS (100 lbs)



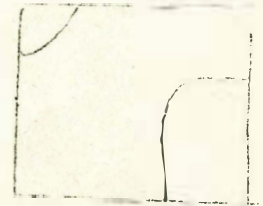
Kimona Dress



Fold sack lengthwise



Then crosswise



Waist

It is necessary to use 2 sacks for the skirt. These may be stitched together, hemmed at the bottom, gathered at top, then stitched to waist.



One sack may be gored for front of skirt.

