

Her quilts can chase the chill

BY SHERRY KAHAN

Mrs. Smith returned to her summer cabin for a fall weekend and found her bed so cold she shivered all night. Mrs. Jones, on the other hand, slept in her cottage warm as a kitten for she was covered by a goose-down quilt.

These are pictures that Mrs. Jean Gould of Oak Park would like to paint for all to see. That is because she is in the business of selling goose and duck down quilts.

Somewhere someone must be raising droves of ducks and geese because the use of their down has reemerged as the best way to sleep warm on top of Mount Everest, or even through a Michigan winter.

And while some stuff their down into sleeping bags, Mrs. Gould uses hers to fill quilts.

"IT ALL BEGAN when my husband and I spent some time in England," reported Mrs. Gould. "During the winter our place was very damp. A gale-like wind blew through the stone walls of the room in which we were sleep-

ing. We were literally awake all night trying to keep warm."

By luck the Goulds had slept under a goose-down quilt earlier in a bed and breakfast lodging while traveling in the country. So when Mrs. Gould found one of these quilts in a Liverpool store, she pounced on it and had a toasty winter.

"The British use them to save energy," she said. "People can turn off the heat in the bedroom at night and reduce fuel consumption."

After she returned home she decided to go into a business that would bring comfortable winter nights into the lives of everyone. She claims one ounce of her quilts equals four blankets and one bedspread and weighs one-fourth as much.

"THE QUILTS are made in five, seven or nine-inch channels which run the direction of the bed," she explained. "You can adapt it to the temperature by shaking the down toward the foot of the bed on warmer nights."

"With these channels going lengthwise, the quilt is molded to your body and you avoid wind tunnels that can

often occur under blankets. The down has room to expand."

Mrs. Gould suggested that the bed need only a bottom sheet and perhaps a top sheet, and that the down quilt be covered by a washable coverlet.

She carries these too in her newly-opened Midwest Duvet company. Her

brand comes from England, but she said housewives could make their own.

A goose-down quilt, without a coverlet, for a single bed costs \$116. One for a queen-sized bed goes for \$168 and for a king-sized bed, \$225. A duck-down quilt for a queen-sized bed is \$145.



From personal experience, Mrs. Wesley Gould knows that a quilt made of goose or duck down means a warm sleep. (Staff photo by Bob Woodring)



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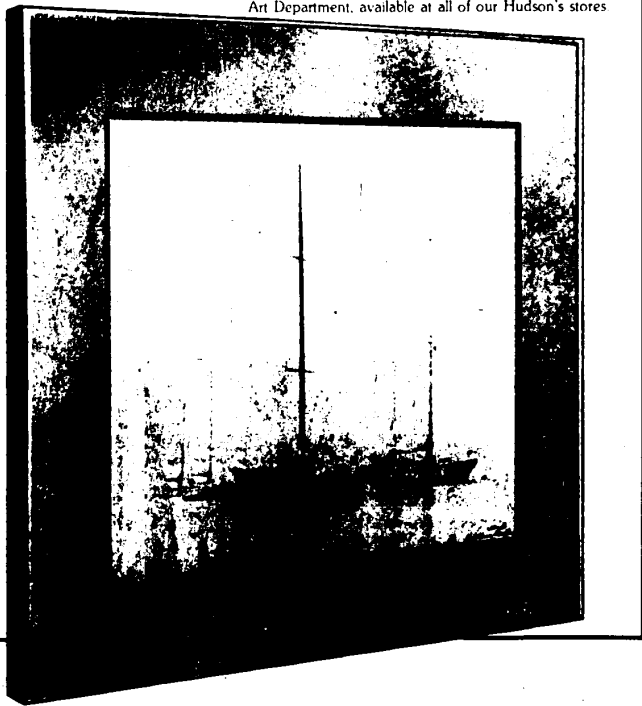
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