

Bent cans are redeemable

I would appreciate knowing the ruling on returnable bottles and cans. I've taken some misshapen cans to the store and they refused to accept them on account of their condition (out of shape but discernible) although the store handled the particular brand and they were clearly marked "Michigan 10 cents Refund."

M.M. Farmington Hills.
According to Michigan's attorney general, the law specifies rights for both consumers and merchants. A merchant may refuse to redeem broken, unusable bottles or bottles or cans which are not carried by the store. A bottle or can not labeled, stamped or

embossed with words indicating that the bottle or can is a Michigan returnable may also be refused. However, a merchant MUST accept damaged, scratched or dented cans, as well as bottles without caps.

This spring several neighbors decided to plant a community garden. It is working out well and all of us enjoy working our share of the plot. It looks as though we can also look forward to a shared beautiful harvest.

None of us has done much canning and we think it would be a good idea for another community activity. Do

you have information on how to get started?

Evelyn K. Troy, MI.
Contact the Oakland County Cooperative Extension Service, Lois Thielke, home economist will be at your service all summer to answer questions on canning and food safety. Call her at 858-8994, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

She will be happy to get you started with safe and easy canning instruction. For free brochures on canning and food safety write to Oakland County Cooperative Extension Service, North Office Bldg. 1200 N. Telegraph, Pontiac, 48053.

Eco-Tip: Spend the summer learning to make the most of what you have. Join Upland Hills Ecological Awareness Center at their Alternative Energy Workshop. For information call 628-5114 or write to Upland Hills Ecological Awareness Center, 2375 Indian Lake Rd., Oxford 48051.

Consumer Mailbag answers your questions on consumer and environmental issues. Address questions to Concern, Inc., Detroit, 1 Northfield Plaza, Troy MI 48068.

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The lively needle

Books keep you in fine stitches

By MARY KAY DAVIS

For me, summer is the time to curl up on the porch with a fascinating book. Let the gas shortage take care of itself for a change. Here are a few of the books that I've enjoyed this year. Some are new and some are not, but all of them will fill a lazy afternoon.

"The Yankee Peddlers of Early America," by J.R. Dolan, Bramhall House, New York. A delightful account of how all those frontiersmen and their ladies got pots, calico, and whatever else they needed. They couldn't get to stores, so the stores got to them on the backs of peddlers who lived wild and woolly lives. Their stories are fascinating.

"Mary Gostelow's Embroidery Book," by Mary Gostelow, E.P. Dutton, New York. This must be the end-all, be-all book on needlework. It covers dif-



By
MARY
KAY
DAVIS

ferent embroideries, what they look like, how to stitch them, and where they came from. It's fun to read, beautifully illustrated, and covers everything from applique to how-to-make an Egyptian kufan. The summer may not

be long enough.

"Fishing and Mounting Your Needlepoint Pieces," by Katherine Ireys, Thomas Y. Crowell Co., New York. If you choose not to patronize professional needlepoint finishers, this is the book that will tell you how to do it yourself, better. Katherine Ireys is a superb technician and her directions are clear and logical. This how-to book should be on every needlepointer's book shelf.

"Step-By-Step Framing," by Eamon Toscano, Golden Press, New York. This is the bargain of the group. I bought it at K-Mart and it's told me everything I needed to know about framing needlework. Sunset also puts out an excellent framing booklet which can be found in many stores, on the racks where Sunset booklets are sold. Both books have many, clear illustrations.

"Adventures in Stitches," by Mariska Karasz, Funk and Wagnalls, New York. Mariska Karasz was one of the first "greats" in 20th century needlework. She took a lady-like craft and made it into an art form. Her book is fun today, and when you realize that she wrote it in 1949, it becomes mind boggling. Excellent illustrations of how to work many stitches, and then what to do with them.

"Interaction of Color," by Josef Albers, Yale University Press, New Haven, Conn. This one isn't easy, but if you really want a handle on how to make color work for you, here's the key. There are many other books on color theory available, but I've found Albers to make the most sense of my cloth and yarns. Prepare to read this over at least twice. It takes study.

And for the kids, here are two paper doll books from Dover Publications in New York. "Fashion Paper Dolls from Godey's Lady's Book, 1840-1854," by Susan Johnston and "Victorian Fashion Paper Dolls from Harpers Bazaar, 1867-1890," by Theodore Menten. These are terrific paper dolls on heavy paper.

OU dean is tapped by Carter

President Jimmy Carter has appointed Lowell R. Edlund, dean of continuing education

at Oakland University, to a three-year term on the National Advisory Council on Extension and Con-

tinuing Education.
Dean Edlund has served at OU since 1958.

He is an international consultant on adult education and has published widely.

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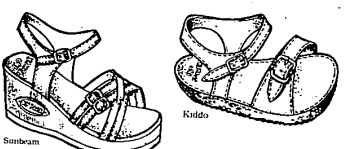
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