

The Lively NEEDLE



By MARY KAY DAVIS
Dear Mary Kay: Could you give me any suggestions on where I can sell a lovely quilt which I have made when I was very young? We have moved to an apartment and don't have much storage space.

Since it's a family piece, have you thought of asking your younger relatives if they want first chance at it? Young nieces who are just setting up a housekeeping might be thrilled to buy it.

In general, when you sell your quilt directly to its new owner, pocket the whole purchase price. But you'll have the nuisance of coping with calls, phone calls, and prospective buyers visiting at inconvenient hours.

In contrast, if you sell the quilt to a middleman, such as an antique dealer, on consignment shop specializing in fine antiques, your life will be tranquil. But they must make a profit, so your return will be smaller.

To determine what your quilt is worth, do a little shopping. See what comparable covers would cost if you were in the market to buy one.

Then either place want ads in news papers which have a separate antiques classification, or contact several of the quilt merchants you compare-shopped. See what they will offer you. Whatever way you choose to sell it, good luck.

Dear Mary Kay: I was given a needlepoint purse kit for a present. I will have to work it in tent stitch, and the canvas feels flimsy. What can I do to keep it from pulling out of shape?

The most important thing to do is to learn the basketweave (or diagonal tent) stitch. This gives the same look as your tent stitch, but equalizes tension so that the canvas does not get distorted. Clear directions are in many needlepoint books. Check with your local librarian.

Secondly, if the canvas feels flimsy,



By
MARY KAY
DAVIS

before you've even started stitching, it's probably of second rate quality. And cheap canvas is hard to keep in shape. The remedy is to stretch the work on a frame before you start. Be sure that the canvas is held taught on all four sides.

Inexpensive frames can be made from wooden picture stretchers. These are available in art supply stores and come in many sizes. Tack the canvas to the stretcher with tacks placed half way between the section to be stretched and the canvas edge.

Pull canvas on the straight of a drum and get the surface tight as a drum. Then stretch—it can't move out of shape.

Dear Mary Kay: Other stitchers seem to keep their work neat, but mine soon turns into a crumpled mess. I'm just a beginner. What am I doing wrong?

You're crushing the outside of your canvas in order to stretch it's center. Warm, moist palms and newcomer nerves won't help either. But try this.

Get the cardboard tube from inside a roll of paper towels. Roll your outer canvas around it, and fasten top and bottom with paper clips. This freezes the outer edge so it will hold onto while you're stitching.

Remember that much of the beauty of needlepoint is in its regularity. But stitches can't be even if the threads beneath them have been shoved out of shape. Be gentle with your canvas and you'll be pleased with your results.

Displaced homemaker has difficult role

By SHERRY KAHAN

The woman who has devoted herself to the job of career housewife is given respectful lip service, "declared Rosalie Sullivan during the observance of Women's Right-to-Work Week at Henry Ford Community College.

But this doesn't do her much good when she is deprived of her breadwinner through death or divorce and is too young to receive Social Security.

Speaking on behalf of these middle-aged women, who have little money and few job skills, Miss Sullivan titled her talk, "The Plight of the Displaced Homemaker."

"It makes you so mad," continued the speaker. "It's heartbreaking to see a good woman doing the role she was assigned to do, and then she finds herself in this fix."

Miss Sullivan, who works for the Detroit Civil Rights Commission, regards legislation as part of the answer to a good woman's problem. She urged support of state and federal bills to create centers for displaced homemakers where they could receive counseling, job training and a boost from other women in the same boat.

The California plan has been carried to Washington by U.S. Rep. Yvonne B. Burke (D-Cal.). Her proposed legislation, known as the Equal Opportunity Bill, would create federally funded job-training for older women, as well as the creation of special community service positions for them.

The bills stated purpose is "to provide the necessary training, jobs, services and health care for displaced homemakers, so that they may enjoy the independence and economic security vital to a productive life."

A SIMILAR BILL is in the Michigan legislative hopper. It calls for the expenditure of \$200,000 for centers offering counseling and job-training. The bill is not being studied in committee.

Miss Sullivan has high hopes for both the federal and state bills. "This is the year for it, I think," she said.



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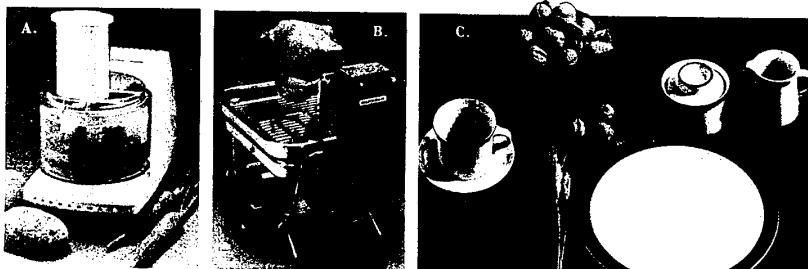
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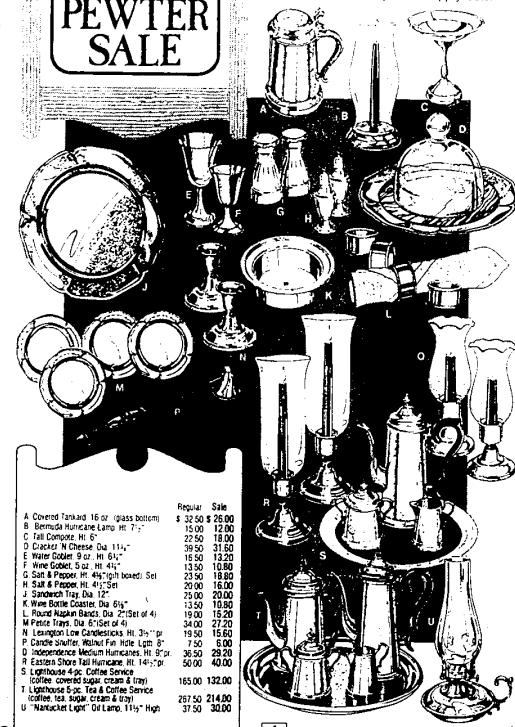


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