

# Feed-Sack Fashions

## Skirt Not So Snappy

WHILE MY family lived in Longwood, a blink of an eye on Highway 73 in Wisconsin's Clark County, ladies of the farming community used feed-sack material to make clothing and sundry items.

When we moved to Milwaukee, Mom decided to make a play skirt for me from a feed sack with tiny red flowers in the pattern. For the closure along the waistband, she used snaps instead of a zipper or button.

One particular evening, my brother was in hot pursuit of me in a game of tag with our neighborhood gang. As he reached out, he grabbed my skirt by the hem. To my horror, the snaps gave way and the skirt was torn off.

There I was, standing in my underwear. I know my face must have been as red as the tiny flowers on my skirt, and I don't remember wearing that skirt again.

—Carol Gray, Sister Bay, Wisconsin

## Home Economical

WHEN I WAS a freshman in a small eastern Texas high school, in 1952, my home economics class was to bring dress material to school one Monday.

My parents had no money for store-bought material, and I dreaded bringing feed sacks to class when all the other girls would have new dress material. That weekend, Mom helped me pick out pretty turquoise feed sacks with a strawberry print. We washed and ironed them, and away I went on Monday.

When the teacher went around the class looking at the material, she paid special attention to mine. Then she asked me to bring my

material to the front of the room and tell everyone what it was.

The teacher complimented me and told us that as we sewed our dresses, we would compare material and the cost of each dress. Naturally, my dress cost much less than any other and was just as pretty.

I will always love Miss Merriweather for making me feel like a queen instead of a poor girl who had to wear feed sacks.

—Frances Reynolds Hooper, Normangee, Texas