

**THE COMMUTER'S WIFE**

**The Housewife Who Does Family Sewing Must Like the Job**

By HELEN BRUNSON  
Special Writer for The Birmingham Eccentric

The woman who positively hates to sew shouldn't try it, even if her girlfriends and her mother-in-law tell her she ought to. It will make her too nervous.

But the homemaker who has some sewing skill or can acquire some at a night school or sewing center, can effect a great saving on her own clothes and her children's.

She can have individual styles and her fitting problems will be solved. Sewing will also provide an outlet for creativeness, in this factory made environment of ours.

What shall she make? House-dresses? No. Not after she's learned basic sewing. These mass-produced garments can be had for a few dollars, and since a house-dress has as many seams as any other, why bother with it? Time is often almost as important as money.



Mrs. Brunson

**MAKING EVENING** dresses pays off well, for these worn-once-or-twice items get pretty expensive to buy. The home seamstress can turn out lovely ones if she stays away from intricate drapings and silthery materials.

Simple semi-tailored afternoon dresses can be worthwhile in terms of time spent sewing. In spring, choose prints; in fall, soft wool crepe or flannel.

These materials are fairly easy to handle and you can let the printed design or the color of the material provide the interest, allowing you to stick to simple, easy-to-make designs.

Avoid slot-pockets and bound button-holes if you lack the time or skill for them. Have belts and buttons professionally-covered.

**IF YOU'RE NOT** sure of the fit or becomingness of your pattern, make it up in cotton before you buy expensive material. You can trust the accuracy of modern patterns. They're worked out by experts.

The mother who makes her little girls' dresses, skirts and simple suits will find it worth her time too. Here again, buy patterns with as few pieces as possible.

There's no point in cutting cloth up into small pieces and then sewing it together again. Consider ironing-difficulties too. One young mother buys one dress-pattern for her pig-tailer, then makes it up in several widely-different materials.

**GOOD EQUIPMENT** makes sewing easier. Cut garments out with pinking-shears, thus taking care of seam finishes. Have a good machine and learn to use the attachments. If it sews over pins, you can eliminate basting seams.

Seams must be pressed as sewed, so keep an ironing board or sleeve-board handy. A steam-iron saves time, as do long needles with big eyes. A special tracing-paper now makes it possible to mark darts etc. without tailor-tacking.

If you can keep your sewing mess "out"—perhaps by setting a folding screen around it, you can use snatches of time for working. Or plan to work one hour each day on your project. It'll get done faster than if you wait until you can devote whole days to it. Those whole days never seem to come.

**Pierce Faculty Plans 'Unusual' PTA Program**

Members of the Pierce school faculty will be in charge of the March 13 PTA meeting to be held in the school auditorium at 8 p.m. An "unusual" program entitled "A New Approach to the 3R's" has been planned. The teachers will present films, tape recordings and other teaching aids, and discuss the use of audio-visual aids in the classroom.

Mrs. Zena Olsson is chairman of the committee planning the program. Others taking part will be Mrs. June Hart, Mrs. Josephine Beck, Mrs. Naomi Howard, Miss Mary Elva Congleton, Miss Alma Fassbender, Don Burba and Malcolm Ferguson, Pierce school principal.

Society deadline is 3 p.m. each Tuesday.

**Rotary Anns to Meet**

A 1 o'clock meeting has been scheduled for March 15 by the Birmingham Rotary Anns. They will meet with Mrs. John Maynard, 915 Mohegan, who will be assisted by Mrs. Robert Lynd, Mrs. D. W. Milliman, Mrs. Frank Kurtz, Mrs. Louis Haseall and Mrs. Jane Sheel. No special program is planned.

**Have You Met...**

Former residents of Berwyn, Ill.? Mr. and Mrs. Paul A. Matchette moved to 2625 Windemere on Feb. 10. Matchette is field service coordinator for the Jean Handy Organization in Detroit. He is a member of the Indiana University Alumni association and a Phi Delta Theta. Mrs. Matchette is affiliated with Chi Omega. They are golf and bowling enthusiasts and interested in water sports.

**Have You Met...**

Mr. and Mrs. George F. Walters and 15 month old son, Gary? Formerly living in Rocky River, Ohio, they now reside at 1032 West Four-

teen Mile road. Walters is regional truck sales manager for Ford Division of Ford Motor company. He is associated with the Kiwanis club, Masons and the Shrine.

**Enters Pomona College**

Audrey S. Braton has enrolled at Pomona college, Claremont, Calif., as a freshman. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Arnold O. Braton, 1532 Tottenham road.

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