

One home economist who visited a war factory confirmed the designers' opinion that ugly work clothes are bad defense psychology. She found girls wearing men's style overalls, and she reported that if it made a visitor so depressed to look at them it must be bad also for morale of the workers.

For farm millinery, Miss Scott got an idea from her Midwestern childhood, when some farm women wore slat bonnets. She can recall her own problems in milking, when she had to protect her hair from the cow's tail and keep a hat from being brushed off, and when she needed a hat or bonnet for sun. No wonder slat sunbonnets were worn for many a day. They stayed put and had other good features.

"The old slat bonnet," said Miss Scott, "had slips of cardboard stuck into casings around the head and there was a limp tail of goods hanging down to the shoulders. The cards could be taken out to launder the bonnet, and no starch was needed. The tail was a good sun protector, but hot.

"I thought we might put the cardboard slats in the top only and run them the opposite way, and we might shorten the flap so that it protects the neck without swathing it."

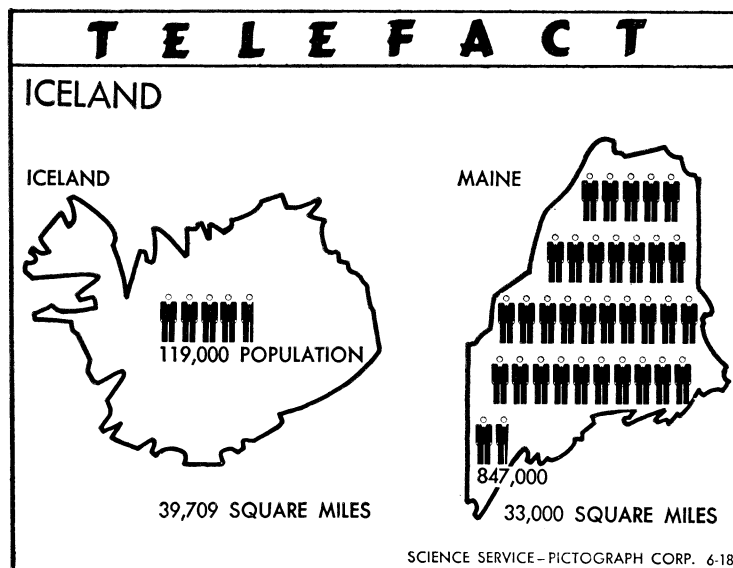
The 1941 sunbonnet flattens into a T for laundering. It can be folded neatly and tucked into a pocket when not wanted.

Even more striking is a Chinese hat for farming.

A second farm suit for heavy work, designed in blue slacks with a jacket that hangs outside, emphasizes coolness and comfort. The loose jacket makes reaching easy in apple picking or hanging clothes. Detachable long sleeves are a handy accessory. They are for berry picking, or other scratchy jobs, or to protect the arms from sun or cold.

Even shower-proofs for farm workers have been thought of. Using a water-repellent cotton fabric, of which several are on the market, the government's clothing experts have evolved a soft dark green suit which has a number of attachments.

Basic unit of this shower-proof garb is a cover-all apron skirt useful for wash day and many other farm and home jobs. Water rolls off and the fabric does not stain. The apron is designed with princess fit and buttons down the front. A jacket of the green goods provides protection for outdoor chores in bad weather. A hood that might be snapped to the suit is another handy item.



Even leggings go with this cotton water-repellent outfit, as designed by Miss Scott. Remembering how she had seen many a farmer's wife wrap a long denim apron around her skirt and stockings to work in dewy grass or in vines that stain—such as tomatoes—Miss Scott evolved shaped leggings of the green cotton goods. You step in and pull up front slide fasteners, and the leggings stay put, for, explained Miss Scott, elastic under

the shoes and above the calf of the leg holds them in place.

A housedress with butterfly shoulders is nearly ready for its debut. Easy to make and easy to wear and launder, the government's style designers are aiming to produce housedress designs that the average home sewer can make—and make well—in a day.

Beltsville has just begun to influence American fashions. Watch it!

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GEOGRAPHY

With Iceland U. S. Assumes Care of First Known Geyser

IN TAKING over protection of Iceland "for duration," the United States assumes temporary custody of more than an advanced outpost against Nazi aggression. This government also acquires responsibility for the original or type specimen of all the geysers in the world—of which this country already possesses in its own right by far the mightiest and most, in Yellowstone National Park.

When the earliest settlers in Iceland, more than a thousand years ago, first explored the interior of their new home, they found in the midst of a barren plain an awesome hot spring that at irregular intervals hurled a column of seething water more than a hundred feet into the air. They called this the "geysir," which means the gusher.

Near the Great Geysir are a number of lesser geysirs, as well as a huge non-erupting steam spring that keeps making flopping, slopping noises. These sug-

gested the name "strokr," which is Icelandic for "churn." The word "geysir," modified to "geyser," has been accepted as the name for the similar periodic hot springs in the Yellowstone region, as well as in New Zealand, which is the home of the only other important geyser group in the world. About 1914 the Great Geysir stopped eruption, but it resumed activity in 1935. (*Turn page*)

Books

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It was in Iceland that the famous German chemist, Dr. Robert W. Bunsen, whose name is attached to the Bunsen burner familiar in all laboratories, evolved his theory of geyser action, which is still accepted in a modified form. Bunsen visited Iceland and worked out his theory some years before the discovery of the Yellowstone geysers in the early 1870's.

Iceland is always thought of as a Viking colony, but there was a small colony of Irish settlers there when the first Norse settlers came, about 850 A.D. From Iceland went the hardy souls who colonized Greenland under Eric the Red, who in turn was father of Leif the Lucky, first recorded visitor to North American shores, nearly half a millenium before Columbus. Thus in a way the American bluejackets and marines now in Iceland are only making a long-overdue return visit.

There are Icelanders in the United States, but their settlement is much more recent than the short-lived colony which Leif planted on an unknown part of the North American coast. One group of them lives as fishermen on an island in Lake Superior, another as farmers in North Dakota.

The preference of Icelandic settlers in this country for a severe climate is often a subject for remark. As a matter of fact, they live in a harder climate here than their fathers were used to in the "Old Country," for despite its chilly name Iceland's climate is to be described as raw and wet, rather than cold. It lies almost entirely south of the Arctic Circle, and its average temperature is kept higher than might be expected by the Gulf Stream. About one-eighth of the island is covered with glaciers and snowfields. By contrast, Iceland also has some of the world's mightiest volcanoes.

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Sheep eat a more varied diet of grasses and weeds than do cattle.



Far Transplanting

WESTERN Hemisphere help is going to war-menaced Iceland in a hitherto unreported form. Thousands of seeds from two species of evergreen trees, gathered high on Colorado mountains, have been sent to Hakon Bjarnason, chief of the Iceland Forestry Service, by Jacob Jauch of the U. S. Forest Service. The story of the sending of the seeds is told in the July issue of the *Journal of Forestry*.

The two tree species represented are corkbark fir and Engelmann spruce. Both are high-altitude trees, well suited for the severe weather conditions that prevail on the upper levels of the Rockies. Mr. Jauch states that he awaits with interest the results of this experiment to see if these trees will thrive in sub-arctic Iceland. Although the island republic lies just south of the Arctic Circle, he points out, the climate along its southern coast is so modified by warm ocean currents that it is actually no more severe than that of New York, and materially milder than the climate of the high Rockies.

Iceland once supported a much better timber growth than it now does, Mr. Bjarnason has written to his friend here.

While the island was directly controlled by Denmark, it was pretty badly exploited and lost most of its trees and a considerable part of its best pasture land. Since Iceland declared its independence, acknowledging only the personal sovereignty of the Danish crown, its affairs have been better managed and efforts are being made to conserve and restore its natural resources.

So hard-pressed are the Iceland herdsmen, however, that constant vigilance has to be exercised to keep them from turning their sheep loose in growths of young birch trees, which the Iceland Forestry Service wants to grow up into usable timber. A good deal of Mr. Bjarnason's work has to do with maintaining fences around his woodlands, and he is kept constantly on the move all summer long, either on ponyback or in a six-year-old American-made car.

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MEDICINE

Horse "Sleeping Sickness" Breaks Old Boundaries

THE old geographic boundary of the Appalachian mountains, which was supposed to separate the eastern from the western types of equine encephalomyelitis, popularly called "horse sleeping sickness" and known to have attacked humans as well as horses, has been broken, if it ever existed.

The virus of the eastern type of this horse plague has been discovered in the brain of a horse killed by this disease in the Boca Chica flats of Texas, Raymond Randall and Ervin A. Eichhorn, of the Army Veterinary School, Army Medical Center, Washington, D. C., report. (*Science*, June 20.)

An outbreak suspected of being equine encephalomyelitis killed 60 other horses recently in that same area.

Vaccines for protection against this horse plague exist, but are specific, in that the appropriate vaccine must be given to protect against eastern or western type of the disease. Discovery of the eastern type as far west as Texas is therefore important if protective vaccination is to be effective.

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