



***PAF Express***  
*Washington County PAF Users Group*  
*From August 2005 Newsletter*

**The Versatile Item  
Was The Flour Sack**

Many little girls of yesterday wore dresses and  
Bloomers fashioned of the indispensable flour sack.

In that long ago time when things were saved,  
When roads were graveled and barrels were staved,  
When worn out clothing was used as rags,  
And there was no – plastic wrap or bags,  
And the well and the pump were way out back,  
A versatile item was the flour sack.

Pillsbury's Best, Mother's and Gold Medal too  
Stamped their names proudly in purple and blue.  
The string sewed on top was pulled and kept;  
The flour emptied and spills were swept.  
The bag was folded and stored in a sack  
That durable, practical flour sack.

The sack could be filled with feathers and down,  
For a pillow, or t'would make a sleeping gown,  
It could carry a book and a school bag,  
Or become a mail sack slung over a nag.  
It made a very convenient pack,  
That adaptable, cotton, flour sack.

As a strainer for milk and apple juice,  
To wave men in was a very good use  
As a sling for sprained wrist or a break,  
To help mother roll up a jelly cake,  
As a window shade, or to stuff a crack,  
We used the common, sturdy, flour sack

As dish towels, embroidered or not,  
It covered up dough, helped pass pans so hot,  
Tied up dishes for neighbors in need  
And for men out in the field to seed,  
They dried dishes from a pan, not a rack,  
That absorbent, hardy, flour sack

Bleached and sewn, it was dutifully worn  
As bibs, diapers, or kerchief unadorned.  
It was made into skirts, blouses and slips.  
She made ruffled curtains for house or shack.  
From that humble, but treasured flour sack.

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