

ISSUED BY OREGON STATE SALVAGE COMMITTEE  
908 Bedell Building  
Portland, Oregon

SILK AND NYLON STOCKINGS

- Q. How do old silk stockings contribute to the war effort?
- A. Silk is the only material out of which powder bags may be made. Powder bags contain the charge of gunpowder used in the firing of big guns. Silk is completely destroyed by burning or explosion. All other materials leave a certain residue, which necessitates the cleaning of the gun between shots.
- Q. Are woven silk fabrics needed for this purpose.
- A. No. They cannot be used. The process for reclaiming silk is by breaking down the thread into fibers and only knitted stockings can be so processed successfully.
- Q. Why have silk stockings not been called for before in the war?
- A. Because no way had been discovered to separate the silk from the rayon, nylon, cotton and other threads that go into many stockings. Now, by a recently invented patented process, it is possible to dye the stockings and determine exactly what threads are silk and what are other materials.
- Q. Is any preparation of the stockings necessary?
- A. Only that they be washed.
- Q. Where shall I dispose of them?
- A. At the women's hosiery counter in your retail store, which will forward them to the proper processor.
- Q. Will I be paid for the old hose I turn in?
- A. No. The public is asked to donate them to the Government.
- Q. How are nylon stockings used?
- A. Nylon is melted to its original form, respun into nylon thread and used in producing essential war materials - parachutes, etc.
- Q. Is any reclaimed silk or nylon used in the production of consumer goods?
- A. No. All silk and nylon reclaimed is used to produce war materials only.
-