

This 1969 picture shows my mom (born in 1910) busy at one of her many early-fall chores. She was stripping the leaves from Japanese Lantern flowers. They have small white flowers but the seed pods look like little jack-o-lanterns after they dry. She gave away many of them but always kept a small bunch to add to her fall arrangements. They would stay pretty for years if dried properly.

Note the sensible farm-wife shoes and the support hose. It was still warm enough to wear a dress but an old denim shirt kept her arms warm. And, of course, she was wearing yet another “work” apron. The fence behind her is so high to keep those dastardly, scratching, pecking chickens honest and out of her flowers.

