

APR 16 1975

Jackie Selling Her Wardrobe



Jack Anderson

JACQUELINE ONASSIS, twice a widow, won't inherit the millions that the press has been writing about. But she has been quietly laying aside a little cash for the future by selling her wardrobe and auctioning off other possessions as she tires of them.

The fabulous wealth which has been attributed to Jackie has always eluded her, say close friends. Her swashbuckling father, "Black Jack" Bouvier, left her no inheritance worth mentioning.

After President Kennedy was gunned down in Dallas, the young widow collected about \$200,000 a year for five years from a trust fund, a family member told us. On October 20, 1968, the day she was married to Onassis, the trust fund reverted to her two children and her own payments stopped.

★ ★ ★

THE LOSS of all personal income, according to friends, was one reason she pressed Onassis for a prenuptial contract. She simply had to have some money of her own; she reportedly pleaded. Ari also gave a \$20,000 monthly allowance, picked up most of her bills and showered her with gifts.

Associates recall hearing Onassis gripe about a \$9000 bill for gowns from Valentino's of Rome. "What does she do with all the clothes?" he exploded. "I never see her in anything but blue jeans."

We have found out: After wearing her costly garments once or twice, sometimes not at all, Jackie would resell them and

squirrel away the cash. Her favorite resell house, Encore of New York City, did a steady business in Jackie's slightly used and sometimes new clothing.

She peddled everything from coats, suits and gowns to pocketbooks, blouses and slacks. The labels, according to our sources, were the best: Yves St. Laurent, Valentino's of Rome, Halston.

Generally, she would demand a fixed price; other times she would accept whatever the market would bear. Once, it took Encore six months to sell a white coat, with a Valentino label, at the price Jackie demanded.

★ ★ ★

APPARENTLY, nothing was too trivial for her to auction off. She sold everything from worn leather picture frames to exquisite furniture, according to witnesses, at such fashionable auction houses as New York City's William Doyle Galleries and Sotheby Parke-Bernet's 84th street branch.

Only last January, William Doyle Galleries sold a couple dozen items belonging to Jackie, including her son John's old nursery furniture. An old chair with a Choate School emblem, worth no more than \$25, went for \$300 when the auctioneer mentioned that it had once belonged to President Kennedy.

Jackie had been selling her used clothes, it turns out, ever since she opened her first charge account as Mrs. John F. Kennedy.

(Written with Les Whitten)