What's a "Senior Packet"?

Mary Ellen Muckenhirn
Iowa State University

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What's a "Senior Packet"?

D. Candace Hurley is assistant extension editor of the Cooperative Extension Service in Agriculture and Home Economics.

Since 1946, she has worked with the preparation of home economics messages for off-campus use. At present, she coordinates information which is sent via radio, television, and bulletins such as those mentioned in this story.

Miss Hurley works closely with Mrs. Eleanor Wilkins (familiar to radio listeners as Martha Duncan), who is in charge of campus home economics radio programs.

Mrs. Ardis McMechan, supervisor of off-campus radio and all home economics television shows originating at Iowa State, is also associated with the Information Service.

Contacting such a wide variety and vast number of people in her work, Miss Hurley often confronts the fact that messages are difficult to convey to a diverse audience. She is teaching a class in journalism for home economics this quarter (T. Jl. 225B) and is giving her students the benefit of years of experience when she warns them: "You'll hear about it if you're inaccurate."

Miss Hurley finds a challenge in dividing her time between correcting copy for the extension service and correcting assignments for her students. She comments that she enjoys teaching, however, and plans to continue with the class next quarter.

It's easy to recognize the communication problems between engineers and home economists or chemists and architects, but there are other areas where difficulty in maintaining contact is not so obvious. One of the trouble spots is between the home economist in extension and the high school home economics teacher.

Although both deal with instruction, the slant of their lessons can be very different. In order to enable the teacher to know what the extension worker is giving to her clients, the Information Service at Iowa State University offers to each girl graduating in home economics education a "senior packet."

This set of over 80 bulletins and the four 4-H club manuals is free. It gives the education major an idea of how to co-ordinate her information and methods with her extension counterpart, who is working with many of the same girls and women as she.

"What Paint—for What Purpose?" "All Aboard—for the Good Breakfast Special," "Is That 'Washable' Fabric Really Washable?" "Popcorn in the Home," "Hems," and "What About School-Age Marriages?" are a few of the bulletins compiled as a result of research at Iowa State and give an idea of the variety of topics covered in this "senior packet."

All areas of home economics have been explored by persons at ISU, and the published information, therefore, deals with child development, home furnishings, food and nutrition, textiles and clothing, estate planning and other aspects of money management, as well as the research now in progress for new product development.

The Information Service offers one copy of any of its publications—without charge—to anyone who requests it. From time to time, they compile a list of bulletins currently available so that those interested can choose from the wide selection.

By stopping in the basement of Morrill Hall or writing to the Information Service, you can, in just a few minutes, acquire the bulletin list, obtain any of the publications, and increase your library with works of Iowa State alumni and faculty.