

1933

## Youngsters of 1955...

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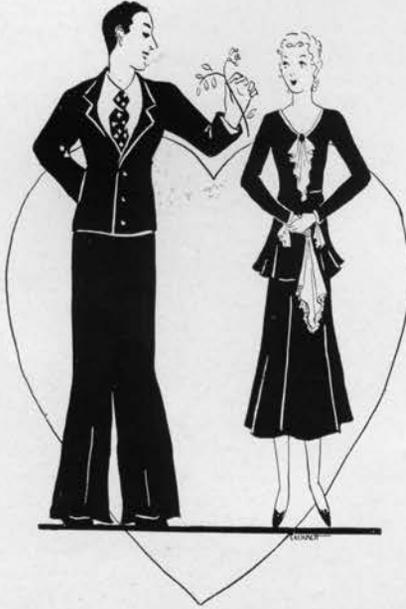
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## Freedom Is Promised

## Youngsters of 1955 . . .

By Claire Chadwick



**I**N 1955 will boys and girls be smoking, dating before they are 18, going to dances and staying out until after midnight? Will the boys be actively engaged in athletics and the girls contemplating careers? If the boys and girls of 1955 happen to boast Iowa State alumni as their parents, and unless the 1934 students who were interviewed change their minds greatly before they are actually faced with the decisions they are so certain they will handle correctly, there will be a rather free group of young people.

There will be no cases of the sort one now reads in the "Aunt Sally" columns—"I am a blonde with blue eyes, 17 years old, and considered fairly good looking. My parents refuse to let me have dates. What can I do for a good time?"

The average age at which this new generation may begin its conquests is just past 16. Of course they must choose a boy or a girl who is known by the family, but they may have their good times and not wait until they are ready for college before they have their first date. This was the consensus of opinion of all who were asked about the date question.

Will father be waiting at the door when the clock strikes 12 and will daughter be severely reproached if she fails to arrive before he has fallen asleep twice during his welcoming vigil? The future-tense fathers on the campus say no to the first—and yes to the last question.

Approved entertainment may last beyond midnight for the fledglings, but automobile rides and walks in the moonlight must terminate before the magic hour. The girls were less lenient. Twelve o'clock was plenty late enough no matter what the occasion (did they forget their dorm days and the last minute rushes for food?).

Pros and cons for smoking were about equal. Only two boys and twice as many girls absolutely put a ban on smoking for their daughters. Rather, they preferred to let the young lady know that she was not meeting with her parents' full approval if she chose to indulge in the habit, and then let her go to it. The other half said that smoking was up to the children and added that nothing would be mentioned should they learn that out behind the garage suspicious actions were going on. These future parents would simply buy a fancy ash tray and invite the children into the parlor.

No one turned down dancing. In fact, they would encourage it. A boy who did not dance until he came to Iowa State said that it would be one of the first things his youngsters did—learn to dance. There was discrimination as to where and how the boys and girls should exercise the graceful art—public dance halls were out, but one boy said so may dancing be by 1955, so why worry too much?

You'd never think it, but there's a prominent young student on this campus—Iowa State campus, mind you—who says he won't tell his son he can't play football, but he'll keep him so busy doing something else—peddling vegetables, if necessary—that he won't have time for such foolishness. The girls were timorous about these athletic youngsters. They admitted the thrill that the campus heroes gave them in football games, but if it came to be a question of their own sons they would want the shoulder pads plenty heavy.

And so it goes. The future parents expect that they'll try to give their boys

and girls the privileges that students have now, and perhaps they will grant a few that they've felt they missed.

## Do Formals Bore?

By Clarine Durr  
and Elizabeth Foster

**F**ORMAL dinners—to have or not to have is not the question any more.

After a year of absence, the formal dinner returned to the girls' dormitories on the Iowa State campus. All the freshman, sophomore, transfer, and upper-class girls sent up a hearty chorus of approval for more of these affairs.

Here's what a few have to say:

When asked her opinion, one diminutive dark-haired transfer exclaimed, "I thought it was marvelous! The dinner created a cultural atmosphere which Iowa State needs to balance its technical side."

"I wish we might have more of them," wistfully stated a curly-haired blonde who was used to more such things at home. "I liked the formal dinner ever so much."

One and all mentioned that the manner of service and the quiet, candle-light atmosphere of the dormitory formal dinners gave girls who had little chance of attending formal functions an opportunity to get acquainted with and feel at ease at similar affairs.

A quiet little brunette thought the formal dinner was fine for girls who could not pledge sororities and had fewer opportunities to attend formal dinners.

The girls who stood in all the crisp whiteness of their uniforms to serve their formally-dressed guests and dorm-mates in the co-op dorms didn't mind the task. Says one, "Aside from the fact that I worried about dropping things, it was a lark."

"Formal dinners," quoting the house president of one of these co-ops, "are especially valuable in co-operative dormitories because they give the girls an opportunity to enjoy a type of entertainment which they might otherwise have to forgo because of lack of funds."

Formal dinners have shown the students that faculty guests need not always be associated with blackboards and quizzes. In this way, too, the girls learn how to invite guests and entertain them.

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