If It Passes These...

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A LADDIN'S lamp and all of the presto-change in the world haven't a thing on some of the magic transformations that go on at Iowa State College. And it is done in such a sleight-of-hand manner that most of those who are undergoing the wonderful change can scarcely realize just what has happened.

The magic works something like this. Choose a freshman girl, right out of high school, who has just paid her registration fee and is now a full-fledged Iowa State coed. High school has been a lot of fun, and this summer vacation just over with has been more fun yet.

There have been some slick orchestras playing about 40 miles from home and dances simply had to be attended. Then, after a person has danced until after midnight, an appetite crops up from some place or other and there must be food...good, heavy, filling food. And so to bed, to sleep late in the morning. Repeat at leisure during the summer, interspersed with hot fudge sundaes and long hours on a davenport with a book.

That's what happens just lots of times. But when this little girl who's had the big time gets to college? Well, she's in for a bang-up change. In the first place everybody else around school will be going to bed regularly, and there's really nothing to stay up so terribly late for anyway. Late hours are cancelled.

Food? Well, there are three splendid meals served each day in the dining table, the hamburgers and sundaes just don't appeal. Funny how much more this girl is going to enjoy going to bed minus that frightful load on her tummy. She'll pinch herself when she sees how well she's slept.

SLEEP late in the morning? Nothing doing. In the first place, Miss Coed will be rested and ready to get up without finding herself half wornout when she tries to stumble out of bed. She'll really be surprised how nice mornings are when she really tries a few. They're worth paying attention to!

It may be that all of this sleep, these wholesome good times and the food—to say nothing of the brisk walks between classes—just can't seem to snap the high school girl out of this slump that she's in. No tragedy in the offering at all. Over at the College Hospital she'll find Dr. Sara Kalar, and what she can't do for a case of listlessness or overworked nerves isn't worth mentioning.

Should she find that the schedule is too heavy, a few hours can be chopped off to give a little more rest time. It may be that the old red blood corpuscles aren't working properly and something needs to be done about that. Whatever it is, it will all be worked out, and no matter how backward the health beginning of this new student may have been, she'll be up to par just as soon as it is possible.

Which is just a little of the reason that "skinny girls" are out at Iowa State. There just isn't such a thing. And the girls are proud of the weight they gain, proud of the way in which their cheeks brighten up, proud of the vitality they acquire that they never dreamed was lying dormant just wanting to be brought out. The college formula is better than any other one in the world. Try now and see for yourself.

Iowa State College was the first college in the country to offer a course in domestic science. Kansas Agricultural College followed in 1873 and the Illinois Industrial University offered a course in 1874.

If It Passes These...

By Elizabeth Brann

IT'S fun to be fooled but it's never to know.—not only in sleight of
hand tricks but in the selection of
materials as well. There are only five
fibers—cotton, linen, silk, wool, and
rayon—out of which our clothing and
home furnishings could possibly be
made and yet a manufacturer can fool his customers as easily as the magician
who has his audience believing he
pulls rabbits out of tall silk hats.

The determination of fiber content
is not limited to the microscopes of
textile laboratories; for the average
person, with a few simple tests on a
small sample, can soon determine the
composition of the material she intends
to purchase.

To the inexperienced eye, the
difference between the new rayons and
real silk is hardly apparent, but mois
ture is an infallible test for rayon. When
wet, rayon fibers break down so that
the material can be torn with little
effort. Boiling a sample in a lye solu
tion is another check. The lye dis
solves protein fibers such as silk and
leaves rayon unaffected.

For further proof, the burning test
can be used. All one needs for this is
a package of matches. Silk and wool
burn slowly into a beady ash with an
odor like that of burnt hair or
feathers. Chardonnet, cupra-ammoni
um, and viscose rayons flash like
cotton and smell like paper or burnt
guss. Celanese, a fourth kind of
rayon, beads like silk, but the bead is
tough and waxy.

Cotton is perhaps most easily con
fused with linen, especially in crash
toweling where uneven yarns are of
ten used in an imitation of linen. The
difference here must be told from the
fibers, for both cotton and linen burn
quickly with an odor of burnt paper.
Cotton fibers are round, waxy, and
very short, and linen fibers are flat,
straight, and can be as long as the
stalk of the flax plant.

The lye test is the best for deter
mining if a material advertised as "all
wool" really is all wool. Lye will de
stroy all the wool and leave any cellu
lose present unaffected. In purchas
ing wool fabrics, one should watch out
for wool shoddy or reworked wool, be
d.,cause the fibers in both shoddy
and reworked wool are short and broken,
and do not hold up well under any
strain. They are used mostly in knitted
goods and in blankets where the
weave is obscured by the nap.

When your best silk dress spots with
even the tiniest drop of water, you
may attribute it to dressing in the
material. Weighted silk is detected by
the burning test, in which the ash re
tains the structure of the original mate
rial. And as for the permanency of the
finish of such materials as crepe and
gordian, a single washing of a sample
will tell whether the fabric is of a good
quality or merely an imitation.