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The Art of Living, As I See It

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Facility Members Tell
Helen Clemons About

The Art of Living, As I See It

THE average woman is so busy raising her family that she forgets to take a little time to reflect on what women live by, but some “Homemakers” have begun to form their own beliefs about life and its worthwhile objectives.

Remember, though, that a life philosophy is ever changing, developing as each year rolls around. The observations of some Iowa State people may help in setting up the framework for a creed of the beginner’s own.

Dean Helser of the Junior College says, “One of our main objectives in this life is to seek happiness and peace. I get my happiness and peace out of trying to accomplish things, which of course means hard work, and in trying to keep in close touch with my creator. The more knowledge we obtain, the more we develop our personalities, and the more efficient we become, the more we can accomplish.

“One of the greatest things in this world is to get along with people,” he believes. “One of the best ways to do this is not only to serve others but to allow others to serve us. Those we help in setting up the framework for what women live by, but some

“Perhaps, it might be termed a “fatalistic” view, but I feel things are meant to come out right. Sometimes a situation looks black even after you’ve done your best. But in the end it comes out right, although it may be hard to see it for a while. In passing . . . . friends are cultivated by being a friend yourself."

A Starrak, vocational educator, gives us six tenets:
1. “I believe in the inherent goodness of humanity; 2. I believe in the immortality of human personality; 3. I believe that the moral and ethical principles advocated by Christ for governing human relationships are thoroughly sound; 4. I believe in the domination of the mental and spiritual over the physical and the material; 5. I believe that the welfare of the individual is tied up inseparably with the welfare of his fellows; 6. I believe in the virtue and the grandeur of simplicity. I believe in simple living."

A busy craft’s laboratory one finds Mabel Fisher. She begins, “I realize more each day the need for living simply, for only through the simple life can one realize true happiness. Within each of us there is a desire for expression . . . . for the creation of something satisfying through its beauty, a beauty which comes through its having the quality of simplicity.

“My teaching is fun . . . . I like to help others—students and fellow faculty members—toward appreciations for lovely things and an individual creative experience which will satisfy because of having given them a full view of the happiness which comes from living simply.”

W. Paul Jones, professor of English, tells us his philosophy of life is implicit in the following ideals:
1. To have an open mind on all
(Turn to page 12)
Perhaps You’ve Met Them . . .

But Do You KNOW Them?

Future School M’am . . .

Edith Blood

Edith Blood has had a life long ambition to be a school teacher and is now well on her way toward achieving this goal. She is now a home economics senior with an education major.

The year before coming to college Edith was chosen by the Des Moines Register and Tribune to be 4-H representative to Washington, D.C. This year she is president of the campus 4-H Club.

Edith is a member of the Veiseha Central Committee and had charge of the Homemaker Congress held here during Farm and Home Week.

Half that she has gained from her college education has been through contacts made while working for her room and board and with campus activities, she feels. To add one more new experience to her college career and to make it more complete she would like to live a quarter in a dormitory.

“Everything I have gained here at college I wish I could share with my sister,” said Edith. “It is she who stays home and keeps house for my father and two brothers thus making it possible for me to come.”

Informer . . .

Marjorie Brenneman

A TOP the olive green desk is a little black sign with white letters on it—it faces you. Those letters spell “Miss Brenneman.” Back of the sign two friendly questioning eyes spell even more surely “Miss Brenneman.” The “Miss” sounds rather dignified and older but Marjorie graduated last June. From her job she might well be labeled “The Iowa State Catalogue of Miscellaneous Information” for she’s the person who takes care of that sort of thing over in the Registrar’s office in Central.

Every day she gets these “Where can I find—?” questions. If she doesn’t know herself she can refer you to someone who does. As for the kinds of questions—they’re all kinds. Just imagine one like this. Can you picture the slightly abashed boy friend sheepishly asking for the address of a certain feminine charmer whom he wishes to honor with a Christmas Greeting? More than one boy did it, as Marjorie can tell you.

She mentioned the case of one bewildered newcomer to college with its red tape. “How do I register, anyway?” he asked. “Well, you have to go through the lines and—” “But what are ‘lines’?” he asked.

She finds it necessary to read the Student and keep up on the News. People are always phoning about the short courses. Could you give much information concerning the subject?

Another specialized service she offers is the lost and found department. The pens, pencils, gloves, and scarfs are kept 60 days and if they have not then been called for—no, Marjorie does not keep them—they go back to the finder. “We only keep such things as matchless gloves or something of no use.”

Gentleman From India . . .

Habiballah Baluch

You can’t have missed that dark-bearded, dark-skinned gentleman from India—Habiballah Baluch. But how many people, do you suppose, know that Mr. Baluch is a professor of commercial dairy farming at one of the premier government colleges of agriculture in India—Poona, Bombay?

He is now on study leave to get acquainted with the western methods of improvements in various phases of agricultural industry.

Many books have been written concerning India and its strange customs. Some of our American tricks seem equally strange to Mr. Baluch. Unbeknown to those about him, Mr. Baluch jots down quaint bits of observation.

When he tells weird, beautiful tales of India, the listener feels as though he is living in an enchanted dream—so gripping are the descriptions.

Few people, said Mr. Baluch, ever see a peacock dance. He himself has seen his pet peacock, “Mor,” (which is the name of one of the most highly valued coins in India) dance three times.

The tail-plumes of a peacock are about twice as long as the height of an average-sized person, and have a wonderful sheen and exquisite patterns imprinted in gorgeous, variegated colors. So when a peacock spreads his tail-feathers in a crecent of rainbow colors, one is almost dazzled, and “the heavens themselves feel cast down,” relates Mr. Baluch.

The dance, especially under a full moon, is the “rarest sight that could ever be beheld in this mortal world.”

The spectators feel hypnotized as if in a magic spell. The movements of the dance are light, graceful, and sway- ing. With its tail feathers the bird makes long, sweeping, geometric figures. One of the famous American dancers under the name of Ragni Devi, who happened to be traveling through his town, begged Mr. Baluch to be allowed to see his pet bird dance so that she could imitate the dance and be able to design a costume that would match the peacock’s plumes. She expressed surprise and deep regret to learn that the creature danced only when feeling the psychological inclination.

Compared to the very solemn, graceful, and entrancing dance of the peacock, the western ball-room dances present merely a scene of shuffling of feet, Mr. Baluch thinks.

Art of Living

(Begins on page 1)

THE IOWA HOMEMAKER

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subjects and therefore to be tolerant of the opinions and actions of all people.

“2. To have the ability to live in the present and never be bored.

“3. To have a job (a) that I like well enough not to begrudge any time devoted to it, (b) that is socially responsible, (c) that encourages independence and freedom of thinking, and (d) that affords an outlet for creative effort.

“4. To have an understanding of and an appreciation for the beautiful in all its forms.”

Edna O’Bryan, applied art home economist, said, “I believe in living by the way I teach . . . by design, an orderly and simple arrangement. As we make a design to fill a space harmoniously, we should plan our life to fill its allotted place, and live in a pleasing relationship with our surroundings. We should have a variety of interests, some dominant, others subordinate. Each of us should make the most of life with what we have and be happy with that.”

Sidney Stone of the public speaking department added, “First of all, a person must determine for himself what ways of conduct are most desirable. He must determine what standards should exist for his personal or ‘inside’ life and for his life with others. Once his standards are established, and after each revision of these standards, he should try to govern himself accordingly. So man may say to himself: ‘These, I believe, are sound and desirable character principles; I shall try constantly to live up to them. The extent to which I follow them will determine my self-respect and my personal contribution to desirable social living.’”

And now this little journey has just begun . . . .