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## Miniwanca Inspires Fellowship Winners

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*Iowa State delegates chat with Mr. Danforth beneath the camp's motto*

# Miniwanca Inspires Fellowship Winners

*Mary Rothaker tells about the activities of Danforth winners at St. Louis and Camp Miniwanca*

THREE Iowa State women, winners of the 1944 Danforth Fellowship, enjoyed an inspiring and educational two weeks at Camp Miniwanca near Shelby, Michigan, this summer. The camp experience was part of the Danforth award and upperclass winners received an additional fortnight in St. Louis as guests of the Ralston Purina Company.

Eleanor Koster, senior representative from Iowa State, says of her experiences in St. Louis:

"Thirty-six home economics students, each of us representing a state, were two-day visitors at the 540-acre Purina Experimental Farm. We had the opportunity to learn about management methods and nutritional studies with farm livestock and fur-bearing animals. Potential fur coats in cages and chickens that laid eggs with green yolks were only a small part of the experimental problems in this vast outdoor laboratory.

"In addition to the informational tours of the farm, we engaged in athletic activities. We formed softball teams and the Eastern visitors competed against those of us from the West. The second night we left the experimental farm aboard a checkerboard wagon pulled by Missouri mules.

"In St. Louis we were escorted behind the scenes in the Barnes Hospital; the Stix, Baer and Fuller Department Store; the Gardner Advertising Agency; Mvrakos Candy Company; and the Independent Packing Plant. Lectures on food for tomorrow, vitamins for vitality and feed for furs were of special interest to those of us who were foods majors. We were royally entertained by the Chamber of Commerce who arranged a tour of Forest Park and the Art Museum. The crowning feature of our St. Louis visit was the romantic operetta, "Maytime" which was presented under the stars at the Municipal Opera."

After her St. Louis visit, Miss Koster joined Sheila Dunagan and me, the two junior representatives from Iowa State, and the three of us traveled to the Youth Foundation Camp at Shelby, Michigan. The first glimpses of the wooded sand dunes of Lake Michigan surpassed the best descriptions that we had received about Camp Miniwanca. Five-hundred students from 44 states lived a four-fold life at the camp with physical, mental, social and religious development a part of each well-balanced day.

Athletic competition among the six Indian tribes, which were organized from the campers, kept active

interest at a high pitch. A track meet, aquatic show and the flashlight relay through wooded trails and over sand dunes kept all of us busy earning points for our tribe. Baseball, captain ball, volley ball, deck tennis and other team games were scheduled every afternoon. Tumbling down the mountainous dune, "Old Baldy," jumping foamy breakers in Lake Michigan and racing fleecy clouds reflected in Stony Lake in sailboats were activities enjoyed by all.

Mental development was stimulated by challenging leaders who talked on such subjects as the art of crea-



*Eleanor Koster, Sheila Dunagan and Mary Rothaker smile from a terrace wall overlooking the sand dunes at Camp Miniwanca*

tive living and interpretations of Christ's teachings. The words of our inspiring leader, Mr. William Danforth, who dared us to stand, smile, think and live tall impressed us and will long be remembered.

A barn dance, circus, and tribal entertainment in the council circle highlighted our many pleasant evenings.

Religious thought and prayer were encouraged during the quiet period in the morning when each camper found her own outdoor shrine. In the evening the campers and their leaders followed a winding path through the trees up to vesper dune which overlooked Lake Michigan. World travelers and nationally known educators shared their unusual experiences with us during these services. The Danforth Chapel and the Church of the Dunes were other favorite places of worship.