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Both sides of the Pacific

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Peggy Waterland reviews work with YWCA groups on both sides of the Pacific

She Works in California

DIRECTOR of the YWCA, in Riverside, Calif., is Dorothy Jo Moreland, '43. After graduating in home economics education, Miss Moreland spent 2 years teaching in Iowa high schools and 1 year serving as a dietitian for the United States Army.

Miss Moreland chose this position as program director for the younger girls because she likes teenagers. She enjoys helping channel their high spirits and energies into constructive activities. The program is designed to give both fun and educational experiences which will help develop mature attitudes toward family relationships, work, religion, dating and social responsibility. Such a program is carried out through social clubs, interest groups such as crafts, dramatics, and reading and writing, counseling, camping and co-educational activities.

Volunteer adult advisors carry direct responsibility for working with the young peoples’ groups. One of Miss Moreland’s primary tasks is the recruiting, training and supervision of these adult group advisors and leaders. She works directly with the girl leaders in inter-club council activities and city-wide and area training conferences.

In addition to her work within the YWCA, Miss Moreland works with other youth-serving agencies in the community to plan and execute programs. They include week-end coeducational conferences and summer camps designed to meet the needs of all young people.

Salaries are equal to the best paid in the field of social work. Miss Moreland states that her beginning salary in the YWCA exceeds the average teaching salary in Iowa. Reasonable working hours, timed largely by the worker herself, a month’s vacation on full salary and an excellent retirement fund are just a few of the features of YWCA work which made it a career with a future and the promise of security.

She Works in Honolulu

EVERYTHING from hula dancing to classes in Chinese and American cooking make up the program of the Honolulu, Hawaii, YWCA where Harriett Pratt, '44, is assistant dietitian of the cafeteria.

The YWCA in Honolulu has the wholehearted support of the entire community and membership includes all races. There is a well organized and varied program for both children and adults. Miss Pratt teaches the class in American cookery. Most of her students are Japanese and Chinese women between the ages of 20 and 30. They are anxious to learn the technique of making the traditional “light” baking powder biscuit and other state-side dishes.

Planning menus and supervising their preparation bring special problems in Hawaii. Oriental tastes differ from ours. Rice instead of potatoes is the staple food. Many native fruits such as the papaya, which is comparable to the cantaloupe, vary the menu. Shortages caused by the shipping strike and the sugar strike and prices beyond reason have recently complicated the food situation.

Because the cafeteria employs orientals the dietitians must learn their tongue and introduce American recipes to them. As is typical of any tropical climate, energy is at a minimum. More time must be allotted to food preparation. The kitchens are not modernized for efficiency, and hand preparation prevails.

The cafeteria is open during lunch and dinner hours. The seating space is augmented by a terraced patio where about 1,000 customers dine daily at the umbrella-shaded tables.

While at Iowa State Miss Pratt majored in institution management. She never thought that this major would lead her to Hawaii with its many interests and wealth of new experiences. Social life is emphasized and every holiday is tenaciously observed.