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How You Can Earn While You Learn

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How You Can
Earn While You Learn

A GRADUATE'S name neatly printed on a college degree is not the only factor taken into consideration by future employers. "What previous experience have you had?", the brief but all important question included in almost every job application, proves this.

The question is often raised, "How can college women attend school and at the same time hold jobs that will be of benefit to them when applying for a position in their chosen field?"

Iowa State women in home economics are providing the answer. Many are carrying a full academic schedule, doing part-time work in their major field and earning a welcome supplement to the assets column of their college budget book.

Food is a big item in any institution. For this reason Iowa State majors in the Departments of Foods and Nutrition and Institution Management are finding ample opportunities to gain experience through student employment.

Typical of these is Natalie Benda, who spends 8 hours a week working in the Memorial Union cafeteria line during the noon hours. Natalie hopes that her job will help her to decide between a major in institution management and dietetics. She realizes, now, the amount of cooperation necessary in the management of a large kitchen, such as the Union maintains.

Each week Margaret Hartman, dietetics major, is obtaining 12 to 15 hours first-hand experience with the ins and outs of hospital dietetics. At the College Hospital she weighs out food for diabetic patients, sets up trays, makes salads, waits on the nurses' tables and becomes familiar with the routine of a hospital dietitian. Margie's job eliminates board fees from the list of her college expenses.

Cooking for large groups of people is no new experience for Helen Jacobs, whose major is experimental cookery. During the war she did large quantity cookery as a member of the WAC. Besides applying this knowledge to her classroom work, she is gaining additional experience by assisting in a dormitory kitchen 2 hours daily during the dinner hour.

Many a textiles and clothing major laments the fact that she must start at the very bottom of the ladder on the way to assuming a position of importance in her field. To shorten the climb after graduation, Devah Hansen is eliminating the first rung while still in college. As a clerk in the women's ready-to-wear section of a local department store, Devah is learning something new every day.

"If I want to be a buyer," says Devah, "I'll have to learn what people want, how they accept style changes and how a store keeps a record of its merchandise and takes account of its stock. Just knowing what all the little signs on a price tag stand for is an art in itself. I've learned a lot about new fabrics, manufacturers' labels, selling points, judging sizes and, above all, how to be understanding of people's wants and needs."

FOR women majoring in household equipment, the Department of Physics offers the opportunity to teach laboratory classes in that subject. Harriet Breckenridge, home economics graduate, taught during her undergraduate years and is continuing to teach while working for her master's degree at Iowa State. She likes it so much that she plans to go into college teaching when she receives her degree.

The Department of Technical Journalism offers numerous opportunities for its majors to obtain actual experience while attending school. A course in magazine writing provides profitable classroom work. Here the students learn how to write magazine articles and actually sell them to leading magazines.

In addition, a few journalism majors are employed by newspapers as campus correspondents and are paid by the inch for news which the paper prints. Charlene Stettler is serving her second year as campus correspondent for the Cedar Rapids Gazette. Another campus news-gatherer is Shirliann Fortman, who reports the latest developments at Iowa State to the New York Herald Tribune.

Branching out in the field of journalism is Joyce Edgar. In her spare time Joyce takes and develops pictures for campus organizations, publications and social events. At Christmas time she purchased her own camera and other photographic equipment. She hopes to have a darkroom of her own at home soon.