Here's How To Travel The Path To Campus Success

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Here's How To Travel The Path To Campus Success

by Ruth Walker Allen

You're a college woman now. It's a little overwhelming at first, this being away from home—no mother now to advise you, no big brothers or sisters to watch over you, to admonish you if necessary. You're just a little cog in a great big wheel. You're somewhat in awe of the upperclassmen who seem to know the ropes so well. They usually know just what to wear and what to say when and where. But don't let it get you down. Your own good common sense is your best aid now.

At home you were the class officers, the Y-Teen cabinet members. You starred in your senior class play and put out your school publications. You were the leaders and the honor students. Now you're just one of many with the same general background as your own.

You wonder if you'll make a success of college.

Coeds gain poise plus a cooperative spirit by making friends and sharing stories and news with them. Here a group of underclassmen look over a few snapshots of campus personalities and scenes

Studying is harder and necessarily more important. You're meeting lots of new people and you're thrown into difficult social situations. At home your room was your own domain. Now you're sharing it. Of course it's a bit difficult to adjust yourself to enjoying another person's company constantly. You yearn for a little privacy, but that's harder to find now.

So if you're a smart gal you'll learn to get along and avoid friction. Your roommate will probably turn out to be a friend you will cherish all your life. That's the way it should be. If you remember that little courtesies go a long way toward making strong friendships, you should have smooth sailing. Respect her rights and privileges! If you will trade clothes, keep it on a mutual basis, and never, no never, borrow from her wardrobe unless you check with her first.

Freshmen women traditionally get a big rush at Iowa State. At the Freshman Mixer the upperclassmen are all out to look over the new additions. You'll meet lots of men and have lots of dates, but it's up to you whether or not you'll have repeats.

Making dates far in advance is not too desirable although it is flattering. How are you to know whether you want to go out weeks from now with someone you've just met? Breaking dates has always been considered a bad policy even though by then you may have other plans. And it is discouraging for fellows to have to wait so long before they can get better acquainted with someone they've just met and considered attractive enough for a second look.

When you're on a date, your common sense will guide you. Naturally your date isn't interested in hearing all about the other men in your life. Your date is your companion for the evening. Above all else, don't let the male situation overshadow your education. Education is why you're here, remember?

Many college women feel that activities are a broadening and important part of their college education. Check your inclinations. If they lie in the direction of publication work, trek over to the Press Building and volunteer your services. You may prefer dramatic work, music, WAA.

You'll probably start out as a general flunky, but with a little determination and hard work you'll find your niche. During your freshman year is the time to get started in these activities. Your school work comes first, of course, but if you plan your time you'll probably discover a few hours for activities in your busy schedule. Don't wait for an invitation. It probably won't come, but you'll be welcome in any activity in which you're sincerely interested. There's where you'll meet people with interests similar to your own.

You're a college woman now, and you'll be a successful college woman if you settle down to the business at hand, use the common sense you were endowed with and have a wonderful time.