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Summer-Time Is Job-Time

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summer-time is JOB-time



by *Barbara Short*

You're looking forward to 3 months of sun, brilliant with the glow of new experiences. Chances are you want to work next summer, but you're wondering how to go about getting that job. You're wondering what sort of a job would suit you and what that job might teach you.

Iowa State has anticipated questions like yours. Ready to help you find that summer job is Miss Irene Nettleton, Home Economics Personnel Officer. She's been thinking about you all winter and has questioned last summer's employees so that she'll be better equipped to assist you. Miss Nettleton receives requests from employers for graduates to work full time and also for women to work in the summer.

Survey Completed

One hundred and thirteen junior and senior women filled out the questionnaires which Miss Nettleton prepared. She asked them what jobs they held, how long they worked and how much they were paid.

Earnings ranged from \$500 to \$100 and averaged about \$228. Most women waited tables at resorts and did general office work. Many accepted jobs as saleswomen and merchandisers in department stores, as waitresses in restaurants and camps, as stenographers, kitchen helpers, and as newspaper reporters and proof readers.

What does this mean to you? You'll be most able to land a job requiring little technical skill. Although Miss Nettleton receives some requests for trained technicians, the most demand is for unskilled persons to fill in while others are vacationing; to help with increased business or summer enterprises.

Miss Nettleton learned about jobs that offer unusual experiences. Work at exclusive country clubs sometimes opens your eyes to ways of living different from your own. Those who choose jobs at dude ranches usually find their employers willing to let them ride horseback, hike and take part in other ranch activities.

Household equipment majors worked side by side with home economists during a Home Service Training Program in Kansas City. Waitresses and pantry girls at Stouffers Restaurant in Chicago were oriented to the workings of a large chain restaurant.

Some women played mother to underprivileged children at service camps. Others worked in offices; one woman among Jewish, Norwegian and Italian people, another among steel workers and their plant managers during a period of impending strikes. Sales-girls in department stores found the American homemaker extremely gullible at times; they gave the large women who asked for small sizes larger sizes which "ran small."

Perhaps you've worked before and know that every job has its own peculiarities. If you were the young woman who worked with children at a camp, you know that you're still marveling over their whims and sayings. If your roommate sold house dresses last summer, you've heard her stories about how grandma can help a sale along; how the husbands cringe unconsciously when their wives model sunsuits.

All woman who were referred to their jobs last summer by the Home Economics Personnel Office were interviewed. Now Miss Nettleton can more ably suit the person to the job and can suggest changes in the employer's staff and methods before she places women there again. This process of investigation and elimination helps the applicant choose her job correctly.

New Job Values

More valuable than the money you earn and the practical skill you acquire will be the new values you'll gain from your summer job. You'll be forced to take responsibility for your own actions and ideas. You'll gain your own perspective of money's relative value. The knowledge that someone is willing to pay you for your work will give you self confidence.

You'll find yourself. Next fall you'll play the part of leader in campus activities more often. Your greater understanding of people and of yourself will make it easier to work with others and to manage your time and ideas to better advantage.

If you go into that job next June with the idea that you're going to like people; if you make a conscious effort to cooperate with your fellow workers; if you open your mind to your employer's ideas and try to accept suggestions and criticisms graciously, you'll discover that your job will mean more to you than \$228.