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Avoid Job Rush

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CHRISTMAS is none too early to start shopping for that summer job. Christmas vacation provides an excellent opportunity to arrange for those important applications and interviews.

Carol Georgeas, home economics sophomore, knew this when she applied for her job on Marshall Field’s College Board in Chicago last Christmas. Says Carol, “An early start is important since Iowa State’s school year extends so far into spring.”

Carol began with a personal interview during Christmas vacation and another immediately after arriving home for the summer. Two weeks later she had her job.

Carol’s job with Field’s gave her a broad, exciting experience in the fashion world. Previous to beginning work, she had a week’s training course. Here she learned of Field’s selling techniques and heard buyers’ talks on the merchandise in the various departments of the store.

This Christmas, Field’s has asked the girls on the College Board to come back and be advisors in the “Stag-Line Shop” which specializes in helping a young man select Christmas gifts for that very important someone in his life.

Carol says her job was fun, exciting and certainly gave her varied experience and training . . . . all the result of a Christmas time interview.

Now you may not live in a large city as Carol does where department stores have large college boards. Or maybe this type of job doesn’t interest you. But whether you want to work in the largest store in the world or spend your summer afternoons baby sitting, it’s still not too early to start making plans.

Employment office

The outlook for summer employment for college women looks very promising this year, according to Mrs. L. G. Thomas, head of the Iowa State Home Economics Placement Office. She has already received several letters asking for information about summer employees from employers, and one firm has sent a representative to this campus to interview interested women.

If you plan to make your home town your summer headquarters, Christmas is the ideal time to begin a survey of job possibilities. You might use your vacation to write letters of application and to look over the field. Summer jobs are not only important to provide that much-needed pay check, but they also provide an excellent chance to gain experience in your major field. Perhaps you’re planning to start a neighborhood nursery or to set up an art class for the young folks. Then Christmas is a good time to begin telling people about your plans.

If you have a certain firm in mind for which you would like to work, the home economics placement office can help you with your plans for application. This office also has lists of places which are requesting summer employees.

Personal interview effective

In applying for a job, a personal interview is more effective than an application by correspondence. If it is at all possible, you should make your application in this way. Make an appointment before you appear for your interview and be sure it is convenient for the proper people to see you.

Mrs. Thomas believes that for your personal interview, a neat, uncluttered appearance is most desirable. A simple suit, hat, shoes and gloves are generally considered most appropriate but of utmost importance is that you wear what is becoming to you and also what fits the occasion.

In some cases, the personality factors in a particular position may outweigh the more minute details of over-all appearance. A girl may be employed in spite of inappropriate dress. This is, however, the exception to the rule and because you cannot know this in advance, “forewarned is forearmed.”

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Check all the details of your job before accepting it. For instance, if it is to be in a resort area, find out if you will be allowed to use the guest facilities. Definite hours and salary should be settled before the contract becomes final.

"You must be willing and anxious to learn in a summer job," says Mrs. Thomas. "You need to be cooperative and open to suggestions regarding new methods and ideas. You may gain a great deal by observation," she says.

Learn from mistakes

"Even if a job isn't what you had hoped it would be or you find your employer difficult to work for, you can learn from your own and other's mistakes. A knowledge of the disadvantages of a field or its needed improvements is often very valuable."

There are many, many jobs to be filled by college women next summer. But there are many, many women applying for those jobs, too. So, do your summer job shopping early this year and avoid that last minute rush.

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