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Miniwanca—
Here Comes ISC

by Dorothy Will
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TWO WEEKS of leadership training in the wooded sand dune country of western Michigan awaited Janet Apple, H. Ec., Sr., and Miriam Mc Kee, H. Ec. So., when they were announced as Iowa State's Danforth Scholarship winners in June. In August, the two weeks became a reality as Janet and Miriam arrived at Camp Miniwanca near Shelby, Mich.

With 500 other college students from across the United States, they were attending a camp that is sharp evidence of the belief of one of America's most famous business executives, William H. Danforth, that extra-curricular activities help develop leadership in future life.

No Expenses

All campers had their expenses paid jointly by the Danforth Foundation and the Ralston Purina Company, St. Louis, Mo. Mr. Danforth, chairman of the Board of Directors of Ralston Purina and director of the American Youth Foundation, awarded Janet one of the 51 scholarships offered for home economics students graduating from state universities in 1954. Miriam received the scholarship for freshman home economics students.

The 1952 winner of the Danforth scholarship for freshman women, Mary Jo Bierbaum, H. Ec. Jr., returned to Camp Miniwanca for the second summer. At the camp, which occupies 200 acres on Lake Michigan and Stovy Lake shores, the three Iowa State campers found it easy to live up to the Miniwanca motto—

"Stand tall. Smile tall. Think tall. Live tall."

"Stand tall." Describing the camping program as strenuous, Mary Jo explained that between the rising bell at 6:50 and the breakfast bell at 7:30, she attended flag raising, did calisthenics, took a quick dip in Lake Michigan, dressed, cleaned her tent and spent 15 minutes by herself for quiet devotions any place on the camp grounds.

Physical development is uppermost when the camp's directors think of "Stand tall." During afternoon sessions of sports and games, the campers have an added incentive because each belongs to one of four "Indian tribes." Participation in "tribal games" such as softball, captain ball, ring tennis, volleyball, swimming and track meets and individual games means "tribal points."

With "Smile tall" comes the emphasis on social development. In their daily activities, the campers "mix" so that they meet students from other colleges and other parts of the nation.


"Live tall." After sundown each day, campers climb a dune overlooking Lake Michigan. Here vesper services are marked by informal talks by the camp staff who seek to impart the desire for campers to "live tall" in the light of religious teachings.

"Stand tall. Smile tall. Think tall. Live tall." or young people's physical, mental, social and religious development mean much to Mr. Danforth. Especially interested in helping young people find their places of largest service to the world, he awards the Danforth scholarships with that aim. Winners are selected by faculty members at each college.

St. Louis Excursion

Janet's fellowship for '54 graduates included not only 2 weeks at Camp Miniwanca, but also 2 weeks in St. Louis where she learned about manufacturing, commercial research, distribution, advertising and personnel.

With the other scholarship winners, Janet toured large industrial plants, hospitals, department stores, advertising agencies and the grain exchange. The group met and talked with home economists in all fields.

Through the fellowships Mr. Danforth hopes to help both college seniors and underclassmen. The seniors, during their 2 weeks in St. Louis, have the opportunity to learn about career possibilities, and the freshmen, at a camp emphasizing leadership training, realize the importance of future college studies and extra-curricular activities.