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She married the student body president!

by Jane Brintlinger
Technical Journalism junior

AT HOME secretary for the president of the student body— that's the title Mrs. Gib Stanek thinks could be given to her. "And one many people take for granted," the former Nancy Fisher adds ruefully.

As student body president, Gib is called during campus emergencies, such as the riots, by both newspapers and radio stations across the state. The representatives call the Stanek home and expect Nancy to find Gib, and sometimes even to know the answers they're seeking. Some newspaper reporters aren't satisfied with just calling, Nancy says, but prefer to drop in at their home, 314 Pammel Court. So the "at home secretary" becomes a receptionist, too.

"Plan" is key

Planning, especially activities to be done together, is the key for the Staneks. Weekends offer the most time for a working wife and active husband. Saturday is the day for them to do a really thorough housecleaning, "the kind Gib can help with," such as washing and waxing floors, doing laundry.

Weekend foods for the Staneks are special, too. Weekday meals are the hurry-up top-of-stove kind or prepared-ahead-oven type. But Saturday and Sunday are for foods which require more time, such as breads and layer cakes.

Gib takes over as chief cook on weekends, too. "The prexy" is an excellent chef, according to his wife, and really enjoys it. "After all, he's been cooking since he was 15 years old," she said. Nancy praised her husband for the glazed ham dinner he served "no wife assistance."

Entertaining by this couple ranges from 5 a.m. breakfasts to open houses. A National Student Association officer visited Iowa State to check on the physical aspects of having the National NSA Congress here. Because the visitor's train arrived in Ames at 5 a.m., Nancy entertained at an early breakfast.

Sunday in Pammel Court is really an informal open house, Nancy explained. "Saturday cleaning takes care of the appearance of the house, so Sunday is well set aside for visiting and relaxing.

"Having time to relax is important to Gib as to anyone else," Nancy knows. "He has to pick and choose and re-delegate responsibility so he'll have time for relaxing." As president Gib had meetings almost every weeknight. Some start late, others end late, but seldom was the entire evening free for the two of them. When Gib was working part time, they were still together—for both worked at the seed laboratory.

Nancy has learned to switch the dinner hour and still serve a good meal. She realizes it's easier for Gib not to be eating at a residence house with scheduled meal times. Instead, he just calls his wife and moves the hour to fit the meeting. Even though he's on call for meetings with President James Hilton and Dean M. D. Helser, Gib tries to arrange other meetings so that the weekend is free.

When they first moved into their unit, Gib and Nancy, like most Pammel Courters, scrubbed and painted and cleaned and sewed. The result is a smart and modern brown living room, accented with blonde furniture. Gib even ran up a few seams on the brown corduroy curtains! And he built the blonde study desk in the living room; "just a board with legs" is his modest description.

Gib's hobbies

The label, "Made by the ISC student prexy," could be applied to several other decorating pieces in the Stanek home. Three mobiles were designed and made by Gib. And from their honeymoon trip through Colorado came the idea for copper silhouettes of roosters which Gib just finished.

"Building up our record collection has really been fun," exclaimed Nancy. "Yes, it has classics and everything else, including Stan Kenton."

Nancy and Gib try to visit other colleges whenever they have a chance to see what other schools are doing and how. So even when they're vacationing, Gib's campus position enters the picture. They recently toured the University of Wisconsin.

Since Gib has "officially graduated," as Nancy terms it, he has turned over his duties to the vice-president, Roger Mitchell, and the new student body president, Dick Stanley, who is also married. Now Nancy has switched from wife of the student body president to Army wife.