Clara Barton Girls' Account Books Show

College Needn't Be Expensive

"But college is so expensive!" explains the modern mother. "I'd like so much to have Jane go, but we just can't afford it. They say it costs about $1,000 a year, and since John's salary cut—"

Jane's mother ought to investigate this matter of college expenses. She hasn't, or she'd know that Jane may take a year of college on less than half this sum. The solution is: Put Jane in a cooperative dormitory. Let her learn to manage her time and her money; let her acquire a feeling of responsibility by earning a part of her own expenses.

A college education is not an expensive luxury to coeds who live in cooperative dormitories. For with accurate budgeting and account-keeping and "watching the corners" on expenses, girls at Clara Barton Hall, Iowa State College, have found it possible to spend less than $1,600 in 4 years of college. And they have a good time doing it!

Fifteen Clara Barton girls, each of whom has lived in one of Iowa State's "coop dorms" for at least a year, had expenses varying from $300 to $675 a year, with an average of $387, a figure quite different from $1,600—the amount regarded necessary for a year of college by the average adult.

Some of the girls buy very few clothes when away from home and consequently do not include clothes in their yearly college expenses. But one coed, including everything, even Christmas gifts, and all clothes bought at school and at home, spent only $400 last year.

Very few of the girls know just what percentage of their money is spent for clothes. Some said that they buy most of their clothes when away from home and include them in their yearly expense figures. One girl, who spent $380 last year, estimates that about 15 to 20 percent of this sum went for clothes, and that her parents bought about half her clothes at home. Clothes bought at home are not included in her college expenses.

In most cases the girls who buy their clothes at school and include them in their expense accounts have the highest yearly expenses. The only girl who spent over $450 last year has a set allowance and buys all of her clothes from it. Her expenses total $675 a year. She spends "whatever is left" after paying other bills for clothes.

Now how do these girls manage to spend so little during a year in college? First, they pay only $2.15 a week for board. They prepare and serve all of their own meals, cutting the price of board in two. (In non-cooperative dormitories at Iowa State College board is $4.15 a week.)

Next, tuition and fees at Iowa State amount to about $100 a year, much less than the average for colleges over the country. And some of the girls who live in cooperative dormitories have fee exemptions, which cut registration expense considerably. Each of two girls who have fee exemptions of $20 a quarter.

Seven of the girls budget their expenses carefully, allowing certain amounts for fees, board, room and clothes. Two others have a definite amount of money to use each quarter and keep within this limit. Another "starts out to" budget her money every now and then but doesn't "keep it up." The rest don't budget their expenses, but use what money they have and then "send home for more."

Most of these "coop dorm" girls know the value of money, especially when you have a meager supply of it. And they are careful not to spend it on frills and furbelows. They think that the inconvenience of "watching expenses" is more than made up for by the benefits they receive from learning to manage money.

Typical replies to the question, "What benefit do you get from watching expenses?" were:

"You know just where you are, how much you are spending for each thing."

"You know just where your money goes."

"You learn how to manage money. I like to keep an expense account. It helps with future budgeting. You can see what your money is going for and cut down in some places if necessary."

"You learn how to budget expenses and how to count your pennies."

Only two of the coeds said that they were not "watching expenses" carefully. And both of these spent more than the average for the 15 girls last year.

"What benefit do you get from living in a cooperative dorm?" was the next question.

All of the girls think that they do benefit greatly from the practical experience in home economies that they get by preparing meals and managing work time in the dormitory. One of them, an industrial science student—an unusual person at Iowa State, where most girls are "home cee"—thinks that the practical experience is especially valuable to her. She doesn't get it in classes.

"It's one class you don't have to pay tuition for," said a sophomore. "I've learned a lot about cooking."

"You learn economy, for one thing," said another. "I think you spend less on shows and eating than you would if you lived somewhere else."

Almost all of the girls agreed that they spend less on shows and knick-knacks in food than they would if they lived in an ordinary dorm or sorority house. The reasons for this are that they have less time for "fooling around" and that the average girl in the cooperative dorm has less money to spend on such things.

"I like the coop dorm because you learn to manage time. You just can't fool around and you just have to make things come out," said a girl who budgets her money and "sticks to" her budget.

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for some interesting buttons, will be appropriate for school.

You've probably all noticed the new mode in hair arrangement that has made its appearance on the campus this year. Being inquisitive, we tracked the matter down and discovered Mary Gerlach. Mary says she doesn't know just how it happened, but it seemed unfair that only girls with long hair could wear braids. A Joan Crawford picture came to town one day and Mary got her idea. She began pulling her hair down tightly on each side in a braid and catching the ends into a froth of curls in back. And so began an Iowa State College fad.

Mary is an advocate of prints for this spring. Her dress will have a print hat to match, perhaps gloves, too. A colorful orange-red pattern will be her choice.

Another of Mary's dream ideas is a white knit suit—unusual in that it will be a spring outfit. A black band at the bottom of the tunic and touches of black at the sleeves and neck will be accentuated by black accessories for early spring wear. She thinks white ones will be more appropriate later.

Because she already has some grey spring shoes and other grey accessories that match her fur coat, Wilma George is wisely assembling her outfit in greys and blues. A grey dress is one of the items. It will have a plaid skirt—red, green and yellow on a grey background—with a very clever cape that may button up high around the neck or lie serenely back. The blouse will be plain grey taffeta. A blue spring coat will complete the ensemble.

MARTHA BRANDT and Dorothy Bloedel prove they have eyes for real chic by choosing shirt-waist dresses. Martha's is of bengaline crepe—brown, orange and white in inch-wide stripes. Brown buttons and a large brown bow are its smart finishing touches. A wide-brimmed white hat and brown and white pumps are the correct accessories, Martha thinks. Dorothy's dress will be of red and white tie print with a dark blue three-quarter length coat.

We'd love to describe to the last detail Millie Martin's new formal—white net over blue crepe, with rows and rows of ruchings—in all its delectable daintiness, and Josephine Ringrose's new outfit—wool jacket in light blue unbalanced plaid and dress matching rough crepe, its belt tying cleverly in front. It's such a fascinating subject.

We can't stop, though, without giving you an idea of how really far-sighted our co-eds are in this matter of being successfully and appropriately dressed. Arlene Brubaker is designing, already, for the time when warm days are really here, an outfit superbly complete in every detail. It is of dark brown and pastel peach pique, combined. The dress is dark brown, joined with cording to a deep peach-colored yoke, the joinings being marked in back by dark brown "frogs" fastening over into the peach. A different idea, isn't it? The coat flares, stopping short just above the knees, and is caught in at the waist with a narrow belt. It's closing line boasts peach-colored "frogs." Her gloves will be peach and her hat, brimmed, will be brown with peach cords.

Now we really must concentrate on what the professor is saying in his lecture.

Keeping Food Cool
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The refrigerator should be located as far from all sources of heat as possible. Tests have proved that more electricity is used by refrigerators standing in the warmer parts of the room.

Experiments on the temperatures maintained in electric refrigerators show that the temperature of the food placed in the refrigerator have a great deal to do with the amount of electricity required to maintain the proper temperature. Hot foods should be cooled to room temperature before being put into the refrigerator.

Experiments have also shown that too frequent use of the refrigerator doors raises the operating costs.

Another important consideration in the efficient operation of an electric refrigerator is the amount of frost allowed to accumulate on the cooling unit. This frost acts as an insulator and retards the absorption of heat by the cooling unit from the air inside the refrigerator. The girl who spends $675 a year said "It's something you can't get anywhere else. You get to know the girls better than in other dorms," said a senior.

All of the girls like the work they do and enjoy saving half on board.

To obtain onion juice, cut an onion in halves, crosswise. With a knife, scrape the cut side of onion and the juice will flow.

To remove starch and syrup stains from table linen, wash in lukewarm water.

Art Training Through Home Problems
by Mabel Russell
and Elsie Pearl Wilson
of Iowa State
for sale by COLLEGE BOOK STORE
ON THE CAMPUS