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Playtime Pays Dividends

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Summer work often leads to permanent jobs after graduation says Jane Wiley.

"After graduation what?" is a thought which has frequented the minds of many college women today. To some it may mean marriage, but to the majority it will mean joining the ranks of job seekers.

Lack of experience has forced many college trained individuals to start "from the ground up" in their profession. Others have served a period of apprenticeship before they were considered regular employees of the company for which they worked.

Many college women, with an eye to the future, are serving apprenticeships and gaining experience by working during the summer months.

Several women have met their future employers in their first summer job. For example, Jeanne Strohmeier, '38, was employed in a suburban department store during the summer. She suggested that the store organize a college girls' shop. When this idea was accepted, she was asked to make the plans for such a department.

Another education major, Mary Ellen Shanafelt, H. Ec., Jr., entertained city children at her farm home while the children's parents were vacationing. Miss Shanafelt commenced this project by contacting friends from Chicago, Des Moines and Ottumwa where many of these children lived. Most of the children ranged from the age of four to fourteen.

Summer hotels, tea rooms and summer resorts attract women interested in the various phases of foods work. Dorothy Baltz, H. Ec., Jr., and Dorothy Wenke, H. Ec., Sr., were employed in the food service department of a hotel last summer. Both women believe that such contacts with the public and experience with food preparation will prove valuable in seeking positions after graduation.

Modeling and working in department stores has kept many textiles and clothing majors busy during the summer. Ruth Saathoff, H. Ec., So., worked as a model during the market season in a clothing establishment in Chicago. While working she found time to inspect the various departments and watch the textile designers, clothiers and other department employees at work.

Helen Waldron, H. Ec., Sr., modeled for a fur company last summer while the organization was introducing its furs in a department store. She was one of four college women to serve on Youngker's College Council. These four modeled and sold college women's clothes for one week at the beginning of last fall's season.

According to Miss Joanne Hansen, head of the Applied Art Department, many art majors gain practical experience by helping their mothers make plans for refurbishing and redecorating rooms in their homes. Some of these women entirely rearrange their own bedrooms, make new curtains, chair covers and dressing tables. Others carefully search through old magazines to collect material for their art notebooks which they plan to make the following college year.

Dorothy Root, H. Ec., Jr., who is majoring in child development, worked last summer at the YWCA camp at Boone where she was one of the camp craft counselors and assistant sports counselor. She was in charge of outdoor cookery, hikes and tennis. During the summer the girls built a primitive camp which she supervised. Since Miss Root is interested in YWCA work, she believes this will be valuable experience in obtaining regular employment later.

Many institution management majors have worked as waitresses or foods managers in summer camps. Ilyff Williams, H. Ec., Sr., was in charge of the kitchen at Camp Kiwadinnet, a camp near Ely, Minnesota. She planned the meals and ordered all of the food for the entire camp. Careful and efficient food management was necessary since the camp sent food orders out only three times a week.

Betty Lewis, H. Ec., So., created her own job. She and her mother opened a summer tea room in Yankton, South Dakota. The tea room catered mainly to summer tourists. Miss Lewis learned to fill all the jobs from waitress to planning and ordering food.