1950

Alums in the News

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Iowa State College

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Alums in the news
by Jane Novak
Experimental Cookery Sophomore

WITH icicles hanging from your window, Christmas trees and Mom’s extra fancy cooking, December is a month to remember. Hearing from old friends, especially those we don’t see very often, makes the holiday season even richer. Because it’s Christmas again, we thought you might like to hear from some of our alums.

“Let’s have more majors in dietetics,” writes Sharon Hieronymus, ’49, from Detroit. She is doing dietetics work at Henry Ford Hospital. A dietetics major, Sharon recommends the hospital as “a swell place to intern.”

Marilyn Westcott, ’50, is an applied art instructor at the Alabama Polytechnic Institute, Auburn, Ala. Although A.P.I. is almost the size of Iowa State, the School of Home Economics is small. Twenty instructors work in the Applied Art Department. Marilyn commented, “I attended the American Home Economics Association conference in Boston in July. Urge students to attend meeting in Cleveland next year. An effective job information center is run in conjunction with the conference. Through it, I had 6 interviews, 3 firm offers and nearly 14 job leads. I found positions to be plentiful.”

Ruth E. Mathews, ’48, experimental cookery major, writes, “Being a home service advisor for a utility company in Kearney, Neb., has been a most fascinating and challenging experience. Our office was a brand new building when I arrived last year. My first task was to equip the new test kitchen and to launch my department in a territory of 70 towns with a branch of the company that had never had a home economist. “My most important work is to call on purchasers of new electric appliances both for my company and other dealers. Requests for demonstrations and lectures are likely to include topics anywhere from the laundry to food preparation for children. The majority of demonstrations pertain to electric cookery. Groups talked to include high school and college home economics classes, various women’s clubs and appliance shows. I do some demonstrating on the sales floor. Then, there are always new appliances and recipes to be tested. Public relations work, answering telephone requests and cooperating with the county demonstration agent helps to complete a varied schedule.

“Working in a small town has made it possible to participate in many community organizations—the local branch of the American Home Economics Association, the American Association of University Women, Business and Professional Women’s Club, Kear-
ney Junior Women's Club and to sponsor the college fellowship in my church.

"My career as a professional home economist will end next February providing Uncle Sam hasn't other plans for us. But, I do feel that home service work is a wonderful stepping stone for either the professional or practicing home economist."

Lt. Josephine C. King, '50, dietetics, is in the army now! During this past summer she was commissioned a 2nd lieutenant, WMSC. At Medical Field Service School, Ft. Sam Houston, Texas, her basic training course covered 8 weeks. Josephine began her internship August 2 at Brooke General Hospital, Ft. Sam Houston.

"As I am the daughter of a colonel and came from a long line of army people, this is the completion of a life-long ambition to be in the service."

Ruth M. Shean Menary, '49, now of Rochelle, Ill., writes, "I was married on May 6, 1950 to Thomas O. Menary, also a 1949 Iowa State graduate. I worked until the last of April for Newman's Department Store in Cedar Rapids. I was the artist in the advertising department and did all the art work, mostly fashion illustration, that appeared in the store's newspaper advertising. "There were four others working in the advertising department under the direction of Mrs. Mildred Staab. Right now, I am a homemaker and having a wonderful time decorating our apartment according to applied art standards."

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