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High Schoolers Have a Key to College

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When YOU 4-Hers go to college, you'll find that many social, cultural and educational "rough edges" have already been knocked off if you've taken part in the wide and worthwhile experiences offered you by the 4-H Club.

You'll have a good many Iowa State friends before you come to college, too—about 5,400 (that's 80 percent of all Iowa Staters). You'll meet them after you're here and you will have many things in common with them.

"I was a 4-H member, my first roommate was and the roommate I have now was. Many friends in my college activities were. A large percentage of my classmates were 4-Hers."

Experiences helpful

"What's more, the minister I hear each Sunday is one I heard at a 4-H convention, my dormitory housemother remembered me from a summer convention in Ames, and a woman who was a guest lecturer in one of my classes had talked at a county meeting at home.

"The baking powder reaction I relearned in chemistry class was understandable to me because my local 4-H leader had clearly and fully explained baking powders at a local club meeting. The detailed procedures of making a collar in my clothing construction class seemed like an advanced follow-up on demonstrations girls have given in 4-H. And my vacuum-cleaner demonstration in household equipment class came easily to me because I had had much previous demonstration experience.

"The faculty home economics tea I went to during Freshman Days was enlightening and enjoyable because I had gone to many similar 4-H teas in my high school days and I was used to meeting and talking to older people and instructors. The after-hours skits we give at the house are sometimes elaborations on a skit I had helped write at a summer 4-H camp. I was able to lead our house's Sor-Dor group (women's residence vocal competition) because I had had experience as song leader for our club at Rally Day."

These are some of the observations former 4-H girls, now on campus, have made. They believe their experiences have been invaluable.

Campus 4-H Club gives former members an opportunity to meet each other and continue some of the interests, outside of project work, that they have developed in 4-H. There is an educational meeting each quarter. Panel discussions by foreign students on campus, talks on public speaking techniques and reports from Farm Youth Exchanges have been some of the features at these meetings. Each quarter, too, the club cooperating with the campus Rural Young People's group, has a party: a square dance, a picnic, a mixer and various other fun activities.

Leaders on campus

You'll recognize the names of many 4-H friends from Iowa you may have met at special meetings or have read about. Helen Kerr, state president of Iowa 4-H girls, is a freshman majoring in home economics. Ruth Fielding, who has been representative to National 4-H Club Camp in Washington, D.C., is a sophomore in education. Ruth is president of her dormitory and is a leader on campus. Betty Zmoleck is now in Australia as a Farm Youth Exchangee. She will finish her home economics foods and nutrition major next year. These are but a few of the girls who have excelled in 4-H work and are excelling in their college life. Miss Esther Whetstone, state 4-H girls' leader, and her staff, are familiar figures on campus to 4-H girls.

What is it that this 4-H club offers to a girl in her teens that lends itself so well to campus situations? The purpose of the organization is to train junior high and high school girls—now town girls as well as farm girls—in the finer points of homemaking, to develop and provide outlets for talents of all kinds, and to acquaint girls with the world—their immediate environment, world problems and their duties as citizens.

It takes a lot of teen-age girl's time to make the most of being a 4-H girl.

"It's worth every minute of it," say hundreds of Iowa State students. "It's like a preview to college."