1955

"Yes, I am the Teacher"

Carol Hermeier

Iowa State College

Follow this and additional works at: http://lib.dr.iastate.edu/homemaker

Part of the Home Economics Commons

Recommended Citation
Hermeier, Carol (1955) "'Yes, I am the Teacher'," The Iowa Homemaker: Vol. 35 : No. 11 , Article 4.
Available at: http://lib.dr.iastate.edu/homemaker/vol35/iss11/4

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Student Publications at Iowa State University Digital Repository. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Iowa Homemaker by an authorized editor of Iowa State University Digital Repository. For more information, please contact digirep@iastate.edu.
"MISS CAROL HERMEIER of the Iowa Falls High School Staff"—that was my official title for six weeks last winter quarter rather than plain "Carol Hermeier, Home Ec. Senior." As a senior in Home Economics Education, I was taking one of the final steps in preparation for my role as a teacher—student teaching. Other seniors were having the same experience at other teaching centers: Eldora, Story City, Ames, Jefferson, and Ogden.

Along with Nancy Rylander, '56, and Joy Westercamp, '56, I arrived at school at 8:15 Monday morning armed with lesson plans and reference material and feeling very professional.

We observed the classes the first day and were introduced with "Miss attached to our accustomed names. After school we met with the supervisor to choose our classes. Each of us had one class and assisted in another. We also visited other classes from time to time.

One class of twenty-five sophomores was mine for six weeks, and I assisted with a group of twenty-seven freshman girls. The second day we assisted the supervisor with the classes. The following day, the classes were ours—from then on we planned, under supervision, each day's lessons. The sophomores worked on a foods unit and were starting one on home decoration when we left. The freshmen girls were introduced to a clothing construction unit.

We heard, "Miss Rylander, this doesn't fit." "Miss Hermeier, this cake looks funny!" "Oh, Miss Westercamp, I sewed from the top to the bottom of my skirt instead of bottom to top. Should I rip it out?"

We visited the homes of several students. "Mom, these are the teachers—Miss Westercamp is mine." We went to homes large and small and wondered that the students could have ever seemed alike.

no discipline worries

I remember how I worried about discipline problems. This proved to be wasted time. The respect the students already held for the supervisor and the standards of our new-found responsibility completely covered the area of discipline.

The supervisor is the key to the entire program. Miss Pauline Dudley was our supervisor. She taught the class on "Methods" which parallels student teaching and guided us throughout our teaching experience. In conference, we charted our progress and planned lessons.

graded tests

We prepared the plans, changed bulletin boards, talked for hours about "how to present this," wrote tests and graded them, ordered laboratory supplies and bolstered each other's courage. We all felt...
tremendous satisfaction over the smallest indication of student response. One of my shocks came when I gave my first test and there before me were some of my own words and phrases in the handwriting of a student.

We came to know the high school principal through the routine handling of problems for which we had responsibility, as well as through frequent visits to the department.

In this center the superintendent's office was across town, but in a specially planned conference with him, we discussed problems which we may face in teaching.

Faculty members helped make Iowa Falls seem like home. We often ate with Miss Decker, the English teacher, or went to movies with Miss Fuller, the physical education teacher. The faculty meetings and out-of-class responsibilities of the teacher assumed meaning from our ringside seats.

Money spent during student teaching approximates that spent during the usual quarter. Meals cost $1.50 to $2.00 a day. The room was $4.00 per week.

The days went far too fast, and we hated to leave. Finally with the promises of students to write, our baggage, and a larger supply of reference materials we returned to Ames.