



Hi! I'm Harriet Homemaker

by Gail Devens

Home Economics Sophomore

I'M THE STAR Home Economics recruiter for Iowa State—if you haven't met me I'm Harriet Homemaker. You'll find me scouting all over Iowa for girls who are interested in Home Economics. (That's my picture on the cover.)

Actually I'm not very old. I guess you could say I was "born" in 1956 when the Home Economics Club here at ISC decided to organize a special committee to get more girls interested in home economics as a career. I'd been around before at Veishea, but actually I didn't do much talking then.

Now my committee and I spend most of our time working with high school girls, and that really keeps us busy. So many things are going on that we can go to and tell about home economics that it takes quite a few girls to help. They all work on different angles of recruitment, but there's one thing special about me. I never miss a thing.

I get around to all of the high school career days that invite me. Of course, I usually take along a couple of the "well-informed" committee girls and a faculty member to answer all of their questions, but I do my best to show just what home economics is like here at Iowa State through chalk talks. I illustrate the panel discussions on home economics majors and occupations and tell high school students about the scholarships, activities and facilities available at Iowa State.

The Freshman Home Ec Round-up in September was my debut on campus this year. I had a busy night showing all of the things I do around here to the freshmen, but I like to think that it was maybe part of my doing that got lots of top-notch girls from all over the state to come here and be Home Ec. majors.

Have you seen all the high school girls that come to spend weekends here on campus? Well, that's some of our business, too. We find places for them to stay so that they can have a taste of college life, and we guide them around campus, answer questions and give them a general picture of Home Economics. I'm really pleased when so many of these girls come back in later years enrolled as students because that's what we want.

We organized another group to help out with the weekend coeds. They're called the Lamplighters and they're available to guide visitors through our home economics building. There's one girl from each residence to help do this.

You know I guess you'd almost call me a celebrity of Iowa State. With all of my radio and television interviews, along with personal appearances, I'm getting to be known as the symbol of Home Economics here at Iowa State.

And as far as conventions are concerned, I've put in an appearance with my panel at 4-H, American Home Congress and others. I would never be able to do all of these things alone so I have an active committee to help me. The committee is pictured at the top of the page. From left to right these girls are Bea Burke, Anne Hankens, Betsy Hoffman, Maxine Montgomery, Beverly Bane, Mary Lou Pierce, Carol Sue Robuck and Ellen Dillman. The chairman, Jane Opperman, isn't pictured. We work with Julia Faltingson, assistant Dean of Home Economics and Dr. Virgil Logomarcino, professor of Vocational Education. By the way, Bea creates me in all of the chalk talks.

Do I sound like I'm pretty busy? Actually there are so many things that I do and so many more that I'd like to do that my busy social whirl doesn't bother me a bit.