

By Vivian Hansbrough

careers unlimited

College Career Day, sponsored by the College of Agriculture, has special significance to the Home Economics Department. On that Saturday, students and staff members escort visiting high school seniors through the department, and help to dispel the old idea that home economics is limited to acquiring skills in cooking and sewing. Like their brothers in agriculture, home economists today find their list of possible careers is almost unlimited.

When the high school girl comes to visit the department on Career Day (held on March 8 this year), she is interested in continuing in the general field of home economics, but does not have a clear-cut idea of the branch on which she will concentrate. In high school she is learning fundamental principles of food preparation, clothing construction, and home management. What types of careers are open to her, and how can she prepare for the one she chooses?

She finds that five major divisions are open to home economics students at the University: Child development and family life, food and nutrition, textiles and clothing, interior design, home management and family economics. In addition, the department cooperates with the School of Journalism in a curriculum in home economics journalism, with the College of Education in a program of vocational home economics, and with the College of Arts and Science in a course of study leading to a Bachelor of Arts degree with an area of concentration in home economics.

During her four years at the University, the home



economics major takes approximately half of her courses in subjects that give a broad cultural background, such as English, mathematics, humanities, social studies, and physical and biological sciences. She chooses her 50 hours of home economics courses according to the division in which she enrolls.

Should it be child development and family life, she may study home nursing and health, early childhood, family relations, community participation in youth programs, educational psychology, and clothing selection and construction, among other subjects.

If textiles and clothing become her major interest, she may study costume design, fashion illustration, tailoring, retailing, economics, and the consumer and the market. Voice and articulation and principles of radio and television will prepare her for public demonstrations.

Each of the other divisions offers an equally comprehensive curriculum. With so many courses available, she cannot take all; she must decide which ones suit her needs and abilities.

Will she be a home demonstration agent, a teacher, a research assistant, or a food editor? The field of household equipment alone presents more than 200 career possibilities. Hospitals, welfare organizations, and manufacturers are clamoring for trained home economists.

The high school senior stands at the crossroads, questioning which direction to turn for her future. College Career Day is one of the means available for crystalizing that decision.



Visitors on Career Day find everybody busy in Home Economics Department. Marilyn Forkner, on opposite page, tests moisture content of Missouri soft wheat flour. Above, Virginia Smallwood operates multiple temperature control board to record temperature of equipment in foods laboratory. Below, Audra Robertson, Dick Littleton, Jean Sweeton, and Margaret Finney are part of a class in "The Consumer and the Market," in which Dr. Ruth H. Cook points out merchandising practices affecting consumers.



careers unlimited *continued*





Opposite page: *Students majoring in child development and family life come in daily contact with small children whom they observe at work and at play in nursery school maintained by Home Economics Department.*

Above, left: *Cecilia Alegarbes, graduate student from the Philippines, tests tear strength of cloth in textiles laboratory. Behind her is machine for testing breaking strength of fabric.*

Top, right: *Ann Naggs and Marilyn Hardy consult map of major agricultural regions of the world, in connection with their course in "Basic Concepts of Food and Nutrition."*

Bottom, right: *Naomi Wendling and Mary Lou Benning examine magazines for ideas in textiles and design.*