



## To The Graduating Seniors Dean LeBaron

**I**T IS NATURAL for you to experience mixed emotions as you approach your graduation — this special day to which you and your family have long looked forward. You have just pride in accomplishment, sadness at parting from close friends, regret that some goals were not reached, and with it all, a feeling of uncertainty as well as eager anticipation for a new kind of life.

You may be surprised to learn that those of us on the Home Economics faculty also have mingled feelings about this occasion, too, even as we bid you God-

speed. We recall the day you arrived on the campus, and take real satisfaction in noting your progress and growth during these years you have spent with us.

Yet we have some misgivings, too. We wonder, now, if we have done all we should in helping you learn how to think through the complex problems you will confront in the years ahead and to express your ideas in relation to them. As college educated women, these abilities will be expected of you.

As we listen to your plans for your own lives and for your own families, we suspect we may have failed to lead you to have sufficient concerns beyond yourself and your own immediate environment. We have tried to guide you to really care about *all* families, and to dedicate yourself to working for their well-being.

There will be times when you may be tempted to complain that you did not learn in college all the things you need to know for the profession you enter. A college education in home economics cannot and should not equip you with all the skills you will need in the years ahead, or even for those you will use next year. The demands of each position vary markedly from those in others; to prepare you for all the exigencies of a particular one is impossible. With the rapid changes taking place, ten years hence many of you will be serving in jobs that do not even exist today.

Again, you may wish you had taken this course or that course while you were an undergraduate. A four-year program is all too short to include all the courses that would be helpful to you. Some of you will find it possible to add to your education by enrolling in adult classes, college extension programs, or even in a graduate college. Perhaps it is not amiss to remind you once more that you are graduating from an organized educational program, and commencing a life-time program of informal self-education. We hope that your college years with us have provided you with the tools you will need to teach yourself in the years ahead.

## Reflections

by Marcia Wilsie  
*Home Economics Senior*

*About to be graduated after four busy years of college, Marcia Wilsie, last year's president of Mortar Board, reflects on what she has learned in college.*

I have often asked myself why am I here in college. One answer might be to become an educated person. But people can be educated by reading and thinking without going to college. College, however, is a period of four years of directed study which might be considered the equivalent of a lifetime of haphazard education.

Personal goals of the individual rank high among the values of an education. One consideration that I feel especially important is the ability to express myself. A goal might be to say things in a way, without shouting, that will make people want to listen.

Another personal goal in college is to learn something about living in the world of today. Applying the lessons learned from history, we must hold high those values which represent the greatest good for all people.

I often wondered how I could learn more about myself. Learning to concentrate plays a big part in the self development and self analysis of college. Am I really headed in the right direction— Is this really what I want in life— Learning to think, to compare objectively and to make decisions should help in answering these questions.

Learning to enjoy being with people and working with them productively is certainly an opportunity available to us all.

Reflect back with me on the time when I was just getting started in Iowa State College. I found that sincere enthusiasm was one of the best cures for

the common illness known as "freshman blues." Not an overboard rah, rah, but the determination to learn how to study, to get interested in the campus, to make new friends and to find a place in the college world.

We freshmen soon became acquainted with the meaning of the word study, essential in meeting the serious scholastic requirements of college.

Dozens of resources for learning available to us on campus go by unnoticed until that term paper is overdue or the test grades are already posted. The stacks of books in the library often are overlooked.

College offers us the opportunity to learn from those who have made a life work of attaining excellence in a particular field. Often we lose sight of the fact that these people are here to share their

*(Continued on page 10)*

## Stitch a Sewing Bag To Send Abroad



Here are some bags that can be easily be stitched together, filled with sewing items, and sent abroad.

**Y**OU MAY HELP SHARE our plenty with women of other lands by making sewing kits to fill with your sewing left overs. It takes only an hour to gather the materials together, stitch the bag and fill it with the odds and ends from your sewing box. Here are directions for making the kits.

1. Cut two circles of fabric—one 24 inches, one 18 inches in diameter.
2. Hem or bind edge of smaller circle. Pin in center of large circle with wrong sides together.
3. Stitch straight across small circle 4 times, forming 8 pie-shaped pockets.
4. Turn hem ( $\frac{1}{2}$  to  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch wide) around edge of large circle. Leave small opening. Insert draw string or shoe string. Twill tape or heavy cord will do!

### Variations:

You may prefer to finish edge with tape and sew a strip of bias ( $\frac{3}{4}$  inch wide) about one inch from edge to make a casing for the draw string.

Or if you have a buttonhole attachment this is quick and easy. Bind edge. Measure  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches from edge, mark with chalk and make a circle of 16 button holes  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch wide. Line up the first 8 with the stitchings on the center circle and space the next 8 buttonholes in between.

Fill pockets with thread (sewing and embroidery) pins, needles, a thimble and small scissors. Add scraps of trimmings, elastic and extra pieces of fabric.

Pull drawstrings tight and tie so the contents won't fall out.

## 'Catalog, Genius Of Understatement'

(Continued from page 10)

attainments with us. Under their hoods and scholar's caps the professors, despite their Phi Beta Kappa keys, are regular people who respond to friendly gestures from the students.

Most classes meet every other day and the rest of the time is yours. In the college catalog, I had noted that one or two hours preparation time was needed for each class. At times I felt my catalog was a genius for understatement, but as I look back on simple things like how to take notes, rereading notes after the lecture and adjusting my study schedule, I realize such planning would have helped in those first two years. I learned early that the college does not check on everyone day by day; you have the responsibility of keeping up on your studies. Final week shouldn't serve as a time for learning but for reviewing what you have learned.

I only wish that I had realized sooner the truth that sleep is more important than last minute cramming. I suppose there is no group alive that sleeps so little at night and dozes so much during the day as college students.

I remember my surprise one day during those first two years at seeing a friend check out a fiction book at the library. Extra reading? I had all I could do to struggle through my assignments for the next day. But I know now that I could have made time for a little extra reading. The habit of reading good books is worth every effort we can make. It will help us to continue our college education long after we have left the campus.

Now at the close of my four years in college, I realize the value of a truly liberal education. Education is not something that is to be applied at some future date. It begins to have real meaning when it is related to one's life right now.

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