

PHYSICAL EDUCATION FOR HEALTH
Radio Program

May 11, 1939

"Summer Camp Life" - (Miss Joie Stapleton, Miss Virginia Anderson
and Miss Margaret Van Cleave)

Miss Stapleton In the short time that we have, it will be impossible to tell or explain the intricate patterns of camp and camp life. There is, however, foremost in the mind of the parent, certain essentials that need an explanation. Also, the director has many problems to face, and with the aid of counselors, many problems are discussed and an attempt made to remedy them long before camp is in session.

One could see a reenactment of this scene in many different forms of camps all over the country at the beginning of summer and in this discussion, although devoid of emotional dramatics - you will hear, as nearly as possible, how the camp contributes to the development of the camper and what the camper does for the camp. We break in on this staff discussion as the curtain rises. The director of the camp - played by Virginia Anderson, is talking to one of her staff counselors, Margaret Van Cleave, in a pre-camp week discussion.

Virginia In this meeting of those of us who are going to work together I would like to explain to you about the things we all hope to see accomplished this summer. Margaret, as head counsellor, I know you can add much to what I want to say.

The success of our camp will depend upon our staff - whether we cooperate and enjoy working hard twenty-four hours of the day with children who are coming to us for a good time. The children have that one aim in mind, but their parents want them to have something more definite to show for having had this experience, to be better personalities for having lived and shared with others about their own age. The mother of one of our new campers is coming later this afternoon to see the camp and to ask questions.

But first, I want to talk a little about our job. Some of you are new to our group, so let us talk over our program. Margaret will you explain how we have our campers plan their own activities?

Margaret Well, Andy, you've given me a big job, but I'll try. The first day of camp, we have a meeting where we sing and get acquainted. Here each counsellor talks about the activity of which she has charge. At this time the campers are given the opportunity to choose the sport and other activities that interest them. Each girl then has a very flexible program, which can be modified or changed if desired. This program which calls for self-direction on the part of each child, tends to give them a sense of freedom and independence that makes for happy campers. Indirectly, we counsellors try to see that a balanced program is chosen so that each girl has a wide and varied experience with camp life. Is that what you wanted, Andy?

Virginia I think you said just what I would have said, and if none of you have any questions, we'll go on to the real part of camp, that everyone lives for - out-of-camp trips by station wagon, canoe and horseback. About twice a week, we make trips by one method or the other, depending upon