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A Notable Day at Iowa State College

By HAZEL M. HARWOOD



Mrs. Jas. A. Deavitt

TUESDAY, March 15, was unique in the history of Iowa State College and the state of Iowa. For it was on that day that Iowa State College, speaking for education and the entire state, welcomed Governor Nate Kendall, Lieutenant Governor Hammill and the two newly appointed women members of the state board of education, Miss Anna B. Lawther and Mrs. James A. Deavitt.

Altho Iowa has always insisted that her daughters should share with her sons in higher education, never until

the time of Governor Kendall had women been appointed to such posts of honor. The first official appearance of these women on our campus was therefore a red letter day for Ames and the state.

Mrs. Deavitt and Miss Lawther were to speak in convocation! We gathered in the gymnasium, four thousand strong. We sat there, eager and intent. We knew about the education of these women, both college graduates, one from an eastern women's college and the other from a mid-western co-educational institution. We knew about their individual records of service to the state, in suffrage, in party politics, in club, education and community life. We knew about their education and their distinguished service, but we wanted to know the women themselves and to hear them. So, we sat with sympathetic ear. As they talked, we acknowledged with applause that they both were scholarly, were clever, were witty, but above all that they had a broad sympathetic vision for education. These women were not faddists, unless the use of good English could be called a fad.

These women are not more interested in education for daughters of the state than for the sons, for to quote one of them, "Mothers are never more interested in the education of their daughters than of their sons, altho in ages past, some fathers were supposed to have been more interested in the education of their sons than of their daughters."

After the convocation, on social occasion and on campus tour, their interest in education was discriminating and keen, whether in household arts



Miss Anna B. Lawther

class, in shop, looking over live stock or the crowded laboratory.

Iowa State is proud to have these women the first to make history for women on the state board of education.

Next to the home, women's greatest interest and concern has always been, probably always will be, education. To the mothers and women of the state, it is a great satisfaction to express their fundamental interest in higher education thru Mrs. Deavitt and Miss Lawther.

CONGRESS OF MOTHERS

In a year's time the affiliated membership of the Iowa Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teachers Associations has more than trebled. In March of 1920 the membership was a little more than 3,000; this March, 1921, it was considerably in excess of 10,000, and it is growing at a rate that promises a thousand or two more in another month. "That is merely one evidence of the remarkable interest of parents in their public schools," says Mrs. F. W. Beckman of Ames, state treasurer of the Iowa Congress. "Another evidence may be found in the scores and scores of reports of excellent programs carried on by local Parent-Teacher associations thruout the state. There isn't a type of community club more active than these associations. Their meetings are largely attended and they serve to bring together people of all interests in a gratifying way." In the town of Ames, for example, there are five active associations. Each holds its meetings regularly and some of them have been attended by more than a hundred men and women. The result is splendid support and encouragement of the work of the schools as well as new community spirit.

Greetings From Iowa Congress of Mothers' and Parent-Teacher Association

By CAROLYN E. FORGRAVE, State President.

We are very much interested in the publication of the Iowa Homemaker and hope that we may receive much inspiration from its columns. It is a privilege to send a greeting to its readers thru its first issue.

To promote the welfare of children and improve upon the conditions as they exist is primarily the object of the Iowa Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations. This state organization is a branch of the National Congress which has for its object the same attainment not only in this country but thruout the world.

The work undertaken by the Iowa State Congress has been so important this year that the membership has increased two hundred and thirty four percent in nine months and the membership drive is not yet completed.

What does this increase mean? That better organization means educational advantages to those interested in child welfare. "How the Home Can Train the Child to be Honest, Loyal, True and Brave" and "How May the Parent-Teacher Associations Best Help the Individual Mother to Equip Herself to Meet her Responsibility" are topics of interest to every homemaker.

With all the opportunities for service that are available at the Iowa State College the Homemaker will contain information which will be appreciated.

To all its readers we extend a warm welcome into the ranks of those united for the study of children's needs and conditions, and for the promotion of every measure for the welfare of children and helps to mothers and fathers.