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Veishea Has Changed

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From maypoles and gondolas to convertibles, her queen:

VEISHEA HAS CHANGED!

A THRILLING PROCESSION of maypoles, gondolas and sleek convertibles mark the evolution of the largest student-managed festival in the nation. Veishea has changed! Her queens highlight the turning points of progress. The "Queen of Queens"! Here are their stories...

The May fete, an original pageant produced by the dancing classes, was first presented on the Iowa State campus in 1907; when Veishea was organized in 1922, it was made a part of the celebration.

Margaret Stanton, the 1930 May Queen, is well known to Iowa State students as Mrs. Margaret Lange, the present Social Secretary of the Memorial Union.

"It was quite a thrill to be elected, of course, but it involved being queen of just one event as compared to today's Queen of Queens who is elected from among these event queens," Mrs. Lange declares.

The title of the 1930 May Fete was "The King Who Never Laughed." Mother Goose characters performed in turn in front of the King's throne in a vain attempt to make him laugh. The three candidates for queen were a part of the chorus of the finale number. It ended as the King, who was chosen in an all-college election on the basis of popularity, placed the crown on the head of the chosen queen and smiled for the first time.

The 1930 Queen was also active in many campus organizations. Her list includes such things as General Manager of Veishea, President of Mortar Board, Vice President of Cardinal Guild, a YWCA cabinet member, and president of WSGA, which was a women's governing group. She is a member of Phi Upsilon Omicron and Omicron Nu, home economics honoraries.

Marilyn Blome, last year's Veishea Queen, smiles at the crowd from a convertible.

MRS. LANGE, IOWA STATE'S MAY DAY QUEEN, NOW IS SOCIAL SECRETARY OF THE MEMORIAL UNION.
Martha Elder
Technical Journalism Freshman

At various times since her graduation in 1930, Mrs. Lange has worked at Iowa State as Auditor of Student Organizations, Social Director of the College and in the Loan and Scholarship office.

In her present job as Social Secretary of the Union, Mrs. Lange is advisor to the year-round activities in the Memorial Union. She helps with events put on by the Student Union Board and any other individuals or groups that need assistance.

Mary Janet McDonald, the first official Veishea Queen of Queens was elected in 1938. Now Mrs. Zac Dunlap of Ames, she performs the role of homemaker for her husband and three children. Just as the queen is chosen today, she was elected from the group of women who had been honored as queens during the year.

Mary Janet was presented in colorful opening ceremonies on Lake LaVerne. On Thursday, 117 aerial bombs, fired in succession, broke the stillness of the morning air. Following this was a procession of gondolas bearing the Queen of Queens. She and her attendants were propelled by singing gondoliers across the water to the queen's platform on the far side of the lake. Floating on the water was the word V-E-I-S-H-E-A, 45 feet in length, made of yellow flowers.

"The gondolas were very pretty, but they caused me a few bad moments," Mrs. Dunlap related. "The canopy tops caught every gust of wind. I thought once that I was going to have to swim the rest of the way."

The only other activities involved in being the first Veishea queen were to attend a luncheon of the Central Committee and to ride in the parade on Saturday morning.

In being chosen "Miss Veishea of 1938," Mary Janet was named queen for the fourth time in an all-college election. She also had been a Bomb Beauty, Harvest Queen, and Honorary Cadet Colonel of Scabbard and Blade.

Bad moments

What does being the Veishea Queen of Queens involve in the present-day celebration? "It's just like taking an additional subject," said Marilyn Blomé, 1955 Veishea Queen. "So much time is taken posing for pictures, television programs and meetings."

From the first event of Veishea until the last of the Veishea dances on Saturday night, the Queen's time is filled with a whirl of activities. Even before her official crowning Thursday night at Veisheathon, Marilyn had attended a kick-off luncheon, made an appearance at the Horse Show and attended a rehearsal of the crowning ceremony.

During the next two days, she did everything from the judging of forestry major's whiskers at Paul Bunyan Days to the presentation of trophies at the dances. She rode in the Veishea parade, made appearances at the rodeo, and toured the Open Houses with Miss America of 1955, Miss Lee Ann Meriwether.

Lives in Parkersburg

Previous to her selection as Veishea Queen, she had been attendant to the pledge princess, queen of the Military Ball and a Bomb Beauty. Marilyn, now Mrs. Gerald Allgood, is attending school at Iowa State Teacher's College in Cedar Falls. She and her husband, who teaches agriculture, are living in Parkersburg, Iowa.

Being queen has meant different activities through the years. But just as has been the case in other Veishea activities, the main change has been in magnitude; the foundation for the basic idea was laid at the first Veishea in 1922.