1923

Veishea Celebrates First Birthday

Helen G. Lamb
Iowa State College
Veishea Celebrates First Birthday
By HELEN G. LAMB

Three days and three nights of thrilling excitement, pleasure and vivid color marked the celebration of Veishea’s first birthday May 17, 18, and 19. Hundreds of alumni, high school students, and visitors from all over the state participated in the celebration and the affair was an educational and recreational success from beginning to end.

From 10:30 a. m. on Thursday, May 17, when the freshmen tossed their red caps into the flames and became sophomores for one glorious day, until the curtain drew on the group of Melody Magic dancers Saturday night, Iowa State College was intensely electrified with colorful activity.

Dean Arkle Clark of the University of Illinois gave to the student body at the opening convocation Thursday morning a valuable perspective on what a college education should mean, an address which was enthusiastically received.

The sun shone approvingly down on the May fete dancers Thursday afternoon and great groups of pleasure seekers in the evening enjoyed the dance in the state gymnasium. A large number also attended the “Pirates of Penzance,” Gilbert-Sullivan opera played by the men’s and women’s glee clubs under the direction of Professor Tolbert MacRae.

The leading parts were well played by Donald Porter, Hort. ’23 and Mrs. H. H. Sunderlin.

In spite of the fact that the sun refused to shine on Friday morning and weather turned chilly, the big all-college parade was enjoyed by hundreds. Altho the mechincal engineers carried off the prize, every department was represented by a float worthy of notice.

The real fun of the day began at two o’clock on the cardinal grounds just north of engineering building. Those who couldn’t find room to dance in the Apachee dance hall visited the side shows and ate hot dogs. The merriment lasted all evening interrupted only by the knighting of the engineers at 10:30.

On Saturday morning Iowa State College opened its doors and hundreds of visitors were shown thru the various departments to view the splendid educational displays. The dairy department was awarded the banner for the best open house exhibit.

The crowing and closing feature of the big celebration took place in the State gymnasium Saturday night when 105 Iowa State students staged the musical comedy, “Melody Magic,” written by Ruth Elaine Wilson, H. Ec. ’24, Harriet Schleiter, ’24 and Homer Huntoon, Arch. E. ’23. Critics pronounce it the best production ever staged by Ames talent and much credit should go to Professor Lester Raines of the public speaking department for the successful choosing of characters, costumes, and the lighting effects. Over 5,000 were entertained for the delightful hours.

To the managers of 1923 Veishea, K. R. Marvin, C. C. Schide, and H. E. Pride, go the congratulations and approval of the entire student body, for Veishea is now an established institution at Iowa State College.