1930

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Recommended Citation
Bourne, Julia (1930) "Follies at Iowa State College," The Iowa Homemaker: Vol. 10 : No. 1 , Article 4.
Available at: http://lib.dr.iastate.edu/homemaker/vol10/iss1/4

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Follies at Iowa State College

By Julia Bourne

One week before the annual Home Economics Vodvil was given this year some one from out of town visited the Home Economics Building. When she looked into sewing laboratories she saw girls who were busy sewing on costumes; in the art laboratories girls were designing and painting scenery; and in the auditorium she saw girls practicing dances.

When she was told that they were preparing for the Vodvil, she said, "I think you must be going to have a very fine show, judging from the number of people who are getting it ready, but do you think you will have anyone left to see the performance?"

Vodvil Draws Full Houses

But when the nights of the Vodvil came there were full houses to greet the 75 girls who were in the cast. After the orchestra had played its opening number the curtain was pulled back and on the stage was a coed's boudoir. Girls in black satin pajamas with gay trimmings were lounging around on the sofa with its many colored pillows. After the dance called "Los Pajamas," the beautiful girl, "La Belle jeune fille," entered the boudoir. She had evidently come from a party for she was wearing an evening dress of white satin and tulle, and her hair was drawn back in a most becoming way. As the pajamas girls were curious and curious to know how she made herself so beautiful, she told them by a dance and a song what her beauty secrets were. She called in the powder puff, the rouge, the perfume, the lipstick and the mirror. While she danced in and about these she too kept time with the music of the orchestra. Then with these beauty helps in the background the beautiful girl and the pajama chorus danced together.

A Georgian Male Quartette with black cutaway coats, stiff waist fronts, tall hats, and black faces, appeared for the first curtain act, and did a real southern shuffle.

Sunshine Club Performs

But in Act Four the scene had shifted from a coed's boudoir to the steps of the College Postoffice. Back of this was painted the campanile, Central Building, and other college institutions in gay, modernistic designs. Four college men were lounging on the steps, and when the trim little coeds walked by, they tried to sell them Green Gaders, besides getting a word in for themselves, and wisecracks about some of the faculty and others. In the midst of this the Campus Cupids came in to do a combination drill and dance.

The Painted Indians on Broadway with beautiful fox furs from Des Moines, black shoes, gloves and hats, and black purses tucked under their arms and a great deal of lipstick and eyebrow pencil did a curtain act dance which did justice to their name.

The "antics" of the Acrobatic Antics are still being discussed by those who saw the girls in this act make pyramids, play games where they stood on their heads and turn bungie somersaults. "I didn't know we had such talented girls in our school," one lady was heard to say as she was passing out of the auditorium.

In the chorus "Jazzing the Nineties" eight girls dressed in various colored old-fashioned costumes did a modern dance in front of the blue curtain. Most of the girls in this chorus have bought the costumes they wore and as styles seem to be tending to long skirts and higher waist lines, perhaps these girls are preparing for their future wardrobe.

Alladin Gets a Break

The final act was that of Aladdin's Cave. Aladdin was lying in a cave and as he woke up and gazed about he saw that there beautiful jewels hanging from the top and sides of the cave. He saw a tree and when he went to it he found the lamp for which he had been sent. And then in the cave of precious jewels shining out of the darkness the Amethysts, Sapphires, and Emeralds, in soft flowing gowns, to the soft music of the violin, danced for the wondering Aladdin.

Thus ended the Vodvil for the year 1938.

Come Into My Kitchen

"Won't you come into my kitchen?" This was the cheery greeting given to a group of women and men who were interested in the accomplishments of the homemakers of Fayette County. The kitchen tour, conducted by Miss Fanny Gannon, the home management specialist of that county, came as the grand finale following two years study of home management problems. Projects of labor saving equipment and systematic planning had been studied the first year, and kitchen improvement the second year.

The inspiration of these gracious homemakers was in evidence. What could be more inviting than crisp curtains at the windows? There were curtains of barred dimity edged with green points, there were chintz shades in a kitchen of grey and rose, one with yellow woodwork, with linoleum finished with stippling of orange, green and blue, and another with green curtains accented with yellow and black. Gay, homey kitchens! The county seemed only to have kitchens of such description. Perhaps the hostesses had been interested only in interior decoration. But no! There was proof pointed out by the guide of the tour that busy wives and mothers are anxious to save time and energy. They had previously studied the causes and remedies of fatigue and the use of leisure time.

The home management specialist pointed out the good and bad features of the lighting of the rooms, the color schemes, floor coverings and finishes and the arrangements of the work centers. In a home that was being remodeled the visitors offered constructive criticism.

Father and Son had had their share in helping Mother enjoy the easy chairs that appeared in most of the kitchens. The handy man should be given credit for arranging such devices as a cabinet for soaps and cleaning powders, a divided drawer for various sized utensils, and a woodbox fitted with casters in order that it might be filled from the doorway. Another interesting woodbox was one built in so that it might be filled from the outside.

The tourists might have played a game of "11 Spy Convenient Devices." Among their finds would have been listed such features as built-in ironing boards, lavatories other than the kitchen sinks, separate washrooms and wardrobes for (Continued on page 10)