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A Centennial Pageant: The First Century

Bridgewater State Teachers College

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A CENTENNIAL PAGEANT THE • FIRST • CENTURY

This pageant is given as a part of the Centennial Celebration of the State Teachers College at Bridgewater, Massachusetts.

The theme of the pageant is "Freely ye have received, freely give." The action suggests the rich heritage of Bridgewater and the service it has rendered for a century in many lands. Well has the school cherished its motto:

"Not to be ministered unto, but to minister."

Presented for the Alumni in the quadrangle before
Boyden Hall, June 1, 1940, at 10:00 o'clock

and again

Presented for Senior Class Day in the Horace Mann
Auditorium, June 7, 1940, at 10:00 o'clock

A CENTENNIAL PAGEANT

THE FIRST CENTURY

For the golden century given to us
We, in turn, raise high the torch
Of Education.

OPENING DANCE — GREETING

Prologue

PART I

Historical

Let these traditions of mind and spirit
Light yet another cycle of the years.

This part shows the gifts from the State of Massachusetts and from the Town of Bridgewater which made possible the founding of the Normal School. It also shows the generous gifts of the alumni after the fire of 1924 which helped to re-establish the school in its new setting. The graduation scenes show how the graduates of Normal School and College through a century have gone out into the public service, both into schools and into patriotic service.

Episode I. General Court — 1838

In the old State House a committee of the General Court discusses the new idea of Horace Mann that the State should establish Normal Schools. They vote a grant of money for this purpose. The first Normal Schools of America are thus constituted.

Episode II. Town Meeting — 1839

The people of the Town of Bridgewater gather in Town Meeting. They debate whether and how they shall secure the new Normal School for their town. They vote money as a loan to help in building the new school, and disperse. This location has been unchanged for 100 years.

Episode III. Early Graduation Scene — 1848

In 1846 was built the first building in America to be erected to house a State Normal School. In this building, under Principal Nicholas Tillinghast, a class graduates. The graduates of this period went out into town, village, and country schools of the period.

Episode IV. Civil War Graduation Scene — 1862

In 1862, in the midst of the Civil War, Mr. Albert Gardner Boyden was Principal. Some young men left the School to join the United States Army. Their patriotism is honored by the playing of "Taps" and the reading of the roll of those who made the supreme sacrifice. Other graduates went out into the newly graded schools, there to serve their country by educating its youth.

Episode V. Graduation Scene — 1918

Again in 1918, war claimed the service of patriotic youth. Many graduates and undergraduates went into the army, some giving their lives. Dr. Arthur Clarke Boyden was now Principal. We see the graduation exercises suggested and the enlisting of young men. Other graduates were eagerly sought for teaching positions.

Episode VI. Fire Scene — 1924

In 1924 occurred the disastrous fire that destroyed three buildings. Students in quiet and orderly fashion departed to their homes, to be soon recalled to the make-shift classrooms and rapidly growing equipment furnished by the generosity of the townspeople, alumni, and State. We see representatives of the alumni bringing gifts.

The new buildings were beautified by the Alumni decorations and other gifts. These decorations are represented by the tableau of the central mural from our auditorium.

Episode VII. Graduation Scene — 1940

This episode shows the graduation of the present. The Normal School has become a Teachers College; we now see the academic procession. But the graduates, like all those of the past century, still carry the Bridgewater Spirit into the communities they serve.

PART II

World Influences

From distant lands, from earlier times,
Come to this place the three-fold treasure
Mind, Heart, Spirit.

Horace Mann enters. As he writes his "Seventh Report", in which he urges the establishment of Normal Schools, he recalls what he saw in Europe, and meditates on the future of teacher-training institutions.

Episode I. The educational ideas of central Europe —
Symbolized by Froebel and his school.

Froebel, and his work with children and with student-teachers, typifies the best in European ideals which Horace Mann brought back from his trip abroad.

He remembers

Fraulein Louise Levin (Froebel's Assistant) and student-teachers enter. Froebel enters with children, who play two kindergarten games. Visitors watch. (Middendorf, Poesche, Dr. Kuehner, Dr. Benfey, Baroness von Marenholtz Buelow). Froebel greets visitors and a tardy child. All the children gather around him. The episode closes with a tableau, as Froebel "looks to America for the fulfillment of his dream."

Episode II. The heritage of other cultures —
Symbolized in song and dance.

Through the century, Bridgewater has received the children of many nations. Each group has enriched the life of the school by contributions from its national culture. Bridgewater, like America itself, has become a fusion of many racial strains. This enrichment is symbolized by the songs and dances from many nations, all represented at some time in the student group. The order is as follows:

Koiviston Polka, Finnish Folk Dance
Lepolele, Armenian Dance
Hatikyoh, The Jewish Anthem
Gavotte, French Court Dance of the 18th Century
Tarantella, Italian National Dance
Rapariga Tola Tola, Portuguese Folk Song
Noh Dance, Japanese Dance of the Theater
Hambo-polska, Swedish Couple Dance
Kirby Malzeard, English Sword Dance
Irish Reel
Swing Low, Sweet Chariot, Negro Spiritual

At the close, the entire group enters the school in an informal procession.

Episode III. The Bridgewater Influence—
Symbolized by moving tableaux.

As the school has received the cultures of many lands, so her children, in their turn, have gone to many places far and near, carrying the Spirit of Bridgewater into our own and other lands. In some of these countries our students have been pioneers in forming new Normal Schools for training native teachers.

The groups in the large semi-circle represent England, France, Mexico, Japan, India, and America. Graduates of different periods come out of the school, and go toward these groups, forming tableaux which symbolize their service to these races. The last two represent the many graduates who are going and will continue to go all over our own country, carrying with them their motto, "To minister."

PART III

The School of Today and Its Contributions
to the Future.

(Enter) Still burns the flame lighted in other times
Fed by the minds' riches from other lands

We are the Present, illumed by a radiant Past
Face-forward to a shining Future.
Pass on this torch!

In this part, the College shows its present modern spirit, and its outlook toward the future. It adopts the well-known "purposes of Education in a Democracy" as the basis for its forward look. These are presented in four floats, each showing one of these purposes.

Let no one think that the Bridgewater Spirit lives in the past.

Float I. Self-Realization

A student peering into a telescope, a tiny girl admiring a huge flower, another speaking through a microphone, a boy studying with a microscope and a girl playing at archery, show that modern education aims to develop an Inquiring Mind, Appreciation of Beauty, the Ability to Speak Clearly and Read Efficiently, Intellectual Interest, Participation in Sports, and an Interest in Health.

Float II. Human Relationships

This float shows both school and home. Children discuss their work around a study table, others play together, and the older girl is designing draperies for a home. Thus in modern education children learn the value of Courtesy, Working and Playing Together, the Enjoyment of Friendship, and Appreciation of the Home.

Float III. Economic Efficiency

The girl typing, a child doing business at a teller's cage, another making a purchase at a store, with a factory suggested by construction show that modern education trains children as future producers and consumers. It helps each child to improve his efficiency, to know the value of work, to select his occupation wisely, to become a skillful buyer, and to have a sound standard of living.

Float IV. Civic Responsibility

This float presents the circle, which symbolizes the intangible, together with the surveyor's instrument, and the ever-green tree. By these we show that the schools foster civic responsibility through the cultivation of Tolerance, Civic Planning, World Citizenship, and the Conservation of Natural Resources. As a result we hope to find the child appreciative of our Democratic Government.

Epilogue

CLOSING DANCE — FAREWELL

ALMA MATER

COMMITTEES

- I. General Committee:—

Mrs. Little, Alumni Chairman	Miss Davis, Faculty Chairman
Miss Decker, Director	Miss Hill, Speech
Miss Nye, Art	Claire Curran, Harriet Mayo, Senior Representatives
- II. Book and Research:— Miss Hill, Miss Bradford, Miss Caldwell, Miss Davis, Mr. Davoren, Miss Decker, Miss Marks, Mrs. Little, Miss Nye, Margaret Meade, Joseph Devitt, Normand Paquette, John Tobin.
- III. Speech:— Miss Hill.
- IV. Music:— Miss Rand, Merilyn Studley, Winifred Silveira, Tynne Peterson. Victrola:— Ruth Bissett, Mary Cameron.
- V. Art:— Miss Nye, Mr. Stearns, Phyllis Slobins, Normand Paquette.
- VI. Modern Dance:— Miss Decker, Florence Kamandulis, Janice Kimball
- VII. Costumes:—

Opening Dance:— Phyllis Simon.
Part I:— Mrs. Little, Miss Alice Bowman, Mrs. Crawford Ferguson, Mrs. William Hunt, Mrs. Charles Jordan.
Costumes loaned by many Alumni and residents of Bridgewater and vicinity.
Part II:— Miss Thompson, Stefani Konrad, Marion Spencer, Florence Bradshaw, Tynne Peterson, Lena Trojano, Josephine Meranda.
Custodians:— Miss Sleeper, Miss Thompson.
- VIII. Make Up, Wigs, and Hairdressing:— Miss Low, Genevieve Doherty.
- IX. Sound and Photography:— Miss Graves, Anthony Perry.
- X. Grounds Arrangements:— Mr. Meier, Mr. McGurren, Mr. Durgin, Mr. Huffington.
- XI. Ushers:— Mr. Hunt, Dr. Arnold, Dr. Maxwell.
- XII. Finance:— Miss Vining, Mary Queenan.
- XIII. Co-ordinator of Children's Activities:— Miss Marks.

DIRECTION

Miss Decker, General Director

Part I. Mr. Davoren.

- Episode I. John Tobin, Samuel Deich.
- II. Evelyn Allen, Alba Martinelli.
- III. Esther Sullivan, Jean Lindsay.
- IV. Estelle Mackey, Ruth Chadwick, Martin Killory.
- V. Lysbeth Lawrence, Gertrude King.
- VI. Nance Marquette, Mary DeCoste.
- VII. Mr. Tyndall, Nan Purtell.

Part II. Miss Caldwell.

- Episode I. Miss Braley, Barbara Buffington.
- II. Muriel Gamble, Mary Sheehan, Katherine Nolan, Norma Tuomala, Doris Burrell, Elizabeth Merry, Barbara Luttet, Ruth Bissett, Anna Kelly, Sadie O'Byrne, William Costello.
- III. Annette Breen, Louise Forsyth.

Part III. Miss Nye and Miss Dow.

- Float I. Miss Smith, Dorothy Fontaine, Junior Art Class.
- II. Miss Thompson, Ethel Melin, Sophomore Art Class.
- III. Miss Graves, Ann Crosby, Freshman Art Class.
- IV. Miss Packard, Mercia Carter, Senior Art Class.

Trucks are loaned by George Emerald, B. F. Ellis, J. H. Jones and J. A. Murray.

STAGE MANAGERS

Barbara Freeman	Wanda Karczmarczyk
Margaret McHugh	Virginia Mayo
Gladys Moore	Andrea Pearce

TECHNICAL ASSISTANTS

Miss Ethel Bailey (Emerson) — General Arrangements;
Mr. Nelson Bell (The Music Box, Inc.) — Sound Expert.