CELEBRATION

WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY,

February 22, 1883.

OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY.
PROGRAMME

Music.

College Band.

Introduction.

Oration.

The Day we Celebrate.

J. L. McMurray—Freshman Class.

College Quartette.

Messrs. Hughes, Woodworth, Marvin & McDowell.

Oration.

The Past.

Chan. Fleischharp—Sophomore Class.

Cornet Duet.

Ab Die Le Morte.

Messrs. Vandenburg and Orion.

Piano Accompaniment, Miss Harman.

Oration.

Mt. Vernon.

Miss Ella H. Morrison—Special Class.

Vocal Solo.

The Middlepoint.

Henry Woodworth.

Piano Accompaniment, Miss Alice Fassio.

Oration.

The Future Possibilities of America.

Ed. E. Sparks—Junior Class.

Brass Quintette.

Majer

Messrs. Ackerman, Bryson, Geerhs, Kahleer and Wasson.

Oration.

Washington, the Statesman and Soldier.

C. C. Miller—Senior Class.

College Quartette.

The Soldier's Farewell.

Introduction.

President of the Day.

F. W. Sperr, Senior Class.

Exercises Commence at Two o'Clock P.M.
"Liberty unsheathed his sword,
Necessity stained it,
And victory returned it."
OSU plays guessing game with birthday celebrations

By Mary Hartshorn
Lantern staff writer

Ohio State is like a woman who keeps people guessing about her age.

In 1920, Ohio State celebrated its 50th anniversary. Twenty-eight years later, the 75th anniversary was celebrated. Then, 22 years later in 1970, the university celebrated its centennial.

So when should Ohio State celebrate its birthday? Some people think it should be celebrated on the date the university was established, March 22, 1870. Others think it should be celebrated when classes were first held three years later, Sept. 17, 1873.

Raimund Georler, university archivist, said the date celebrated is a matter of interpretation. He said the 1870 date is usually celebrated because that is when the Cannon Law was enacted. The Cannon Law established an agricultural and mechanical college in Ohio.

Former OSU President Novice G. Fawcett wanted to celebrate the centennial in 1970, Georler said, in 1895, the 25th anniversary was celebrated using the 1870 date.

In a 1945 speech, then-OSU President Howard Bevis noted it was the university's 75th year, but the anniversary passed without a celebration. Instead, in 1948, the anniversary was celebrated using the 1873 date as Ohio State's birthdate.

This was the beginning of a controversy over which year the 75th anniversary should be celebrated.

The Oct. 7, 1948 Lantern carried an article headlined, "Is The University 75 or 78 Years Old? School Seal Says 1870 Was Birth Year." The article said, "The Ohio legislature established the school in 1870, but classes didn't begin until three years later. So this year is actually the 75th year of classes which after all are the real business of a university and a much better basis for celebration than a legislative act."

On the cover of the 1948 program book for the 75th anniversary is written "Program Commemorating the Seventy-fifth Anniversary of the Opening of Class." Inside the cover is a statement by Bevis, "Greetings and a most cordial welcome to the ceremonies of the occasion of the Seventy-fifth Anniversary of the founding of this University."

In Bevis' address he said, "The academic year 1948-49 was memorable for its celebration of the university's seventy-fifth anniversary. Though the University was technically established in 1870, it actually opened its doors to students in the autumn of 1873, and this significant date was chosen for commemoration."
FACTS ABOUT THE SEMICENTENNIAL

“MEET ME AT THE SEMICENTENNIAL!”

Get that slogan fixed in your mind now. Then take it with you and repeat it wherever you go this summer.

It is going to take some personal work on the part of every student to draw a mammoth crowd to this greatest event in the history of the University.

Think what a big crowd at that celebration will mean.

It will mean:

Splendid concentration of spirit that will give the old school a monster boost.

More people will come to know more about Ohio State University than they have ever known before. More people will be vitally interested in this University, in its accomplishments and in its future than ever before.

And further—

All this aroused sentiment of Ohio State’s greatness will have its effect on the taxpayers of Ohio. They in their turn exercise control over the purse strings of this great State, more funds will inevitably be forthcoming and in the end we will have a bigger and better Ohio State.

Isn’t that in itself enough of a reason to resolve that you will guarantee the attendance of at least three relatives, friends, and alumni at the fiftieth anniversary celebration?

But there are other reasons—excellent ones.

Chief among them is the enjoyment that everyone who is here is going to get out of those jubilee days.

From the time of the first opening address on October 13, until the last cheer has died away on Ohio Field after the game with Purdue on October 16, there will be something doing every minute.

Reunions will be held of all the classes and of every organization that was ever heard of on the campus. Then the pageant will review the whole history of the University in a series of scenes and allegorical figures, with full account given to every phase of the school’s growth.

Throughout the entire celebration there will run the glorious spirit of the renewing of old associations and the formation of new friendships and the gaining of new knowledge about Ohio State University.

The program in brief is:

Wednesday, October 13, 8 p. m.—Welcome Addresses and Reception.

Thursday, October 14, 9:30 a. m.—Academic Procession and Address.

2:30 p. m.—Addresses on College Education in Ohio.

7:30 p. m.—Banquet.

Friday, October 15—University and Alumni Day.

9:30 a.m.—Addresses and Reports.

Afternoon—Costume Procession and stunts, followed by sing, led by Glee Clubs.

Evening—Class Reunions and dinners.

Saturday, October 16—Morning—Conferring of medical and dental degrees on those who graduated before consolidation with the Ohio State University.

Afternoon—Football, Purdue versus Ohio State.

And now armed with these few talking points and fortified by your love for your Alma Mater, set out to “sell” the semicentennial.

Remember that it’s your semicentennial.

Realize how fortunate you are to be on the campus at such a time. Probably 75,000 students will pass through the University before there will be another affair of this kind. Let’s make ours a big one.

Start out as soon as you hit the old home town, or wherever you are to be located for the summer. Round up all the prospects and before you leave them, have them saying:

“MEET ME AT THE SEMICENTENNIAL!”

Preserve this for reference.
TO THE PRESIDENT OF

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY WILL CELEBRATE THE FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF ITS FOUNDING ON OCTOBER THIRTEEN, FOURTEEN, AND FIFTEEN, NINETEEN HUNDRED TWENTY; THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES EXTENDS A CORDIAL INVITATION TO YOUR INSTITUTION TO HAVE A REPRESENTATIVE PRESENT ON THAT OCCASION. WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER THIRTEEN, WILL BE JUBILEE DAY, FEATURED BY AN ACADEMIC PROCESSION AND ADDRESSES IN THE MORNING, THE PRESENTATION AND RECEPTION OF CONGRATULATORY MESSAGES IN THE AFTERNOON, AND A RECEPTION IN THE EVENING. THURSDAY WILL BE OHIO DAY, AND AN APPROPRIATE PROGRAM RELATING TO HIGHER EDUCATION WILL BE PRESENTED. FRIDAY WILL BE ALUMNI DAY.

THE FAVOR OF A REPLY ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY IS REQUESTED. A FORMAL INVITATION AND DETAILED PROGRAM OF EVENTS WILL BE SENT AT A LATER TIME.

THE INAUGURAL CEREMONIES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY, OCTOBER FOURTEEN, AND IF DESIRED A REPRESENTATIVE MAY, ON THE SAME TRIP, BE PRESENT AT BOTH THE JUBILEE AND THE INAUGURAL.

COLUMBUS, OHIO
August eighteen
Nineteen hundred twenty