

Barnes, Otis Avery

Index: Tape R8

Colorado College Professor of Chemistry, 1925-1962.

I. Background

A. Education and Military Service

1. University of Illinois, 1912-16, BS, Chemical Engineering
2. University of Illinois, 1916-18, MS, Sanitary Chemistry
3. World War I interrupted graduate study. In 1918 he enlisted as private in engineer corp.
4. A year later taught full-time at U. of Illinois, due to shortage of professors.
5. In 1920 returned to work as graduate assistant and in 1922 finished PHD under Roger Adams, organic chemist. (U. of Illinois)

B. University of Utah

1. Barnes accepted position as assistant professor
2. Vacancy due to Chairman's leave of absence
3. For three years he gave courses in organic chemistry

C. Barnes' decision to teach at Colorado College

1. Every summer between 1922 and 1925 he worked for the Illinois State Highway, Dept of engineer chemistry. On his trips to and from University of Utah he traveled through Colorado.
2. He first visited the CC campus in the fall of 1925.
3. He met Dr. Douglas, chairman of chem dept. Douglas told Barnes that CC needed chem prof to fill vacancy and asked him if he was interested. Barnes responded positively so Douglas introduced him to President Mierow. When Douglas arrived home his appointment was waiting for him.

II. Assessment of the Chemistry Department

A. Faculty and facilities

1. Three faculty members: Dr. Douglas, Marion Warner, and Barnes
2. Adequate facilities. Funds for chemistry equipment sufficient for undergraduate instruction.
3. A drawback: the college was in weak financial position. (until Ford and Packard contributions. end)
4. Chem dept. occupied ground floor and east of first floor in Palmer Hall.
 - a. Ground Floor: freshman lab and lectures, Chairman's office
 - b. 1st floor: Barnes' office at east end. (what is now the doorway to east entrance)

B. Curriculum and Class Size

1. Course Schedule not too heavy
2. Barnes introduced new course: Advanced Qualitative Organic Analysis
3. Dr. Douglas had recently started to teach Physical chemistry at CC. Equipment inadequate for this course.
4. Freshman classes were large.
5. Barnes taught upper level courses mostly with sophomore, jr. and sr. Chemistry majors, pre-med students, and biology majors.
6. CC offered BS in Chemical Engineering

C. John Mahalik: Chemistry major

1. From Pueblo, football player
2. After CC went to medical School
3. Has practice in Colorado Sprs.
4. strong character, stature.

D. Dr. Douglas: Chairman of Department

1. very strict! prohibited smoking, drinking, foul language (like most faculty members at the time)
2. Examples
 - a. Once a student, with pipe in his mouth, walked into Douglas' office, Douglas promptly scolded the student.
 - b. Irrate after students tied beer bottles to doorknob of classroom
3. Formality characterized his rapport with students.

III. Life at Colorado College

A. Hagerman Hall and the Weather Station

1. Barnes lived in the men's dormitory because he ~~could~~ have two rooms to himself. Hagerman Hall had many vacant rooms.
2. Most of the students who lived there were connected with the Weather Bureau.
3. They maintained instruments on the roof of the hall. Measured wind, temperature, air pressure, rainfall. Usually 3 boys stationed on 2nd floor. They furnished information for weather department and local papers. Boys got tuition and room free. Board free?

B. The Weather Boys

1. many in Barnes' classes
2. most, if not all, zoology majors
3. Figge brothers:
 - a. two of them went into the medical field
4. Why zoology major?
 - a. Gilmore, chairman of zoology dept, known as power on campus
 - b. Barnes' guess: Gilmore influential with mayor and city council.

C. Professor Gilmore

1. outgoing, enjoyed his work, interested in athletics, played for Biology basketball team.

D. Inter-departmental basketball

1. Chemistry and Biology faculty members and majors played each other alot.
2. Barnes played on Chemistry team
3. "One - way - Baggs" gave basket to Chemistry team. (now he is business man in Colo. Sprs.)

E. Close colleagues

1. Dr. Ormes, librarian
2. Mr. Albright (known as "Fuzzy" because of his beard), faculty marshal
3. Prof. Boucher, physics department
4. Daehler, chairman of English department
5. Barnes and these men formed a Hiking Club made up of cc Profs and students, if they so desired. They went on three-quarter day hikes.

F. Academic processions

1. Today they hold same number of processions as in the past.
2. for following events: convocation, commencement, endowment drives

IV. Athletics at Colorado College

A. Scholarships

1. supported through grants from college
2. "Boosters Club" raised money for athletic scholarships

B. Joe Irish, athletic director

1. Chosen to go to Olympics but developed T.B. and moved to Colorado

C. Howard Waites, athletic trainer

1. In 1930's also trainer for U. of Colorado athletic teams
2. named to Trainer Hall of Fame

D. Football

1. Billy Van de Graff, football coach. Lived in Hagerman hall. Came after WWII
2. Dutch Clark, All-American football player. During game with U. of Denver he made drop kick. Clark argued with referee over the goal. CC scored.
3. In Fall 1925 Barnes saw his first CC football game (CC vs. U. of New Mex.)
4. CC played the big schools
5. Good support from Colorado Springs
6. Bad facilities--bleachers on both sides of football field

E. Other popular sports

1. Basketball. Played in City Auditorium.
2. Track
3. No boxing team but this sport was part of PE curriculum
4. Wrestling. Only minor role.
 - a. Barnes part of small nucleus. Members included Padgett (now in Real Estate) Hub Moody, Howard Waite.
 - b. About three times a week Barnes and these men worked out in Cossitt Hall.

V. Changes in the Administration, 1930's to 1950's

A. President Davies

1. Outgoing, liked athletics, interested in national defense.
2. Made favorable impression. When invited to meet important men from East, would take cocktail with them. Mierow would not.
3. Served in Marine corp.

B. How did WWII effect the college?

1. Faculty Lecture Series (4 x's a year)
 - a. Davies spoke on how Administration looks at war.
 - b. Religion prof. spoke on how minister looks at war.
 - c. Barnes spoke on how Chemist views war.
2. Barnes, in particular
 - a. he was reserve officer
 - b. local clubs asked him to lecture
3. Jan. 1942 Davies and Barnes called into service
 - a. Barnes returned to CC 1945, 1946.
 - b. Davies returned to CC a little later.

C. Atmosphere after World War II.

1. Cadet Nurse Army Corp stationed at Penrose Hospital
2. Barnes remembers five Japanese female students who marched in uniform back and forth from Penrose

D. Davies' Departure

1. Due to drinking problems
2. Charlie Hershey became acting president. He held this position a few times. Charlie called himself "always a bridesmaid, never a bride."

E. President Gill

1. Trustees hired him to fill role of "stop-gap" president
2. well-known retired General
3. Fully-supported athletics
4. Favored recruitment of Canadian hockey players

VI. Barnes' Involvement with Athletics

A. Background

1. At University of Utah appointed by student body to Athletics Board
2. At U. of Utah organized and coached wrestling team for two years.
3. Appointed to Rules Committee for WCAA. Held position for 3-4 years.
4. Resigned from Rules Committee when he came to Colorado College

- B. The Athletic Board at Colorado College
 1. After first year at CC Barnes served on this board
 2. Other members included: Van Diest, trustee member, Olson, Charlie Hershey, Joe Irish.

VII. Growth of Hockey after World War II

A. Early History

1. In 1938 CC won its first game. (Against U. of Illinois)
2. Star players
 - a. Ernie Young, Canadian. In subsequent years Ernie recruited skaters from his home town.
 - b. Jack Chamney
 - c. Chick Ross. Later became Mgr. of Broadmoor Ice Palace.
 - d. "Spike" Wilson. He tried to enlist in American and Canadian services but rejected because of poor eye sight. Ironic because CC hockey fans knew him as player with keen eye.

B. El Pomar/ Broadmoor Involvement in Hockey

1. Cheddy Thompson: 1945 became hockey coach, good recruiter, helped organize national championship, Canadian - had served in Canadian Air Force.
 - a. During Thompson's time the Broadmoor began to give funds for hockey.
 - b. One aspect overlooked: academic standards were lowered to recruit good hockey players.
2. 1948: Cheddy Thompson helped NCAA to stage playoffs to determine championship hockey team; underwrote this event; Broadmoor financed this event for next ten years; Held in Broadmoor Ice Arena.
3. By 1950 CC had championship team
 - a. All Canadian hockey players: Tony Frasca, Ron Newson, Omar Brandt, Hartwell.
 - b. At that time CC played many eastern schools: Boston U., Harvard
 - c. There was question of legality (under NCAA rules) about 90 o/o or predominately Canadian team.
4. Barnes as Chairman of Athletics Board
 - a. Rumors that CC would be investigated by NCAA. CC accused of recruiting too many Canadian players
 - b. Subsequently Barnes spoke with Thayer Tutt. Charlie Tutt said not to worry about it.
 - c. At that time CC also recruited less ^{er} hockey stars, such as Hay, McClusker, Wishart.

C. Rules Changes for WCHA (During Barnes' chairmanship)

1. Any player who signed letter of intent to play with professional Canadian or American team would not longer be considered an Amateur.
2. Player would not be considered amateur if he accepted pay for participation in athletic contest.
3. NCAA had instituted these rules, so WCHA had to do the same.
4. Control was in hands of Faculty Athletic Directors.

D. Benezet's Philosophy toward Athletics

1. Ended scholarships, with exception of hockey because financed by El Pomar Foundation.
2. 1957: ultimatum. No more Canadian hockey players. (While other schools continued to recruit Canadian hockey players)
3. Afterwards CC did not make it to the playoffs(NCAA)
4. 1958 marked decline in athletics at CC.

VIII. Chemistry Students and the Barnes Chemistry Endowment Scholarship

A. Majors

1. Exceptional students
2. Received quality instruction
3. School of Mines does as good a job as CC
4. Outstanding students
 - a. C. Owens - became head of Chemistry dept. at U. of New Hampshire
 - b. Corley, Liddle - both performed operations on Barnes
5. Barnes enjoyed teaching

B. The Scholarship

1. Barnes had served in two wars. Knew that at time of WW I Germany favored chemical industry. Within two years US was able to furnish high explosives. Barnes wanted to recruit good students as a means to encourage growth of chemical industry.
2. He talked with Administrative officers and treasurer. They said Barnes could not restrict endowed gift to chemistry students.
3. In 1952 Donald McCreary, trustee and corporate lawyer in Denver helped Barnes set up scholarship.
4. Christmas, 1952. Barnes presented endowment to President Gill. Faculty and trustees accepted it.
5. 1976: 12 scholarships given each year
 - a. include summer research
 - b. plan to add science lectureships
 - c. non-revocable trust

Concluding Statement:

Athletics and National Defense played important part in Barnes' life at CC.
He has great hopes for the College.