October 5, 2015

Countdown to Riverside City College's 100th Anniversary

Archie J. Twogood was a Riverside City College Physical Science professor beginning in 1922 until his retirement in 1956. Twogood earned a B.S. at the University of California, Berkeley in 1913. He had five years of business experience with General Electric, Pacific Gas and Electric and Southern Pacific Company. From 1918 to 1921, he had been at the Oregon Institute of Technology. Twogood is known most for his many contributions to Riverside Junior College’s Cooperative Education Program, which was initially developed by fellow R.J.C. instructor Howard H. Bliss (Physical Science 1920-1950). Popularly known as “COOP”, the program was an innovative work/study curriculum where R.J.C. students would be divided into two groups – A and B. The A students would work at a plant for four weeks while the B students attended appropriate classes at Riverside Junior College. Then they would change places – A at the college, B at work. The early years of the program were so successful that it merited its own section in “Tequesquite” yearbook.
Archie Twogood can be seen in the two group photos below. The first photo below is the 1924 COOP club. The second photo is the 1926 R.J.C. Faculty.

The photo below is a portion of the 1931 R.J.C. Faculty. Twogood is in the lower right hand corner.
Below are photographs of Twogood through the years. The top row pictures are from 1933, 1938 and 1939. The bottom row pictures are from 1940, 1941 and 1942.
In 1943, Twogood is standing on the left. Below that is a 1955 photo. Twogood is on the right and James Duncan (Physical Science 1953-1977) is on the left.

In 1956, Archie Twogood retired after teaching 34 years at R.C.C. The “Tiger Times” article (below left) was published on May 24. The photo on the right came from that year’s “Tequesquite” yearbook.
The text of the article read:

“Riverside College loses one of its most distinguished and respected faculty members this June with the retirement of Archie Twogood, who has taught physics here since 1922. A native of South Dakota, Archie Twogood moved to Riverside with his family in 1901, the family taking up residence of an orange grove in Highgrove. Later, after graduating from the Berkeley campus of UC, young Twogood worked as a practicing engineer for some years. Part of this period was spent at the famed Schenectady plant of General Electric, but tiring of the routine, which characterized most engineering at the time, the young man turned to teaching. His first post was at the famed Schenectady plant of General Electric, but tiring of the routine, which characterized most engineering at the time, the young man turned to teaching. His first post was at the Oregon Institute of Technology. Following this he assumed the duties at Riverside College which he now puts aside after 34 years of continuous service.

Enviable Reputation

During this long tenure, Archie Twogood has earned an enviable reputation as one of the outstanding science instructors in Southern California. Here, among the students he has counselled so well, he has reaped an even richer harvest in the affection and esteem with which a long succession of those students regard him. But while busy at the fruitful academic career which has made him the dean of RC faculty members, Archie Twogood has also found time to contribute to church and community affairs, as well as to pursue some personal hobbies. Foremost among these has been the mountain climbing he loves so well. He is a charter member of the Sierra Club, and still takes yearly knapsack trips in the High Sierras with any of his sons who are stout enough of heart and leg to keep up with him. Fishing has also been a hobby, but when son Ted accompanies him, the senior Twogood abandons rod and reel and concentrates on photography, for Ted is an angler of renown, certain to provide trout for the campfire suppers.

Busy Retirement

In company with Mrs. Twogood, the new gentlemen-of-leisure will have much to do; the Twogoods have a large family, three sons and two daughters, and visits to the children are high on the list of things to look forward to. Headquarters for Dorothy and Archie Twogood, between the trailer trips they plan to make, will be their recently acquired home high in Mill
Creek Canyon, where mountain air is available in the copious quantities the Twogoods prefer. 'If I had it to do over again, I'd teach,' the retiring instructor concludes as he views the long years of his professional life. 'There is greater variety and more freedom than in industry—and I can’t begin to weigh the value of those hundreds of pleasant contacts with generation after generation of young men who were my students.' But to retire is not to lose contact with the school he has served so well. Archie Twogood will 'look in' from time to time, and it is certain that on this campus there will always be a warm greeting for the man who has done so much to honor it."

There are 22 weeks until RCC’s 100th Anniversary on March 13, 2016.

The Riverside City College Instructional Media Center is bringing you this five year countdown to RCC’s 100th Anniversary. Our intention is to give everyone a weekly glance at the many people and events that have been a part of the college. Our thanks go to the RCC Digital Library Archives and the District’s Office of Strategic Communications and Relations for allowing us to use their photo and newspaper collections. Thanks as well to all of the RCC students and Faculty Advisors that were a part of the yearbook and newspaper staffs. Thanks also to Tom Johnson and Gilbert Jimenez who wrote “the book” about RCC’s history. "Riverside City College 1916-1981- A 65 Year History" is available in the RCC Digital Library. For copyright purposes, all images originating from Riverside City College publications and the District’s Office of Strategic Communications and Relations are the property of the Riverside Community College District.