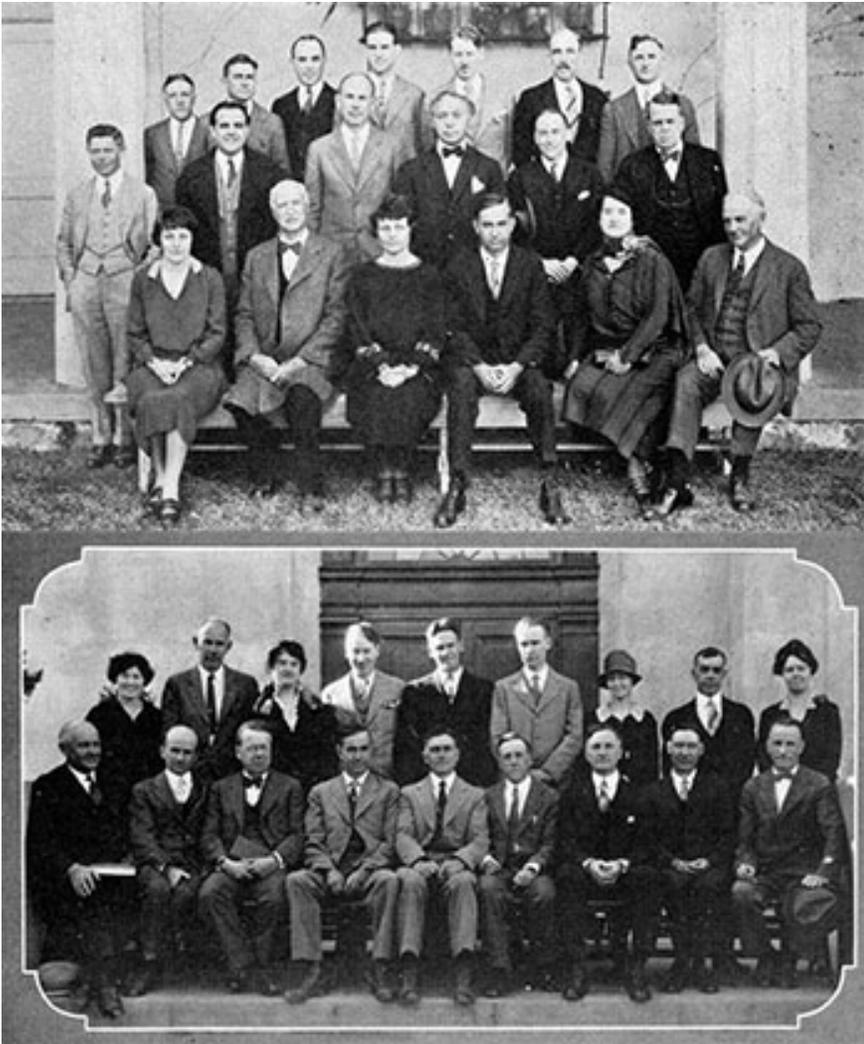




January 12, 2015

### Countdown to Riverside City College's 100th Anniversary

In January 1939, "Arroyo" student newspaper Executive Editor Marvin Hayman asked members of the Riverside Junior College faculty to write a series of opinion pieces under the title "Instructor's Viewpoints" (in late February, the title was changed to "Instructor's Views"). Today, 75 years later, we can see what was on their minds. The tenth article appeared in the April 5, 1939 edition of the newspaper and was written by James Coleman Scott (English Department 1927-1946). In the top faculty photo below, from the 1927 "Tequesquite" yearbook, Scott is standing in the back row, third in from the right. In the 1928 bottom photo he is also standing in the back row, fourth in from the left..



In the 1939 yearbook, Scott was described as "Mr. Scott, dynamic and talented, instructs in Voice and Diction and Public Speaking. As an outstanding member of the Community Players, his leisure time is well filled – Particularly when he is cast in a leading role, which is often the case".

Scott wrote about his students in an article entitled "*These Are The Lives I've Touched – Being Four Sonnets To My Three Loves*".

# Instructor's Views

## THESE ARE THE LIVES I'VE TOUCHED

### Being Four Sonnets To My Three Loves

(Note—These are composite portraits, and no reference to any real character is intended.—J. C. S.)

By James Coleman Scott

#### 1. Life and Laughter

You straggle in, in time to answer "Here"

And seek a front-row chair with swaggering grin—

Or else you rush to be the first one in—

What impish glee has seated you so near?

And sometimes you're not here at all, your seat

A silent witness of your sleep-late urge;

Unconscious of my weighty wisdom-words,

You gang up on me, here around my feet.

Why worry you with comma splice, and why,

Why be distraught with dangling modifier?

You'll have a snappy come-back, and your eye

Will flash a smile that's worth a B, or higher.

Oh, me! Again you write your theme in class

While you a very brilliant lecture pass.

#### 2. Detail and Diligence

And you there in the back row, with your calm

And temperate mien, your firm but gracious words—

Alas! Sometimes I wonder if you've heard

My careful exegesis. Does the dawn

Of wisdom that has broke across your face

Bespeak agreement? Or perhaps it means

That you have just remembered what you've seen

Within the limpid eyes of that new date!  
You are reserved—seem snugly tucked-in, too—  
And yet your work is always perfect, and  
Invariably in the day it's due;  
It's written in a neat and graceful hand.  
You've caught one secret of the gentle earth:  
All peaceful ease pursues no postponed work.

### 3. —And Hope of Growth

You are the growing lives that I have touched;  
You are the ones who've taught me something new  
About myself and shown me that the true  
Real growth of workmanship may not be crushed:  
It makes no difference whether you are B  
Or D; they're both the same to me. "But not  
To me!" sez you—and you are right, so ought  
I justly to forgive that last late theme?  
A back-row A or front-row D, or just  
An average common C that sits between  
And mourns the 'golden mean' that has him thrust  
Into the class that most of us beseems:  
You're each a part of me, and as I move  
Along the years, I shall remember you.

### 4. "Non Omnis Moriar"

Across my years that speed too swiftly on,  
You'll take your place with others who have passed  
And those who are to come; each face a living mask  
Whereon I read the penciled lines I've drawn.  
You are the ancient, aged sum of life

That has been lived—the love, the pain, the grope  
Of upward years; but more—you are the hope  
That flows through turbid streams of future strife;  
The world-like me-will judge you once and call  
You “Good” or “Bad” or “Fair”; but you will know  
That none but you will make you rise or fall—  
For you hold all degrees of human worth.  
When I am gone, if but one thought of mine  
Shall give you pause, I shall not wholly die.

The photos below of Scott appeared in “Tequesquite” yearbooks. The top two came from 1931 and 1933. The bottom pair appeared in the 1938 and 1940 yearbooks.



It is 1 year and 8 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 100<sup>th</sup> 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.

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