



May 4, 2015

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

In 1966, Riverside City College celebrated its 50th anniversary. In the March 11, 1966 issue of the "Tiger Times" student newspaper profiled two early graduates of the college, Dorothy Kincell and Chester F. Carlson.

Dorothy Kincell was a member of the first graduating class of Riverside Junior College in 1918. In 1921, she became the first alumna of RJC to teach at the college when, at the request of A.G. Paul (RCC Principal-Director-President 1920-1950), she returned to fill in for Spanish instructor Kate O'Neill (Professor of Spanish 1916-1942) who was taking graduate courses. When O'Neil returned, Kincell transferred to Riverside Poly High to teach Spanish. Following the passing of O'Neil in 1942, Kincell returned to RJC where she taught until 1961. The photo (below left) appeared in the RJC 1918 "Kollej Ko-Ed" yearbook. The photo (below right) accompanied the March 11, 1966 "Tiger Times" article.



The headline for the article appears below.



The article read:

“Smiling Madonnas, sixth grade Spanish courses and language labs at Riverside City College are just a few of the memories of Dorothy Kincell, member of the first graduating class and later a faculty member of Riverside Junior College, as RCC was originally known. Miss Kincell recently retired and is now enjoying trips to the beach, club activities and entertaining her friends in her two story home at the foot of Mt. Rubidoux. One of her favorite pastimes is recalling the early days of Riverside Junior College. She attended classes in the Polytechnic High School buildings, since RJC did not have any buildings of its own until 1921 when the Gage property and house were purchased. The former Spanish instructress noted that RJC quickly built up a fine faculty including Robert Anderson, an English teacher from Princeton University, and Dr. Edwin Jaeger, a naturalist and author of many books. When she graduated from RJC in 1918, Miss Kincell who was an avid student of languages transferred to Pomona College where she received her B.A. and then to Columbia University where she took her M.A. After studying abroad for a year and a half in Paris, Madrid and Mexico City, Miss Kincell returned to RJC as a teacher at the request of Dr. A.G. Paul, the first president of the college. She was filling in for a Spanish teacher who went on to graduate studies. By the time she began teaching, RJC had moved its quarters to the Gage House where she taught her Spanish classes in one of the upstairs bedrooms, which was the envy of the Latin classes meeting in the bathroom. Her room had dormer windows on which the taller people in the class, including Miss Kincell, were continually bumping their heads. Miss Kincell’s eyes twinkled as she recalled how her students use to tease her, ‘They would tell me they wished I would bump my head so hard it would knock me out and they wouldn’t have to have class.’ The tall, and still slender, teacher recalled how a gangly state inspector sat in on all her classes one day. He was a dreamer, according to her, and what she and the students thought were vicious notes he was making about them as he sat in the window seat, she now suspects were Spanish poems. At any rate, whether they were notes or poems, he must have liked Miss Kincell’s class for the school received its accreditation, in spite of the fact that he had bumped his head on the dormer window leaving the classroom. However, when the regular Spanish teacher returned to RJC, Miss Kincell went over to Poly to teach. She returned to RJC in 1946, the year the college’s title was shortened to simply Riverside College. Once established at RC, Miss Kincell worked with her students to refurbish the Casa de Linguas, a small cottage that faced Fairfax Avenue before the Quad was complete in 1950. The little house featured murals painted by the students, six window seats, a piano to accompany the singing of Spanish songs and a little gas stove in the kitchen to make tea or coffee. The cottage was moved to make room for the completion of the Quad, and Spanish classes had to return to regular classrooms. Another accomplishment of Miss Kincell was the installation of language labs at RC, making it one of the first colleges with audio equipment. The forward-looking instructress also helped initiate Spanish lessons in the sixth grade classes of Riverside City Schools. She was named to supervise the instruction of languages for the city school system and had to give up half of her classes at RC in order to set up a schedule of instruction for the city. Her college students presented plays in Spanish for the grade school children, and they reciprocated. These programs grew and the college students soon began producing three-act plays in Spanish which they presented at the Community Settlement House. An avid traveler, Miss Kincell once told one of her classes that in all the cathedrals and churches she had visited in Europe, she had seldom seen a smiling Madonna. One of her students checked some books out of the library on statuary and set about to make a smiling Madonna for the niche in Miss Kincell’s garden. The bronzed figure is now one of her most prized possessions. During her travels through Europe, the Orient, the Philippines, Alaska and Mexico, this collector-at-heart has gathered over 800 costume dolls which she houses in three china closets. She buys her dolls in pairs so that her collection shows both the male and female costume of the area. She also collects American glasses and enjoys setting tables for company. Miss Kincell has done post

graduate work at UCLA, Stanford, the University of Washington and Claremont College. She has also taught in programs at Claremont and UCR. 'My brother-in-law teases me and says there's always one side of the game I can root for,' laughs the teacher. Miss Kincell is enjoying her free time since her retirement and is now adjusted to a schedule away from the discipline of a student or teacher. It is not the easiest task for her since 'I have been either a teacher or a student ever since I was four years old.' As a teacher, she has her own theory on discipline. She feels students need and want discipline. In answer to her students' questions, 'How come you tell us jokes and then give a 'D'?', she would reply, 'I am just a bookkeeper of your actions.' Her students must have benefited from her distinction between hard handed discipline and a letting-them-know-the-rules early policy which she followed."

The second early RJC student profiled was Chester F. Carlson. Carlson invented the xerographic process in 1938 subsequently developed and commercialized by the Xerox Corporation. His invention is widely used to produce high-quality text and graphic images on paper. The photo on the left is from the 1928 "Tequesquite" yearbook. In the photo on the right, Carlson is seen with a replica of the machine he used to demonstrate xerography. The machine would not produce a finished copy but it would produce an unfused image. This photo appears courtesy of the Xerox Historic Archives.



The headline for the Carlson article is seen below:



The article read:

"When RCC students use the Xeroxing machine in the school library, how many of them realize that the inventor of the process once studied in that same library? In fact the idea for

the process might have had its inception at RCC. So says Chester F. Carlson, the inventor of the process and former RCC student. 'I remember a discussion we once had in a Riverside physics class concerning the practical uses of electronics. Perhaps the seed was planted at that time,' he explains. Carlson speaks fondly of the three years he spent at RCC, then known as Riverside Junior College. From 1927 to 1930, he participated in a cooperative program under the direction of Howard H. Bliss and Archie J. Twogood, former instructors in engineering and physics. The program alternated six weeks of classes with six weeks of work arranged by the school. Students usually took four years to complete the program, but this determined student was ready to transfer to California Institute of Technology as a junior in only three years. But times have not always been so good for Carlson, who has now retired and resides in New York. In fact when he graduated from San Bernardino High School, he did not think he would be able to attend college. Both of his parents were victims of tuberculosis, his mother dying of the disease when he was 17. Since he was an only child, the main support of his father became his responsibility. He worked as a janitor for the San Bernardino Sun and Telegram and at other odd jobs during high school. Upon his graduation, an uncle suggested that he look into the program at RJC. He and his father moved to Riverside in the summer of 1925 where he worked at a peach cannery until he could save enough to enter college in 1927. The junior college movement, then still in its infancy, offered him a chance to study tuition-free, "The next three years were three of the happiest and most valuable years of my life, The periods at class turned out to be exciting and challenging for all of us in the Co-op Course," Carlson describes. The inventor received his B.S. in physics from Cal Tech in 1930 and a Ll. B. from New York Law School in 1939. After graduating from Cal Tech he worked for a time as a research engineer and later as a patent attorney. In the early 1930's, while working as a patent attorney, he realized the difficulties of having words and drawings reproduced. He had first become interested in printing processes as a high school student, when he tried to publish a paper for amateur chemists. However, this time the particular problem he encountered was copying work for offices. With these in mind he set out to invent a process which could be incorporated into an automatic office copying machine. Experimenting with crude equipment and materials in his own kitchen, and studying literature on light-sensitive materials, he considered photoconductivity and electrostatics. He conceived of the basic principles and process of xerography in 1937 and, with the help of Otto Kornei, introduced a practical application of the theory in 1938. Since then he has made several improvement inventions in both the process and the equipment. Until 1944, Carlson was not able to interest industry in his invention. That year Battelle Memorial Institute of Columbus, Ohio assisted him with further development of the process. The Haloid Company, now Xerox Corporation which acquired the license to commercially produce the invention in 1946, introduced it in 1951. In 1964, RCC honored Carlson by giving him a distinguished alumnus award. In his prepared acceptance speech, he stated, "My fondest memories go back to the three eventful and productive years I spent at the Riverside Junior College. That period represented a turning point in my life'."

There are 44 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.