

Register of Old Buildings
Macon County Historical Coordinating Council

Address: 500 W. Main St.

Date of original construction: 1891.

Name of original owner: 1891 - Lewis B. Casner.

History (any remodeling, with date(s) if known, type of architecture, etc.; pictures may be attached).

Continue writing on reverse side of sheet if needed.

"The house was built in 1891 by Lewis B. Casner, president of the Citizens National Bank. At the time, Mr. Casner was a resident of the town of Casner which was named for his father.

"The residence was purchased seven years later for about \$15,000. It was remodeled in 1909 by Dr. Barnes when the double deck porch on the east was built. The large shingle cupola, which attracts much attention to the residence on the corner of West Main and College Streets, has remained unchanged.

"On March 20, 1938 Elmer O. Brintlinger purchased the house for a funeral home. He estimated that the remodeling would cost about \$8500. At that time the house was described as having 14 rooms in addition to the garage and the former collection room (butterflies, moths). There were also three baths and two porches."

Newspaper files,
Decatur Herald & Review
Date obscured

"Professor White of the mechanical engineering department of the Champaign university was in the city yesterday to look over the plumbing and heating in the new residence of Dr. Will Barnes on W. Main Street. The residence is the one built by L. B. Casner and it was said that it cost the first owner \$20,000. After the bank failure, Dr. Barnes bought the property for \$11,000. That purchase was several months ago, and ever since workmen have been busy on the interior, remodeling. It is said that the improvements will cost in the neighborhood of six to eight thousand dollars."

Of This and That
In Old Decatur
From the Herald of
October 17th, 1898

Summary of owners of the residence at 500 W. MainSt.

1891	-	Lewis B. Casner.
1898	-	Dr. William Barnes.
1938	-	Elmer O. Brintlinger, Brintlinger Funeral Home.

Present owner's name: Harold Brintlinger, Brintlinger Funeral Home.

500 West Main



Picture, courtesy of H. Lynn Bohon
Taken in 1972



Residence of Dr. William Barnes

From Progressive Decatur, Published by the Review Print-
ing and Stationery Co., Decatur, Ill., no date given;
estimate of date, 1899 to 1901, page 50.



RESIDENCE OF L. B. CASNER.

DR. WILL BARNES' GRANDCHILDREN TO UNVEIL BAS-RELIEF

15 NOV '30

With a brief ceremony the bas-relief of the late Dr. Will Barnes, given by his wife to the Decatur and Macon county hospital will be unveiled Sunday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock. Grandchildren of the donor will release the flags that cover the bronze. Invitations have been issued to members of the boards of the hospital and the art institute, and a few other friends. President C. F. Dick will preside and the following program will be given:

- Violin solo, "A Elegy"..... H. Ernst
- Harold C. Hess—Mrs. Hess at the piano
- Presentation of the Memorial
William Barnes, Jr.
- Unveiling
William Barnes 3d and Gloria Barnes
- Violin solo "Melody".....Gluck-Mann
- Mr. Hess.....Gluck-Mann
- Acceptance of Memorial in Behalf of the
Hospital Association
Heaton I. Baldwin

BARNES BAS-RELIEF WILL BE HUNG OVER HOSPITAL FIREPLACE

27 NOV '30

The bas-relief of Dr. Will Barnes which has been in the Art Institute in Decatur for several years, as a loan will be placed above the fireplace in the main lobby of the Decatur and Macon County hospital, according to a decision of the committee charged with hanging the memorial to the hospital founder.

Removal of the bronze bas-relief to the hospital was determined in action of the board of directors of the hospital last Tuesday noon. Mrs. Charles Powers and Edward Powers were appointed to consider possible locations for the bas-relief and to make provision for the placement. Preparation for moving the memorial has not been started.

Unveil Bas-Relief Sunday

16 NOV '30

The unveiling of the bronze bas-relief of the late Dr. William Barnes, president of the Decatur and Macon County hospital, will be held Sunday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock in the hospital. The bas-relief, the work of Miss Frances Grimes, sculptress of New York City, formerly of Decatur, will be unveiled by William Barnes, the third and Gloria Barnes, grandchildren of the late Dr. Barnes.

C. R. Dick, vice president of the hospital board, will preside and William Barnes, Jr., will present the memorial, the gift of Mrs. William Barnes, to the hospital. H. I. Baldwin will accept it in behalf of the hospital board. Two violin selections will be played by Harold C. Hess, of Millikin university.



About Town ^{July 13, 1941}

ONE HUNDRED pounds of potato salad must be made by Helen Casner each day except one in the week to supply the customers of the Kelly potato chip company.

We can be quite enthusiastic about eating potato salad this kind of weather, but she is enthusiastic about making it. While they are peeling potatoes, by machinery, for potato chips, they peel 100 pounds especially for her. She ducks them in cold water to keep them white until she is ready to boil them.

Before boiling the potatoes she boils a dishpan full of eggs, grinds up a large bowl of onions and measures out the right proportion of spices and condiments for a 100 pound batch. Cleaning and inspecting the potatoes eliminates enough so that the final batch is just about 100 pounds.

AFTER THE POTATOES are boiled they are allowed to cool, while the eggs are being shelled. The cooled potatoes are diced through a small machine made especially for the purpose. The size of the pieces of potato are important as well as the seasoning. The buying public must always be able to depend upon a duplication of the kind of salad they prefer.

When we got back up town we began to look up this Casner family. They always have held a place among us that supplied a public need. The village of Casner, 12 miles east of Decatur, was named for Miss Casner's great-grandfather, Lewis B. Casner, who lived north of that village.

Way up near the peak on the north side of the building now occupied by the Post Jewelry Co., is a stone carved with the name "Casner" and the year 1882. We were told that this building was built by the same Lewis Casner after he had moved to Decatur and entered into the banking business. At one time Merchant street was known as Bank street because of the bank located upon it.

ANOTHER MARK of the presence of the Casners in Decatur is the building located at 500 West Main street now occupied by the Brinlinger's Funeral Home. Our attention was called to the fact that this building, too, was built by Lewis Casner, with a brick of the same clay and firing as those used in the bank building at the corner of Prairie and Merchant streets.

After following Lewis Casner around the circle of his life, from the time when his father gave him 80 acres of land near Casner to his prosperous days in Decatur, our thoughts turned again to his great-granddaughter Helen. No matter how tall or great her grandparents were, she has to do her own growing.

First of all she must grow in health. Health is one of the great branches on the tree of living. Also there must be the branch of applied intelligence. Next there must be some development of the things of the spirit. Then comes charity, in its many applications. If these four branches in life are well rounded out, it will be found that the branch of finance has grown along with it.

L. C. T.

About Town ^{May 15, 1944}

WE OFTEN WONDER how Dr. William Barnes found so much time and treasure to devote to the interests of others. One of the monuments he left for Decatur has fallen. The beautiful little park just north of the Decatur and Macon county hospital. In a glen that ran the length of one block he stocked a little running stream with fish. Many a boy grown to manhood testifies of this.

When the summer drouths came and there was danger that the little stream would dry up, water was furnished from a four inch main connected with the city water supply. In some way he got it in and in some way it was paid for.

That is just a sample of many like improvements which he made that ran into money. Along the length of this little stream, all within the hospital grounds, he built three dams that the fish might have a depth of water in which to play.

OTHERS THAN THE fish found relaxation there. One of the pools was made so deep that a plunge from a diving board located above it brought fair swimmers to no disasters. It was not unusual to see a dozen nurses, clad in so many different colored bath robes that they looked like a walking rainbow, drop their robes on the rocks and plunge into the pool. In those days the recreational advantages of a nursing course there were heralded far and wide.

More than 12,000 bushes and shrubs were brought from the neighboring counties as well as from Macon and systematically planted along both sides of the ravine. Joseph Claus was brought here from Lincoln to take full charge of the work. At times there were as many as ten men working on the project.

Stone steps led down to the ravine at either end. Flagstone foot bridges were laid across the stream at 10⁰ foot intervals. Rocks large and small were gathered in to make rock gardens.

WILD FLOWERS were brought in from all parts of Illinois. Any wild flower that would grow was given a place. As the trees and bushes began to develop, song-birds and butterflies expressed their appreciation by taking up their summer residence. The wild flowers were placed according to their likeness for sunshine or shade. Flowers that have a tendency to be poisonous to human beings grow in the shade. These also found a place along the north side of the little park.

Those who cared to take up the study of botany in the garden did so with a knowledge that their education in the matter of practical contact with native flowers would be complete. The gardner, Joseph Claus, was never too busy to assist anyone who inquired the name of a flower.

This beautiful creation at the hands of men began to go down with the passing of their creator. Today all is a wilderness. It is still a beautiful place. Nature has taken up the work where the hands of man left off.

We went through the glen with Logan Peck. He is an apt and thorough student of nature. He pointed out dozens of flowers our eyes would have missed; the wild ginger blossoms under our feet and the persimmons above our heads. We counted 20 different kinds of wild flowers whose ancestors were brought there under Dr. Barnes' direction.

L. C. T.



Harold Brintlinger, left, and Roy Rowe, demolition contractor, look at the museum building which for many years housed the

famed butterfly collection of the late Dr. Will Barnes. The museum, which for several years has been used as a storeroom,

will make way for an enlarged parking area for the Brintlinger Funeral Home, which is the former home of Dr. Barnes.

Decatur Collection Rated Largest in World

Barnes Butterfly Site Will Be Razed

By John R. Harpster

Of The Herald and Review Staff
The building which for many years housed the famed butterfly collection of the late Dr. Will Barnes is to be razed. 10-7-56

For the past several years the building has been used as a storeroom by the Brintlinger Funeral Home, which is the former home of Dr. Barnes. It is located at the rear of the funeral home.

Harold Brintlinger said the building, constructed to be fire, storm and earthquake proof, is being torn down to provide a larger parking area at the rear of the funeral home.

During the years the building housed Dr. Barnes' butterfly collection it was often visited by world-famous scientists.

The collection numbered about 473,000 specimens, including representatives of 10,000 different species, at least one of which has been extinct for decades.

The collection, each specimen of which was neatly labeled and catalogued, was contained in 1,172 drawers in 50 different cabinets.

It was sold to the federal govern-

ment in 1930 for exhibition in the Smithsonian Institution. The price was \$50,000, recognized as far less than its true worth.

Dr. Barnes, a prominent surgeon here for many years, left half the money to Decatur and Macon County Hospital, which he was instrumental in organizing.

The collection was prepared for shipment to the Smithsonian by Dr. August Busck, entomologist for the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

"You Decatur people don't realize what you have had here," Dr. Busck said at the time.

"This collection of butterflies," he said, "is what has put Decatur on the map of the world. In Europe or in Africa mention Decatur among scientists and they say, 'Oh, yes, Decatur, that's where that wonderful collection of butterflies is.'"

"Yes sir," Dr. Busck said, "you can talk all you want to about your coal mines (Decatur was then a mining center) and your industries, but Decatur was put on the map by these bugs."

Dr. Busck said entomologists who visited Dr. Barnes to see his collection found him to be "a lovable man, one whom they all respected and loved."

Collection Most Complete

Publications of the Entomological Society called Dr. Barnes' collection the "largest, finest and most complete" in the world.

About 50 years of work by Dr.

Barnes and collectors employed by him were represented by the collection.

Dr. Barnes, himself, spent much time searching in remote areas for rare specimens and at times had as many as six collectors working full-time for him.

The collection included specimens from every U. S. state and Canadian province, as well as other areas throughout the world.

Before his death Dr. Barnes once joked that his will would be easily broken because no one would trust the soundness of mind of a man who devoted to butterflies as much time as he did.

Experts who urged acquisition of the collection by the U. S. disagreed with him on this point, however.

They said the collection was invaluable to agriculture because it enabled experts to identify crop pests and devise means of combating them.

Dr. Barnes died May 1, 1930, and a short time later the collection was bought by the government.

On Aug. 7, 1930, the bugs which had made Decatur famous were shipped to their new home in the Smithsonian Institution in Washington.

10-7-56

Decatur Public Library
Decatur, Illinois

GREAT HEART

Q. M. 30

About the easiest things to obtain in Decatur are tributes to Dr. Will Barnes. They will come from all kinds of people. Everybody knew that here was a man that long since had ceased to care about himself. No ambition for wealth or increased fame moved him. He was utterly selfless.

The frail body that he had so recklessly driven housed a spirit a flame. His great and only passion was human welfare.

People thought they knew Dr. Barnes. Did they? Men like him are rare. Sometimes he banteringly suggested that his friends probably thought him a damned fool. "You fellows can't understand my fussing around with butterflies," he used to say. Nor did they. To ninetenths of the men that waved to him on the street, or met him in his club the scientist was simply incomprehensible. He had companions in his play, and in his hospital enterprises he had followers and helpers, but in his laboratory he worked alone, and that solitude was eloquent. He paid the penalty that the great men have to pay, the penalty of loneliness.

As a young man he came back to his native town with a surgical technique developed by the greatest hospitals of this country and Europe. He would have made a name for himself in any large city. Decatur and Central Illinois profited by his skill.

His later work which absorbed his failing strength is too well known to need comment. His money, his talent, his prestige all went for the cause that was nearest his heart. The hospital was his life. In its behalf he sputtered himself and his friends. His hopes for it were boundless. The greatest help to the greatest number at the smallest price was his ideal.

He had faults; he did not try to conceal them. He had weaknesses; they were perfectly apparent. But his virtues so far outweighed his defects that the defects can be forgotten. His strivings, even his enemies, would have admitted, were not for himself.

Like a thoroughbred he ran until he dropped. The end found him still working and planning for the well-being of people that he might never see or know. It would be a remarkable cynicism that would deny that Dr. Barnes loved his fellow men.

This Doctor Has Spent Half a Million Dollars for Butterflies

BUTTERFLIES have been the leading interest in the life of Dr. William Barnes, a broad-shouldered, athletic man despite his years. He has stored away in his own private museum, in Decatur, Illinois, one of the greatest collections of North American moths and butterflies in the world.

Doctor Barnes, who has also found time to become one of the leading surgeons of Central Illinois, has spent no small portion of the past fifty years of his life in gathering the specimens that fill his fireproof, stormproof museum from floor to ceiling. There is not a state in the country nor a province of Canada or Mexico that is unrepresented.

And while Doctor Barnes has gathered many of his specimens himself, he has also had numerous collectors working for him at one time and another. Nor can he place any definite figure on what his butterflies have cost him. It is somewhere between a half million and a million dollars.

Doctor Barnes formerly spent his vacations in search of butterflies in the Rockies. With a team of bronchos and guide, he spent whole weeks in the mountains, hoping for one day of wind and sun to dispel the cloud mists and reveal the rare trophies he sought. The work of a butterfly collector, according to him, is rather like that of a detective. The species is known, its markings, its habits, and the places where it is most likely to be found. With these clues, the chase takes on the character of a man-hunt.

Probably the earliest collectors who contributed to Doctor Barnes's museum were English explorers who pushed into the Northwest country and from thence into the Arctic wastes, in 1829. They were seeking a Northwest passage to India. Failing to find a short route to India's wealth, they brought back specimens of the insects, birds, and animals encountered.

The insects became a part of the collection of a French scientist, Oberthur. Doctor Barnes chanced to be in Europe at the time that the Oberthur collection was offered for sale. He hurried to the little French town in which Oberthur's heirs

only ones in the world—a butterfly species that is now extinct. These specimens were caught in a swamp where now the city of San Francisco stands. When the swamp was drained in order that the city might be built, the butterflies disappeared.

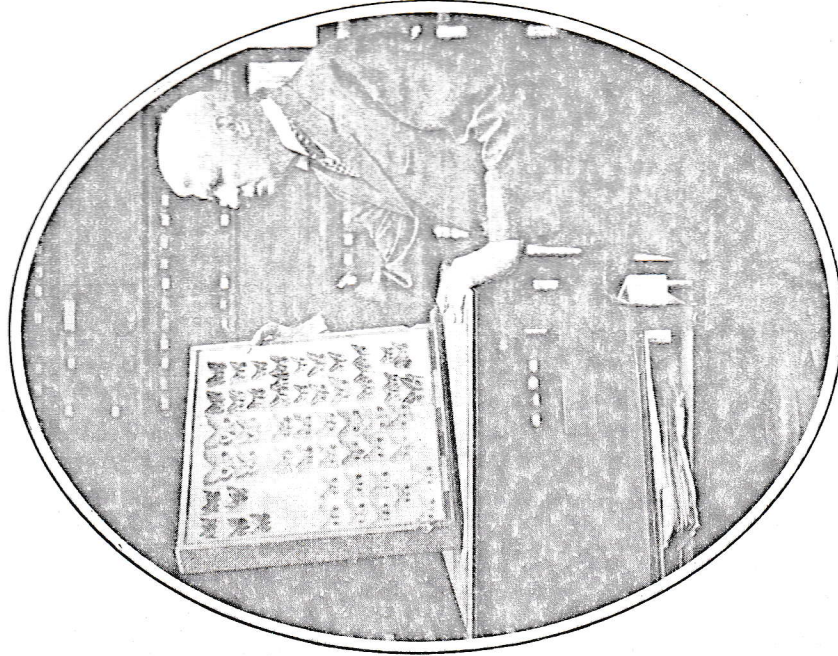
But there are all kinds in the collection, nearly ten thousand different species, of which Doctor Barnes and his curators have named and identified for the first time nearly one thousand. Mounted and labeled, they are filed away in tightly sealed drawers, tier upon tier. There are even many brilliant tropical specimens, which he acquired through the purchase of whole collections.

At times Doctor Barnes has had from four to five collectors in the field working for him throughout the year. Expeditions have gone to Baffin's Bay and Labrador, up peaks two miles high, and into fever-infested swamps. Doctor Barnes has paid out to these collectors from \$10,000 to \$20,000 a year. They send their prizes back in cigar boxes, and in the museum the delicate process of mounting and preservation is begun. At times there have been as many as fifty collectors—specialists—contributing to the Barnes collection on a commission basis.

Once the Government became interested in the purchase of the Barnes collection for scientific purposes. A bill was introduced in Congress appropriating \$310,000 for its purchase, and although it was defeated, a wealthy scientific foundation is working to the end that the collection will not be sold out of the country.

Butterflies have not been Doctor Barnes's only hobby. And in the interest that has come almost to usurp their place in his regard is seen the reason why he is willing to dispose of his collection.

This interest is the Decatur and Macon County Hospital which Doctor Barnes helped to establish. More money is needed



For the past fifty years, Dr. William Barnes, a surgeon of Decatur, Illinois, has devoted his spare time to collecting butterflies and buying up the collections of others. He is shown in his fireproof butterfly museum, which contains nearly ten thousand specimens

were auctioning off the collection and succeeded in acquiring for ten thousand dollars all the North American specimens. The Arctic specimens, a faint, iridescent green merging to pink, are among the dullest specimens in Doctor Barnes's collection.

There are other butterflies in the Barnes collection that have histories nearly as long.

There are three or four specimens the

for the hospital and he has promised the first hundred thousand dollars from the sale of his collection, to supplement his numerous other gifts.

Baseball is another of Doctor Barnes's interests. He was largely responsible for the building recently of a \$50,000 stadium on Decatur's baseball field. Golf is still another hobby.

In between hobbies he has found time to practice his profession, raise a family, entertain distinguished visitors who have come to see his collection, and play an important part in the life of his city and state.

Looking back, he remembers some of the leading men of his day at Harvard—Oliver Wendell Holmes and Louis Agassiz among others, the latter being the one who first fired him with a zeal to make a genuine contribution to the natural sciences.

MARQUIS W. CHILDS



WILLIAM BARNES, M. D., is one of the younger physicians of Decatur, yet is one of the most prominent, and his reputation as an able and skillful physician and surgeon extends far beyond the confines of Macon County. Of more than average ability, the endowments of nature have been supplemented by all that earnest application and study could bring about, and the

high rank to which he has attained in his profession is but the crown given to faithful endeavor.

The Doctor is a native of Decatur, born on the 3d of September, 1860. His father, Dr. W. A. Barnes, was also a well-known medical practitioner, who settled in Macon County at an early day and became widely known. Our subject graduated from the Decatur High School, after which he took a regular scientific course in Harvard University, graduating from that far-famed institution in the Class of '83. Desiring to follow in the professional footsteps of his father, he then entered upon the study of medicine in the Harvard Medical School of Boston, pursuing the regular three-years course and graduating in 1886 with the first honors of his class. Having completed that course, Dr. Barnes entered the Boston City Hospital as house surgeon, and there remained for two years. He studied under Prof. Alexander Aggasiz, at Newport, and under his direction prepared a thesis from original investigation on the subject of the development of the spinal cord.

Having performed satisfactorily the duties of house surgeon for the time above mentioned, the Doctor returned to Decatur, and in October, 1889, opened his present office. Not content, however, with the research he had already made, he resolved to delve deeper into the profession which he is making his life work, and went to Europe, traveling over that continent for some time. He was in a hospital in Vienna for one year, and in Munich, Germany, pursued a four-months course of study, taking a special diploma in gynæcology. He was also at Heidelberg for about five months as assistant to the celebrated surgeon, Czerny. Since his return to his native land he has engaged in practice in Decatur, but his professional duties often call him from the city. He has a reputation throughout the East, where he studied and practiced, and in Chicago as well. Whatever his ambitious nature and determined labor can accomplish in the line of his work, he has done. He will never cease to be a student of his profession, and a brilliant career seems opening before this young physician, who has already gained a patronage which might well be envied by many an older practitioner.

In 1891 Dr. Barnes was united in marriage with Miss Charlotte Gillette, daughter of John D. Gillette, the well-known cattle dealer, sometimes called "The Cattle King of Illinois." She is also a sister of Mrs. Gov. Oglesby. The Doctor and his wife reside at No. 332 West William Street, where they have a very beautiful and elegant home. Mrs. Barnes presides with a womanly grace and dignity and extends to their numerous friends the warm hospitality which makes the Barnes' home one of the most popular in the city.

The Doctor spends a part of each summer in the Rockies, engaged in hunting and other outdoor sports, of which he is especially fond. In social circles he is as favorably known as in professional life, and wherever he goes he wins a host of friends, who have for him the warmest regard.

May 1, 1930

"The Community Paper"

Dr. Will Barnes.

Dr. Will Barnes was the biggest man in Decatur. He is thus classified after consideration of the qualities that make men great.

He was up with the times in all that makes for human progress. With broad education and wide general information he kept himself informed of developments in many lines of knowledge. His friends were constantly being surprised to see new channels in which his interests lay and to which he gave his attention.

Naturally his mind, always alert, quick, and keen, centered on developments in his profession. In this none were ahead of him.

In many other directions he was better informed than the average person. In such subjects as city planning, public improvements, and horticulture he knew what was new and best. This indicates the diversity and extent of his intellectual activities.

He had a kindly interest in all the people of his community. He gave generous help, not only in a financial way, but of his time and thought, for every undertaking for community development. He was among the most liberal subscribers for almost every fund raised by popular subscription, but more than that, he gave time, thought and advice in the most open hearted and generous way.

Those in trouble or misfortune had his sympathy and, if possible, his assistance.

Seemingly rough and blunt in his language and demeanor, he never was that way when such language and bearing would give pain or cause embarrassment. Those who knew him suspected that his apparent roughness was simply a coat that covered the most tender feelings. Even casual acquaintances recognized immediately a kindly interest in all his words, and that was the reason that none took offense at things said by him which from many would have been an affront.

In his deliberations in the many committees on which he served he was quick to understand and decide and his judgments were remarkable for their fairness and wisdom.

The writer has seen him as a member of the Water Supply Company's board of directors, of different clubs, of the Community Chest executive committee, of the Decatur and Macon County Hospital board and other such organizations. In all of them he was a leader, a principal influence in arriving at conclusions and a pillar of strength because of the soundness and rightness of his opinions.

His work in building the Decatur and Macon County hospital is widely known. It is one of the best institutions of its kind in the country. It is what it is because of the sacrifice of time, money and himself. In all his undertakings he was just as great as in that.

It is for these reasons that the declaration is made that he was the biggest man

FUNERAL SERVICES FRIDAY AFTERNOON ASK NO FLOWERS

Funeral services for Dr. Barnes will be held Friday afternoon at 4 o'clock from the family residence at 500 West Main street.

His body will lie in state at the home Friday morning from 10 a. m. until 1 p. m. at which time friends may call.

The body will be taken to St. Louis Saturday for cremation.

The family asks that no flowers be sent.

What Friends Say of Him

Few men knew Will Barnes as intimately and through as many years as Charles LeForgee. It was a friendship which dated from boyhood.

"He will be missed," said Mr. LeForgee. "It just isn't in the cards for another man like Will Barnes to come along very soon."

"Never has there been a time when he was not the outstanding figure in all civic matters here. The Decatur & Macon County hospital, the hospital that Will Barnes built, one of the outstanding institutions of its kind in the country, is the best monument it is possible to make to his ability."

TREMENDOUS FORCE.

"He was possessed of a tremendous force, superb ability, and integrity which could not be questioned. That was why, within a few months after returning to Decatur from medical studies abroad, he became recognized as an outstanding factor in medical circles throughout Central Illinois. That was why in a few years he was heralded as one of the country's outstanding surgeons."

"Many are the stories told of the almost uncanny skill he used at his surgery. He was simply a genius in such matters. He had an artist's hands, beautiful and tapering. He was as persistent a man as I ever knew in his never-ending pursuit of his studies. And he read a tremendous amount of unusual material. He not only knew of many things. He could talk of them in an illuminating way."

CHARITABLE ACTS.

"He made the hospital a thing of his life. Other things were subordinated. Nor was it for his own purpose or advancement. His life was jammed so overflowing with kind, charitable acts of which only his more intimate friends ever learned, and then only by accident. I don't remember one single instance when he cited one of his kindly acts."

"He was more far-sighted, I think, than he has been given credit for in his butterfly collection. I have never believed that he thought of it as a hobby. Rather it was a distinct contribution to science. That collection has its place in the physical world. It may lead to a solution of the problem of insect pests which destroy human life. He never tired of going to his "bughouse", he called it, with a shaded lamp to study his butterflies."

A WEAKNESS.

"One of his weaknesses, I remember, was for Western stories. It is mine, too. And we used to kid each other about it. 'Well, how many were killed on the first page this time?' was one of his stock queries."

"Will Barnes was a man who played, and the way in which he played was a joy to everybody, whether at golf or at the circus. I'll never forget the time at the circus when we were going into the tent just as the procession of clowns went by. One clown was in a curious sort of rig drawn by a donkey. Well, Will Barnes climbed into that rig along with the clown and rode around the arena in state. And the whole crowd fairly shouted, for he was immediately recognized."

"When he felt the times were getting a bit dull, it was another of his little fancies to have a birthday party for himself and call in all of his friends. He must have had at least two or three birthdays every year."

OUTSPOKEN.

"Will Barnes was outspoken. He told his thoughts boldly and with more or less violence. He was not much of a diplomat, but he never hesitated, and no matter what the issue, he was always fair. Time has demonstrated that in about every case he was right in his judgment."

"And for all his rough exterior, there never was a man with as tender a heart as Will Barnes had. No, Decatur won't soon again know another man like him. It just isn't in the cards."

"Dr. Will Barnes was a good supporter and friend to the Decatur Art Institute," said Edward Fowers, Institute president, Thursday morning. "He was always glad to help keep things going and for this the Institute officials have been highly thankful to him."

May 1, 1930

Dr. William Barnes, Civic Leader, Dies

Succumbs To Heart Trouble After Long Illness—City Feels Loss.

Dr. Will Barnes, probably Decatur's best known citizen, head of the Decatur and Macon County hospital, senior member of the firm of Barnes & Tearnan, physicians and surgeons, 819-24 Millikin building, died at 7:15 o'clock Thursday morning at his home, 500 West Main street. He had been ill for several weeks, suffering from heart trouble. For the last two days his death had been expected at any time.

He would have been seventy years old in September.

HOSPITAL HIS LIFE

Born and reared in Decatur, coming from a family that had always been prominent from the early days of the city, Dr. Will Barnes himself achieved well deserved prominence and success. As a physician and surgeon he ranked with the best. The establishment of the Decatur and Macon County hospital was due more to his individual efforts than to those of any other person. He worked harder for the hospital than for his own success. He gave his life to it.

Dr. Barnes is survived by his wife and two children, Mrs. Gillette McArthur of Chicago and Will Barnes, Jr., of the Citizens' National bank. He also leaves a sister, Mrs. Mary Barnes Stanton, also of Decatur.

The body was taken to the Dawson & Wikoff funeral home.

FUNERAL FRIDAY.

Funeral services for Dr. William Barnes will be held Friday afternoon at 4 o'clock in the family residence, 500 West Main street. His body will lie in state at the home Friday morning from 10 until 1 o'clock at which time any friends or acquaintances may call.

The family has requested that no flowers be sent.

With Dr. Barnes at the end were his wife, Mrs. William Barnes; his daughter, Mrs. Selim W. McArthur of Chicago; and his son, William Barnes, Jr., Decatur.

Dr. Barnes passed away in his chair, in which he had been sitting during his recent illness of two weeks, it being impossible for him to lie down without causing a great heart disturbance. He had been seriously ill since two weeks ago today, Thursday.

Although unconscious a part of the time, Dr. Barnes was able to talk to members of the family until the end.

During the World war Dr. Barnes was active in the service of his country and was chairman of the medical advisory board of District No. 14 and chairman and inspector of the American Protective League. In 1923 Dr. Barnes was made one of the Macon county representatives in the Civil Legion which was organized to offer the same services to those who rendered patriotic service during the World war in non-uniformed activities as the American Legion offers to ex-service men.

COUNTRY CLUB.

Dr. Barnes was one of the first people to be interested in the forming of a country club in Decatur and he served as its president for twenty-one years. He belonged to the Decatur club, the University club, the Elks club, the South Side Country club and the City club all of Decatur. He was a member of the Harvard clubs of New York City and of Chicago and

DR. WILL BARNES BORN IN DECATUR

Dr. William Barnes was born in Decatur, Ill., Sept. 3, 1860, the son of William A. and Eleanor Sawyer Barnes. His early education was received in the Decatur schools and he graduated from the Decatur high school in 1877 as the salutatorian of his class.

In 1878 he attended the Illinois State Normal and the following year he was at the University of Illinois. From 1879 to 1883 he attended Harvard and took his B. S. degree from that university. He entered Harvard Medical school in 1883 and in 1886 he graduated from there and served his internship at the Boston City hospital. Dr. Barnes followed his internship with post graduate work in Europe studying at Heidelberg, Munich and Vienna.

On June 20, 1890 he married Charlotte L. Gillett of Elkhart, Ill., and they had two children, William A. Jr., and Gillette Barnes (Mrs. Selim McArthur.)

In 1890 Dr. Barnes began the practice of medicine in Decatur and from that time on was known as one of the most prominent physicians of this locality and one of the well known surgeons of the state. He not only had time to take care of his private practice but he was concerned over the affairs of the community in which he lived and took an active part in civic things as well.

HOSPITAL DIRECTOR.

Dr. Barnes meant much to Decatur and the hospital movement. He served as a director of the Bethesda Hospital association from 1902 to 1907, and since that time he was the president of the Decatur and Macon County Hospital association. It was Dr. Barnes that furnished the enthusiasm to keep going when anyone else would have been willing to have given up and admitted that no hospital could have been built. But the Decatur and Macon County hospital may be said to be the fruit of his efforts in the behalf of the welfare of the community.

of the University club of Chicago. Dr. Barnes belonged to the Central Illinois Golf Association and had served as president in that organization.

During the years of 1926 and 1927 Dr. Barnes was the president of the Decatur Community Chest when he directed and led the Community Chest activities for those years.

BUTTERFLY HOBBY.

To scientists the world over the name of Dr. Barnes is familiar due to his hobby of collecting butterflies. Dr. Barnes once said that he really could not say when he began collecting for when he was only five or six years old he had a collection of different kinds of flies. As he grew older he became interested in butterflies and his contact with the great scientist Agassiz at Harvard further showed Dr. Barnes the value of the making of a collection of insects and having it systematically arranged. Because of the great value of this collection of Lepidoptera Dr. Barnes had a specially fire proof addition constructed to his home for the purpose of housing his specimens. Scientists from everywhere called at Dr. Barnes' home in order to see this wonderful collection and he corresponded with many men whom he never saw but who had the same interest in butterflies as his own.

The collection as such was very fine and there was no attempt to gather specimens for their attractive and flashy appearance but rather to make a collection that would be complete and available to any scientist for study. Many of the specimens look very uninteresting to the ordinary layman but to the student of insect life they were quite important. The collection has nearly 500,000 specimens of butterflies and moths, including 15 original types and 4700 types, co-types and home-types and it is recognized officially as the largest collection of North American Lepidoptera in existence. Dr. Barnes spared himself neither trouble nor expense in bringing together such a collection and it has specimens from

5/1/30

Dr. Barnes' Death Saddens Hospital

Was Friend and Adviser
to All.

A note of sadness was prevalent Thursday at the Decatur and Macon County hospital where the workers all mourned the passing of their friend and adviser, Dr. William Barnes.

With the passing of Dr. Barnes, the hospital employes expressed their very apparent loss as Dr. Barnes was a constant visitor there. Even when feeling rather badly Dr. Barnes always managed to spend a short time each afternoon in the hospital talking with the attaches and giving advice when asked.

Dr. Barnes had a faculty for knowing everything that went on in the institution, from what took place in the office to the condition of the various departments.

SUCCESSOR NOT KNOWN.

As to who will take Dr. Barnes' place as head of the institution is not known. Carl R. Dick, vice president of the board has been presiding at the executive meetings during Dr. Barnes' recent illness.

Miss A. Faith Ankeny, superintendent of nurses at the Decatur and Macon County hospital in speaking of Dr. Barnes' passing said: "The School of Nursing suffers an irreparable loss in the death of Dr. Barnes. I know of no hospital school of nursing more finely conceived or more unselfishly administered than the Decatur and Macon County Hospital School of Nursing.

"Dr. Barnes had an unusual understanding of the difficulties peculiar to nursing and his confident vision of the future development of this profession will never fail to be an inspiration to any of us who have had the rare privilege of working with him."

SCHOLARSHIP FUND.

A scholarship fund, whereby it would be possible for nurses graduating from the Decatur and Macon County Hospital School of Nursing to continue their studies after graduation was one of many funds in which Dr. Barnes was interested.

Last fall a carnival was held by the nurses on the hospital grounds, proceeds from which were to go to this fund, at which time \$100 was raised. At Christmas time, Dr. Barnes added \$25 to the fund. It was his hope that people would constantly add to it thus enabling nurses to do special study following graduation.

ALWAYS REMEMBERED.

Never a Christmas, New Year's, graduation day went by without the School of Nursing receiving some gift from Dr. Barnes. Sometimes it was money, but more often it was something that the nurses had expressed a wish for. All of these gifts were given as from a friend, Dr. Barnes asking that his name be withheld.

Dr. Cecil M. Jack, president of the Macon County Tuberculosis sanatorium board in speaking of the passing of Dr. Barnes said:

"The death of Dr. Barnes will be a great loss to the community, especially as a professional man. He will be greatly missed."

Dr. O. O. Stanley, president of the Decatur Medical society and Visiting Nurses' association in speaking of the death of Dr. Barnes said:

"His death is a great loss to both organizations and to the community. We will feel his loss greatly."

Dr. Clarence E. McClelland, president of the Decatur and Macon County hospital staff made the following statement concerning Dr. Barnes:

"In the passing of Dr. Barnes the Decatur and Macon County hospital medical staff has lost its greatest inspiration. His council and advice concerning medical policies was always helpful and his judgment to be relied upon. He has been a living example of the ideal physician who has given everything at his disposal, time, energy and money toward the relief of the suffering. The Decatur and Macon County hospital will stand as a monument to this ideal."

"He was an outstanding scholar, and the man whom I considered as the most distinguished citizen of Decatur," said Dr. Mark E. Penney, Millikin president, when told of Dr. Barnes' death Thursday morning.

"Millikin awarded him an honorary doctor of science degree in 1929 in recognition of his great scientific and scholarly abilities and achievements. I knew him intimately. Certainly he was one of the greatest men I ever knew."

Dr. D. O. N. Lindberg, medical director of the Macon County Tuberculosis sanatorium in speaking of Dr. Barnes said: "Dr. Barnes will always be thought of in terms of his untiring devotion to the interests of the Decatur and Macon County hospital."

Wilson Bering of the Water Supply Co. said:

"Dr. Barnes had a very broad conception of municipal propositions, and he became most active in the organizing of the Decatur Water Supply company, of which he has always been a director and a regular attendant at its meetings. His sound advice and forceful arguments were ever looking to the future for the big things and permanent ones. We will miss him there, as the community will miss him in the many activities in which he participated, with his ability, generosity, and without regard for himself, always for the general good and future. An able, broad minded, and determined leader, the foremost citizen of today."



An early picture of Dr. Will Barnes taken when in college.



Dr. Will Barnes about 1908 at the height of his career.

BARNES COLLECTION OF BUTTERFLIES IS NATIONALLY KNOWN

Dr. William Barnes' collection of moths and butterflies numbering in the thousands is known throughout the world. The collection is housed in the specially constructed fireproof museum at the residence, 500 West Main street.

The butterflies made a flying trip into politics in 1922, when Allen F. Moore, Monticello, then congressman from this district introduced a bill for the purchase of the collection for a total of \$300,000 and \$10,000 for the cost of transportation of the collection to the Smithsonian Institute at Washington. However, the bill was never passed.

MONEY TO HOSPITAL.

In 1927, the St. Louis Post-Dispatch carried an article concerning the collection stating that an effort was being made to have an American foundation, such as the Rockefeller Foundation purchase it. At that time it was feared that the large collection would go out of the country. Money derived from the sale was to go to the Decatur and Macon County hospital.

Several years ago it was stated that the Barnes collection was so complete

that it would be used as the basis of the National collection, that is when it was thought that it would be sent to the National museum. The collection was then the largest in the country and it has been added constantly. At that time it numbered 7,261 of the North American lepidoptera.

Scientists from all over the country have visited the Barnes collection. Men are sent all over the country seeking new specimens. A curator is retained to look after the collection and to file the new specimens received from time to time.

WILD FLOWERS ANOTHER HOBBY

Flowers, particularly wild flowers, always were of great interest to Dr. William Barnes, who was considered an authority on the latter subject. The large wild flower gardens at the Decatur and Macon County hospital were planted under his direction and at his expense.

The gardens at the "Decatur and Macon County hospital are unusually attractive and this year Dr. Barnes had planned to put in a rock garden. Streams of water, stepping stones and a water fall add to the picturesque gardens."

Barnes Rites Held Friday

May 2, 1930

Arrangements Made for
200 At Home.

BODY TO ST. LOUIS

Private Burial Services
Later in Greenwood
Cemetery.

Arrangements were made for 200 persons to hear the funeral services for Dr. William Barnes Friday afternoon at 4 o'clock in the family residence, 500 West Main street. Rev. Stanley Allan Macdonell, rector of St. John's church, Episcopal, and Rev. Edward W. Clippinger, pastor of the First Presbyterian church, had charge of the services. There was no music.

Early Saturday morning the body will be taken to St. Louis for cremation. A private burial service will be held later, probably in Greenwood cemetery.

Those who will make the trip to St. Louis are Mrs. William Barnes, Mr. and Mrs. William Barnes, Jr., and Dr. and Mrs. Selim W. McArthur of Chicago.

Dawson and Wikoff are in charge of the funeral.

NO PALLBEARERS.

Since the burial was not held Friday afternoon, no pall bearers or honorary pall bearers were named.

Many beautiful floral offerings were received although the family requested that no flowers be sent. A large number of them were from out of town while others were from personal friends and organizations to which Dr. Barnes had been a member.

Those from out of town, who arrived in Decatur Friday to attend the services were:

Dr. and Mrs. L. L. McArthur of Chicago.

Joan McArthur, Chicago, granddaughter of Dr. and Mrs. Barnes, Mr. and Mrs. R. D. Wood of Winnetka.

Mrs. George Muffelman, Winnetka, Mrs. William Burrows of Lake Forest, the former Emmaline Lynch of Decatur.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph DeMange of Bloomington.

HOSPITAL EMPLOYEES.

Nurses and other employes of the Decatur and Macon County hospital were all given an opportunity Friday morning to visit the Barnes home during the hours that Dr. Barnes' body rested in state. Cars were provided to take them to the Barnes residence where they paid their respects to their friend and advisor.

Dr. Rush E. Castelow, superintendent of the hospital, also arranged so that the older employes could attend the funeral services.

OFFICES CLOSED.

The offices of Drs. Barnes and Teerman, 312-324 Millikin building remained closed all day Friday in respect to the senior member of the firm, Dr. William Barnes. A wreath of flowers was placed on the door Thursday morning by Dr. C. H. Teerman, junior member of the firm.

Dr. Barnes was a fellow of the American College of Surgeons and a member of twelve influential scientific and entomological associations and societies, the American Medical Association, American Association for Advancement of Science, Illinois Medical Society, American Entomological Society, American Association of Economic Entomology, Entomological Societies of France, London, New York, Brooklyn and Washington, Macon County Medical Society and the Illinois Academy of Science.

MILLIKIN DEGREE.

Dr. Barnes made many contributions as an author, among them his "Contributions to Natural History of Lepidoptera of North America" in twenty-three parts and containing nearly 10 pages, his "Check List of Lepidoptera of Boreal North America," an ninety-five articles published in various entomological journals.

On July 1, 1929, Millikin University conferred the degree of Doctor of Science upon Dr. Barnes because of his outstanding merit in the line of human endeavor.