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Dr. Charles P. Lantz: Eastern Illinois University 1911-1952

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DR. CHARLES P. LINTZ:

EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY 1911-1952

(TITLE)

BY

CHARLES F. FLAMINI
B.S. IN EDUCATION
EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY, 1968

THESIS

SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS
FOR THE DEGREE OF
MASTER OF SCIENCE

IN THE GRADUATE SCHOOL, EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
CHARLESTON, ILLINOIS

1971
YEAR

I HEREBY RECOMMEND THIS THESIS BE ACCEPTED AS FULFILLING
THIS PART OF THE GRADUATE DEGREE CITED ABOVE

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

It is the purpose of this study to collect facts and data to be presented chronologically, concerning the life of Charles P. Lantz and his effect upon the development of physical education and athletics at Eastern Illinois University. It is also the intention of this thesis to place the many facets of his career into the broader spectrum of Charles P. Lantz the teacher, the coach, and the individual.

The historical method of research will be employed:

Several procedures are involved in the historical method of research: selecting and delimiting the problem; collecting and classifying source materials; formulating tentative hypotheses to explain events or conditions; and interpreting and presenting the facts or findings.¹

The following newspapers, books, bulletins, and yearbooks were consulted: newspapers, the Charleston Courier-News, the New York Journal American, the Teachers College News, the Normal School News, the Eastern State News, and the Eastern News; books, Fifty Years of Public

¹M. Gladys Scott, Research Methods in Health, Physical Education, and Recreation (Washington, D.C.: AAHPER, 1959) p. 469.

Service; bulletins, the Eastern Alumnus, the Eastern Illinois State Normal School Bulletin, the Normal School Bulletin, the Teachers College Bulletin, and the Eastern Illinois State Teachers College Bulletin; and yearbooks, the Eastern Illinois W'apper and Warblers. The thesis also relies on the following theses:

1. The History of Intramural Sports For Men at Eastern Illinois University 1899-1966, by Lawrence Crociani
2. The History of Basketball at the Eastern Illinois University from 1904-1962, by Virgil M. Jacobs
3. The History of Intercollegiate Baseball at Eastern Illinois University from 1904-1962, by Ronald Kirby
4. The History of Intercollegiate Track and Field at Eastern Illinois University from 1912 Through 1966, by Joel A. Justis
5. The History of the Illinois Intercollegiate Athletic Conference, by Charles P. Lantz

Personal interviews from the following people were used: Maurice Hampton, Maurice Foreman, John Powers, J.D. Belt-ing, Ivan Kennard, and Walt Warmoth, all former athletes and friends of Lantz; Dr. John Masley, physical education staff member and Lantz's successor; Dr. Glenn Seymour, member of the history department and personal friend of Lantz; Dr. Maynard O'Brien, Dr. Thomas Katsimpalis, and Rex V. Darling, all physical education staff members and personal friends of Lantz. Written questionnaires from the following people were used: Mrs. Natalie Thompson, daughter of Charles Lantz; Glen Hesler, ex-Eastern athlete; Dempsey Reid, faculty representative from Western Illinois University; and Howard Hancock, faculty representative and athletic

director emeritus from Illinois State University.

A number of problems have caused apparent weaknesses in this history. The vastness of source material and persons available for interview spans over a period of forty years, thus lending itself to a problem of selection of those people most representative of the various eras in his career. Therefore, the potential information of many individuals well suited to expound on Dr. Lantz have been unfortunately omitted. Also those personal items of Dr. Lantz' that would be of significance to researchers have never been centrally located and organized. The scope of such a research may have caused some unintentional omissions of significant data and events that may have occurred.

The chapters will be organized as follows: Chapter II, The Early Life of Charles P. Lantz; Chapter III, The Formative Era 1911-21; Chapter IV, The Era of Development 1921-35; Chapter V, The Era of Guidance 1935-52; Chapter VI, Dr. Charles P. Lantz, Athletic Director Emeritus; Chapter VII, The End of an Era; and Chapter VIII, Summary and Analysis. Chapters III, IV, and V make up the body of the thesis and within these chapters are sections concerning the physical education program development, athletic team results, professional involvement, and when applicable his personal life. An appendix will be used for an annotated bibliography to describe the content and theme of each selected reference.

CHAPTER II

THE EARLY LIFE OF CHARLES PHILIP LANTZ

Charles Philip Lantz was born in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, on December 14, 1884, the son of William L. and Henrietta Lantz. He received his early education in the Harrisburg schools and after "... two years at Harrisburg High School,, he completed his secondary education at Gettysburg Academy." During his high school career, Lantz starred in football and baseball but never participated in basketball in which he later became an outstanding player in college.¹

In 1904, Lantz entered Gettysburg College and began an outstanding athletic and academic career. He quarterbacked the football team for four years, played third base on the baseball team four years, and was for four years a guard on the basketball team.² His basketball success was an oddity considering that he had never played the game in high school; later in his career he

¹News item in the Eastern State News, May 16, 1962, p. 8, and the program for the Dedication: Charles Philip Lantz Gymnasium, October 18, 1953.

²News item in the Charleston Courier-News, September 2, 1911, p. 1.

related that basketball was an easy game for a baseball player to learn to play.¹ Lantz also played on the Gettysburg 'eleven' that held the University of Pennsylvania team to a 6-6 tie and played on a team that held Penn State scoreless 0-0 on Penn's home field.²

Baseball was the sport in which Charles Lantz excelled and enjoyed most; and during his four years he was the lead-off batter for the Gettysburg squad. Dr. Hobart Heller, also an alumni of Gettysburg, in a speech at the dedication of Lantz Physical Education and Recreation Building in 1966, best summed up Lantz' success as a baseball player at Gettysburg:

... I had heard of Charlie Lantz when I was an undergraduate, for he had been one of the great athletes ... He had played baseball with Eddie Plank, and against the immortals, Christy Mathewson of Bucknell and Chief Bender of the Carlisle Indian School.³

During the summers he played and managed semi-professional baseball teams and due to the less stringent rules; he received remuneration for his services. Lantz, affectionately referred to as 'Charley', left Gettysburg fans a legacy of athletic excellence.⁴

¹News item in the Teachers College News, October 13, 1933, p. 1.

²"Grand Old Man To Retire, Services Eastern For 41 Years," The Eastern Alumnus, Spring, 1952, p. 3.

³Information expressed by Hobart Heller in an address (" The Dedication for Taylor Hall and Lantz Physical Education and Recreation Building ") at Eastern Illinois University, September 17, 1966.

⁴News item in the Teachers College News, September 16, 1929, p. 3.

Charles Lantz produced outstanding results as a student also; he was class president his sophomore year, assistant manager of the school music club, associate bussiness manager of the school news, and received honorable mention in the Pittsburg Chemistry Prize.¹ Toward the end of his college years Lantz was confronted with a decision that shaped his life. In 1908 he received a Bachelors Degree with a major in chemistry and had two options; to work as a chemist in a steel factory or as a banker. Lantz's daughter spoke of this decision as a surprise to his family:

...he had graduated with honors in chemistry and had been offered several fine positions in industry. He also could have gone into banking. He had an uncle in New York who was a president of a bank and was interested in hiring him. He used to send him \$100 bills² when he was in college (which he really needed)
...

Neither of these options were chosen, he took the advice of a Gettysburg instructor, Dr. Nixon, and decided to enter coaching as a career.³

His college career included membership in the Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity. His college years were also filled with boyish pranks "... such as putting a

¹W'apper (Published by the students of Eastern Illinois State Normal School, 1913), p. 72.

²Based on personal correspondence between Mrs. Natalie Thompson, daughter of the late Charles Lantz, and the writer, on February 22, 1971.

³Eastern Alumnus, September, 1948, p. 4.

cow in the belfry of the main building and putting the assembly room chairs in an old box car away from campus."¹

Immediately following graduation in 1908, Lantz began an unexpected teaching and coaching career at the Harrisburg Academy that lasted until the spring of 1911.² He taught chemistry and mathematics, while coaching all sports. Feeling a need for a professional background in physical education and athletics, he attended the Chautauqua Physical Education School during the summers of 1908 and 1909.

On November 25, 1909, Charles P. Lantz married a Miss Mary Elizabeth Eshelman, daughter of Benjamin and Caroline Eshelman of Columbia, Pennsylvania. In 1911, just prior to his coming to Eastern, the first of two daughters was born, Natalie Virginia Lantz.³

¹Thompson, op. cit., October 21, 1969.

²Courier-News, op. cit., p. I.

³Dedication of Lantz Gym, October 18, 1953, op. cit.

Summary

The early years of Charles Lantz were busily spent in study and athletic activities. His most notable accomplishments were made on the baseball diamond, but the one event of prime significance was his choice to become a coach and not a chemist or a banker. Dr. Nixon's effect upon Lantz seems to be the causative factor along with his natural love of sports. Perhaps a natural compromise was achieved between his intended career and his chosen one; since he was still involved with chemistry through his teaching. These events seem to have prepared Charles Lantz for a long and rewarding life in athletics and physical education.

CHAPTER III

THE FORMATIVE ERA 1911-21

The Advent Of Charles P. Lantz

Eastern Acquires a Coach

After three years of teaching and coaching at the Harrisburg Academy, Lantz decided to find a new position. In the fall of 1911, Lantz came to Eastern at the age of twenty-six.¹ He came primarily seeking work on the college level rather than the high school level under which he had been teaching for three years.² It is not a certainty of how the initial contact was made between Lantz and the Normal school, but it was well known that during this period many teachers went through large employment agencies. Yet the method most generally used by Mr. Lord was to take trips to the East to secure faculty members. Mr. Lord relied on his personal contact heavily, "...he was a great persuader and could explain to them what he was doing, therefore inspiring enthusiasm."³ Lantz met Mr. Lord in New

¹News item in the Eastern State News, May 16, 1962, p. 8.

²Thompson, op. cit., February 22, 1971.

³Statement by Dr. Glenn Seymour, personal interview, August 11, 1970.

York for an interview. The following letter dated June 26, 1911, suggests previous contact by letter:

My dear Sir:

I am very much interested in your letter. On receipt of this please let me know whether you would come here for a personal interview if we paid your expenses. We can pay \$1500 the first year. And also, on receipt of this, I shall be glad to have you forward any credentials you may have at hand.

Yours very truly,

L.C. Lord¹

Regardless of how the initial contact was made, Lantz came into contact with a very cogent spokesman for the small Normal school.

The September 2, 1911 arrival of Lantz to the Charleston community was a locally heralded event. The front page of the Charleston Daily Courier announced the event:

Charles P. Lantz, the physical director of the Eastern Illinois State Normal school, accompanied by Mrs. Lantz and daughter, arrived in Charleston and will reside in the home recently vacated by Mr. and Mrs. Thomas H. Briggs. The local school should be congratulated upon securing the services of Mr. Lantz as he has always taken an active interest in athletics and is an all round (sic) man...²

Among the duties of the newly acquired instructor was the teaching of all physical education, the coaching of all sports, and the instruction of mathematics.³

¹The exact text of a letter to Charles P. Lantz from Livingston C. Lord, provided by Mrs. Natalie Thompson, February 22, 1971.

²Courier-News, loc. cit.

³Charles H. Coleman, "Fifty Years of Public Service", Eastern Illinois State College Bulletin, no. 189(1950), p. 150.

At the time of his arrival, the Eastern Illinois State Normal School had an enrollment of approximately 400 students. The normal school concept was in wide use throughout the state of Illinois; it was merely a combination of a junior college and high school curriculum in which its' primary duty was to prepare teachers for the public schools. The small campus was composed of three buildings; the Main building, the school greenhouse, and Pemberton Hall which was a combination of a dormitory and a small gymnasium.¹

Pre-Lantz Physical Education and Athletics

In the twelve years prior to Charles Lantz coming to Eastern, athletics had become a very important portion of the schools development. Within three weeks of the opening of school in 1899, a group of students organized an "Athletic Association". Its' purpose was to "act in connection with the management of the school in directing the various forms of athletics which shall be indulged in by the students of the school." Both students and teachers could join for a fee of 25¢ and dues of 10¢ per month. By October of 1899, there was a football team composed of 45 members. Football like baseball was coached during this period by instructors in the school, but basketball did not receive its' impetus until Lantz came to Eastern.²

¹Courier-News, loc. cit., and *ibid.*, pp. 70-71.

²Coleman, *ibid.*, pp. 143-144.

Also, during this period the largest athletic event was the annual "Athletic and Oratorical Meet" which began in 1909. This event was held each May and would attract twenty to forty high schools from east central Illinois with approximately 200-400 track contestants and 50 speech participants. The good turn out and success was due in part to the fact that no state track meet existed at this time.¹

The physical education program prior to Lantz was best described in Colemans', Fifty Years of Public Service, in an article written by Lantz:

Physical education started about the time the college opened in 1899 but for women only. When I came in 1911 physical education was being taught to the women by Miss Christianson. The program for men started in the fall of 1911 and it was new to about all the men in the college...²

Therefore, organized physical education for men was a nonexistent portion of the school program prior to the advent of Charles P. Lantz.

Athletic and Professional Achievements

Lantz took the helm of an athletic program that had been slowly evolving since 1899. The school was small and the challenge of developing a program of athletics and physical education was large. This division discusses

¹Ibid., pp. 150-151.

²Ibid., p. 231.

Lantz' early football, basketball, track, and baseball coaching; it also describes his involvement in the Illinois Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.

Football

Soon after his arrival in Charleston, Lantz immediately began plans for a football team for the fall of 1911. The Charleston Daily Courier heralded this instantaneous activity in its' feature article on September 2, "... That he is a hustler is seen when it is known he will start foot ball (sic) practice Monday, September 4, and will select his football team before many weeks."¹

In this first season as guide of the Normal school squad his team recorded four victories and only two defeats. The highlight of the season was the 104-0 victory over Pana High School.² The 1913 season was capped by the Eastern team becoming the Illinois Intercollegiate Athletic Association champion which was decided on the final day of the season. Eastern played Millikin on Thanksgiving Day at Decatur for the championship. The game ended in a three to three tie. Both scores were on drop kicks; Easterns being scored by quarterback Sumner Wilson with seconds remaining. Since Eastern had not

¹Courier-News, loc. cit.

²Statement by Maurice Hampton, personal interview, August 4, 1970.

lost a game during the season and Millikin had been defeated once, Eastern became the conference champion.¹ Lantz was credited by the 1913 W'apper as being the moving spirit behind the successful season, "... the success of these teams has steadily increased ... His estimate of a man is very accurate. Saying little he inspires a fight-to-the-finish spirit in any team."²

One of the most popular players in the early history of Eastern football was Martin Schahrer, an end and a guard, who was killed in action during World War I. The football field was later named after him at the request of Lantz.³

The overall win and loss record for this period in football was forty-one victories, twenty-three defeats, and five ties. The 1913 and 1914 teams were conference champions. In considering that Eastern was playing schools that were primarily four year institutions, the Lantzmen performed quite well. Most students would enter the Normal school at the age of nineteen.⁴

Basketball

Basketball as an intercollegiate sport was new in

¹Ibid.

²W'apper, op. cit., p. 78.

³Coleman, op. cit., p. 226.

⁴Coleman, *ibid.*, and Hampton, *loc. cit.*

1912 when Lantz began his first season. Regardless of the unseasoned team, this season brought forth eight wins and two defeats. According to Maurice Hampton, the first team traveled to many games in horse and buggies. Rules differed in these days, "... In 1912, one player shot all the free throws for his team. The referee for the game was usually the home team coach,"¹

The 1912-13 and 1913-14 teams yielded records of two victories and seven defeats and nine wins and four losses respectively. The 1914-15 season proved to be one of the most successful ones for the Eastern squad, as they recorded fourteen wins and only three losses. The 1915-16 team was lead by a most outstanding player, Earl Anderson, who was a phenomenal offensive and defensive player. He stood about 6'0" and was an outstanding rebounder. Against Blackburn College he scored an amazing thirty-five points.

Prior to the 1916-17 season Pemberton Gymnasium was enlarged to give the participants more playing area. Eastern suffered its' first losing season in four years, due in part to the transfer of Earl Anderson to the University of Illinois.² In the college tournament

¹Maurice Hampton, interview, and Virgil M. Jacobs, "The History Of Basketball At The Eastern Illinois University"(unpublished Master's thesis, Eastern Illinois University, 1959), p.6.

²Jacobs, *ibid.*, pp. 7-11.

this year Eastern recorded two victories and two defeats. In Jacobs', History of Intercollegiate Basketball at Eastern, Lantz gives a description of basketball during this era:

The team in the early years of the game usually averaged about 5'10" in height. Each team usually had one or two good offensive players. The defensive man assigned to guard the outstanding offensive man usually made no attempt to score himself. All teams concentrated on the College Tournament held during the year. There were often as many as 17 entered. The tournament usually started on Wednesday and ended on Saturday. Five or six games might be played in one day.¹

The 1917-18 season had no games due to the war and the lack of young men on campus. The 1919-20 season yielded a record of nine wins and ten defeats. The 1920-21 and 1921-22 teams produced records of four wins - two losses and three wins - twelve losses respectively.

This era in basketball coaching for Charles Lantz produced an overall record of 79 victories and 78 defeats. Again this represents an Eastern team that played many four year institutions.²

¹Ibid., p. 9, this statement was taken by Jacobs in a personal interview with Lantz on July 17, 1958.

²Ibid., pp. 12,13,16, and Coleman, loc. cit., p. 378, there is a variance in win and loss records in the sources cited above, Coleman gives 76 victories and 66 defeats for the same period. The writer chooses to use those totals established in the thesis of Jacobs', since it deals primarily with basketball, is of more recent edition, and primary source materials were used in the investigation.

Track

In the spring of 1912, Coach Lantz introduced track as a varsity sport at Eastern. He worked energetically with the team and that spring Eastern handily defeated Charleston High School in a dual meet. The first intercollegiate meet was held the same year with Rose Poly of Terre Haute and Eastern was victorious by a wide margin. This first team consisted of ten men and each competed in at least two or more events. They were: Richard Ginther, hurdles and relays; James Butler, in the 50, 100, 220, and relays; Benjamin Anderson, in the high jump and dashes; David Kime, in the pole vault and broad jump; James Hill, in the shot put and hammer; Paul Ewald, in the mile and 880; Ferdinand Steinmetz, in the shot put, hammer, and discus; Frank Lindhorst, in the relay, 220, and 440; Arthur Frazier, in the 440 and 880; and Leonard Stratton, in the high jump.¹

Following this season Eastern track teams were coached by various instructors outside the field of physical education therefore Lantz ceased to be directly involved in the track and field activities at Eastern.

Baseball

In 1912 Lantz took over the reins as baseball

¹Joel A. Justis, "The History of Intercollegiate Track and Field at Eastern Illinois University From 1912 Through 1966" (unpublished Master's thesis, Eastern Illinois University, 1966), pp. 4-5.

coach from A.B. Crowe, and began a career of coaching baseball for forty-one seasons.¹ The season was highlighted by defeating Indiana State two times. The season record of six victories, three defeats, and one tie spoke well as an introductory year with the Eastern 'nine'. The 1912 team members were: David Kime, catcher; Homer Samson, pitcher; Merle Rankin, centerfield; Bruce Corzine, first base; Edward Hill, pitcher; Cecil Flaherty, short-stop; Harvey Morrisson, right field; Robert Briggs, second base and third base; Maurice Hampton, pitcher; and Malcolm Halmin in left field.²

The 1913-14-15 seasons yielded records of eight and eight, two and eight, and four and nine respectively. His 1916 team recorded the second highest number of wins by an Eastern team. They provided Lantz with eight victories and only four defeats. In 1917, Lantz had an undefeated team with a three victory and no loss record, but they played only three games of a scheduled thirteen due to the war. They defeated Millikin, an Oakland town team, and a Charleston town team. In 1918, the Lantz 'nine' produced a seasons record of three wins and four defeats.³ The 1919, 1920, and 1921 teams

¹Ronald F. Kirby, " The History of Intercollegiate Baseball at Eastern Illinois University from 1904-1962 ", (unpublished Master's thesis, Eastern Illinois University, 1962), p. 14.

²Ibid., p. 17.

³Ibid., pp. 18-30.

registered records of one and six, three and six, and three and two respectively.

The overall success of this era of baseball under coach Lantz shows a considerable variance in win and loss records. The Coleman, Fifty Years of Public Service gives thirty-five victories and thirty-eight defeats and one tie but the baseball thesis shows forty-one wins, fifty losses, and one tie. The writer prefers to use those produced by the baseball thesis, due to its more recent date, its' dealing primarily with baseball records authenticated by primary sources.¹

Conference Affiliation and Position

In his second year as coach, Eastern entered the Illinois Intercollegiate Athletic Association as the thirteenth member in December of 1912. The conference had flourished since its inception in 1908. It began primarily as a track meet sponsoring organization of institutions. Easterns' early years of involvement with the conference were difficult.² These problems were best expressed by Lantz in the 1920 Warbler; "... Practically every school in the conference has more boys enrolled than has E.I." Another problem was the large number of schools in the conference, therefore championships were quite difficult to attain. By 1920

¹Ibid., pp.14- 30, and Coleman, op. cit., p. 378.

²Coleman, op.cit., p. 224 and Justis, op. cit., p. 6.

the conference was composed of nineteen schools and appropriately nicknamed the 'Little Nineteen'. It was renamed the Illinois Intercollegiate Athletic Conference in June of 1920.¹

During the early era of Lantz' coaching at Eastern, he soon became an important functionary in the conference. He was elected vice president in 1914, 1915, and 1916; and in 1919, 1920, and 1921 he was president of the I.I.A.C.²

Development of the Physical Education Curriculum

The development of the physical education program was the product of Charles Lantz. Since the program began for men upon his arrival its' importance is quite evident. This division will be separated into two areas; the required and the professional programs in physical education.

Required Physical Education Program

Upon Lantz's arrival he found that a required physical education program was nonexistent. He soon organized some classes in the fall of 1911. All male students were required to take the class which met two hours a week, unless they were specifically limited by

¹Coleman, *ibid.*, and a news item in the Teachers College News, October 13, 1933, p. 2.

²Coleman, *ibid.*, p. 225.

a doctors written excuse. The program simply consisted of "... personal advice and suggestions regarding habits of life, recreation, study, and exercise best suited to individual development..."¹

The course structure was further refined the following year when three specific courses began to emerge from his newly inaugurated program. They were: course one, composed of regular exercises, free exercises, marching, apparatus, and games; course two, which was work on the horse, parallel bars, advanced steps, and games; course three, which was practice in teaching with hygiene and kinesiology.² At this time the program became quite popular with the students. A special class directed by Lantz gave an annual demonstration at the end of the winter term that presented regular class exercises and special work on the parallel bars, horse, rings, and mats.³

Throughout the duration of this era the program in required physical education remained generally the same until 1918. In 1918 the question of establishing a student army training corps unit at Eastern was presented by Lantz. Lantz supported this idea and attended Fort Sheridan during the summer of 1918 to be trained

¹Eastern, Illinois State Normal School Bulletin, No. 33, (1911), p. 71.

²Ibid., No. 36, (1912-13), p. 73.

³W'apper, op. cit., p. 95.

to work with these units. Lantz planned to train Eastern boys in his physical education classes but due to the lack of men on campus the state department failed to grant Eastern a unit. Nevertheless, he drilled his students during class time. By 1920 the curriculum consisted of six courses which were all general required physical education.¹

The Professional Program

The professional program began its early development in 1916 soon after the required program was in full operation. During the summer of this year two courses were introduced with numerical prefixes that were professionally oriented. Course 1 was athletic coaching of football, basketball, and baseball, it consisted of "... classroom work, lectures, interpretation of rules, the techniques of the game...". Course 2 was simply " playground management" for those to become involved in the instruction of physical education in the public schools.

The fall of 1916 brought forth a further development of the summer coaching course with the beginning of courses 5 and 6. They dealt primarily with baseball, basketball, football, and track, and were composed mainly of classroom work.³

¹Coleman, op. cit., p. 174.

²Bulletin, op. cit., No. 51, (1916), p. 54.

³Ibid., No. 52, (1916-17), p. 53.

By 1920 a complete physical education program emerged, composed of both required and professional courses. The required program consisted of courses numbered 1 through 6. The professional courses were renumbered and reconstructed with enrollment in the classes being in combination with athletic team participation. Along with athletic team membership a portion of the teaching week was devoted to classroom theory in the given sport in season. The courses were numbered 33, 34, and 35 for the freshman or first year and 36, 37, and 38 for the sophomore or second year.¹

¹Normal School Bulletin, No. 68, (1920), p. 81.

Summary

Lantz came to Eastern at the age of twenty-six seeking work on a college level. His decision to come to Eastern from an area where good athletic programs were already in existence demonstrates in the opinion of this writer, his desire to develop a program of athletics and physical education of his own design. He certainly was greatly challenged since the normal school had only a student body of 400 and was playing an inter-collegiate schedule of teams made up of four year degree granting institutions.

Lantz coached all sports with the exception of track during this era without assistance. In football his teams produced an outstanding record of forty-one victories, twenty-three defeats, and five ties along with a conference title in his second year. In basketball he started with a group that had never played in any official game. The game became quite popular under the guidance of Lantz and caused the first improvements to Pemberton Gymnasium to be made to accommodate the ever increasing crowds. The win and loss records in basketball for this era was seventy-nine victories and seventy-eight defeats. In baseball Lantz began a coaching career that would last for forty-one years. During this era he produced a moderately successful record of forty-one victories, fifty defeats, and one tie. In close

relation to his athletic program was his active participation in the conference. He served as president three times and vice-president three times during this era.

His development of the physical education program, both the required and the professional was quite notable. Most impressive is that in 1916, soon after the required program was well established he began introducing professional courses, even though the school would not offer a minor in the field.

CHAPTER IV

THE ERA OF DEVELOPMENT 1922-35

Athletic and Conference Affiliation

Football

A major change was initiated at Eastern during the summer of 1921 when Governor Small signed a bill to change Easterns' title to Eastern Illinois State Teachers College making it a four year degree granting institution. Now Coach Lantz's teams could participate more equitably with other four year institutions.¹

The 1923 Eastern football squad recorded four victories, two defeats, and two ties.² In reference to the Lantz method of football coaching, Glen Hesler described Eastern football at this time:

Mr. Lantz taught the basic principles of the game. No frills just hard-nosed football. Our backfield ran from the "T" formation with very few passes. The old statue of liberty play was perfected and used probably twice a year.³

¹Coleman, op. cit., p. 187.

²Ibid., p. 377.

³Based on personal correspondence between Mr. Glen Hesler and the writer on October 22, 1970.

This season was successful despite the fact that he had to build a squad from a group of only five returning letterman and a number of average high school players.¹

The 1924 squad again provided Lantz with a winning season by gaining five victories and three defeats. During this season the Teachers College News began to increase its backing of the football squad in a skillfully written article that spoke of the contribution which the fans could make to a winning season. " It is just as important to have loyal rooters as it is to have skillful players..."²

The 1925 and 1926 teams produced records of five wins, three losses, and one tie; and three wins, five losses, and one tie respectively.

The 1927 season ushered in an era of four successive outstanding teams for Lantz. The overall win and loss record for this period was twenty-four victories, four defeats, and two ties. The 1927 squad produced a five and two record.³ According to Lantz this was the best team he had ever coached. Eastern scored 109 points to only 35 for their opponents. Balanced scoring was the key to success. Of the seventeen touchdowns scored,

¹Warbler (Published by the students of Eastern Illinois State Teachers College, 1924), p. 67.

²News item in the Teachers College News, November 10, 1924, p. 3.

³Coleman, op. cit., p. 377.

eleven were by different players.¹ The team tied for second place in the I.I.A.C. and the Warbler praised Lantz's success in his seventeenth year as head coach at Eastern;

...he is like a Willys-Knight 'Improves with use.' This year he proved to the psychological world that an old dog can learn new tricks by uncorking new plays which accounted for our teams success.²

The Eastern squad of 1928 was co-champion of the conference along with Millikin. This team produced seven wins, no losses, and one tie. The squad featured the outstanding play of Pete Fenoglio, Burl Ives, Frank Gibson, Joe Kirk, Bill Stone, Leland Routledge, Fred Creamer, and the superb running of John Powers. On Christmas day of the same year Lantz was honored by his fellow coaches in the conference when he received a gold football watchcharm for the outstanding teams he had produced for the past season.³

The 1929 squad again followed with a noteworthy record of six wins and one loss but the team that produced the most phenomenal success was the 1930 squad. This year became known as "the year of the uncrossed goal line". The Eastern starting lineup included: Wasem, left end; Kirk,

¹News item in the Teachers College News, November 28, 1927, p. 1.

²Warbler (Published by the students of Eastern State Teachers College, 1928), p. 67.

³News item in the Teachers College News, January 7, 1929, p. 3.

left tackle; Chesser, left guard; Frank Buckler, center; Atterberry, right guard; Pricco, right tackle; Paul Buckler, right end; Hance, quarterback; Smith, left halfback; Powers, right halfback; and Deverick at fullback. Powers was the leading scorer this season.¹

In reference to Lantz's football coaching John Powers felt that his discipline was the decisive factor. The discipline was tough but it was dealt out in a constructive manner. He recalled several half time meetings in which Lantz would say, "... Our blockings going to pot, you're not knocking down your man."² Also during this year Lantz arranged for a Panther "B" squad to meet an outside school for the first time in the history of Eastern Illinois athletics.³

A notable occurrence in 1930 was the naming of the Eastern athletic squads. For a long period of time Lantz had desired to name the Eastern athletic teams and while the student body was enthusiastic about the success of the football team he appointed a committee to help select a name. The committee was composed of the sports editor for the school newspaper, Irvin

¹Coleman, loc. cit., and a news item in the Teachers College News, November 21, 1930, pp. 1-2.

²Statement by John Powers, personal interview, August 5, 1970.

³News item in the Teachers College News, October 21, 1930, p.1.

Singler, football captain Eugene Kintz, and Mr. Lantz. It was decided that the contest winner would receive \$5.00 in Fox Lincoln Theater Scrip for the "most fitting nickname for our team." It ended in a three way tie between Harland Baird, Paul Birthesil, and Thelma Brooks in their selection of "Panthers" as the nickname.¹

The 1931 through 1934 seasons yielded teams considerably less prolific than those of the previous years. Yet, in retrospect Lantz coached football squads spoke well for themselves in compiling an overall record of fifty-three wins, forty losses, and eight ties.²

Basketball

Mr. Lantz entered this era in basketball as a moderately successful coach. The 1922 season provided Eastern with a record of three wins and twelve defeats. The Teachers College News often remarked about the teams apparent lack of ability to win. The paper proposed the hypothesis developed by the chemistry instructor, Mr. Crowe, that an over-heated and consequently expanded ball would not pass through the basket. "We can anticipate now that Coach Lantz will slow up the teams floor work to prevent

¹Ibid., and a news item in the Teachers College News, October 14, 1930, p.1.

²Coleman, loc. cit., p. 377.

the over-heating..."¹

Also during this season a low level pondering for a larger facility began. Seeing a need to seat larger groups of people at the games, the students of the school began a campaign to secure funds for this project. The plan was to build a balcony capable of seating 300 more spectators. The work was done by the students to save on the overall expense. The student council and student body sponsored a carnival and an alumni basketball game to raise funds for the project. "Coach Lantz spent from one o'clock until six every day overseeing the work." The project which was in jeopardy was finally resolved when the alumni contributed the funds necessary to complete the addition. The estimated cost totalled \$633.93.²

It can be hypothesized that two reasons helped initiate the project; the apparent need for more space, and the desire to please the highly respected coach. The Warbler of 1922 expressed a deep affection for Lantz in a short verse:

We show you here our worthy coach,
And one whate'er perchance,

¹Jacobs, op. cit., p. 15 and a news item in the Teachers College News, January 17, 1922, p. 3.

²Teachers College News, ibid., and Warbler (Published by the students of Eastern Illinois State Teachers College, 1922), p. 96.

Though other coaches be forgot,
Hats off to dear old Lantz.¹

The 1923 and 1924 seasons yielded records of four victories and thirteen defeats, and seven wins and nine losses respectively. The 1925, 1926, and 1927 squads coached by Lantz produced an overall win and loss record of twenty-nine victories and sixteen defeats. The overall success of these teams was due in part to the 1926 team captain, Maurice Foreman.² Foreman described the Lantz method of coaching basketball in three basic points:

1. He would get extra performance out of you by discussion not emotion.
2. He believed you learned to play by playing not by repeating fundamentals.
3. He believed in doing things as simply as possible.³

The 1928 and 1929 squads were less successful than prior years. In 1929 a movement for a better facility again became an issue. Prior to this time the improvements kept the gym abreast with others in the conference but now the school was rapidly outgrowing the facility; it had now attained the infamous title of the "Crackerbox". Fred "Brick" Young, an official in the conference and the sports writer for the Bloomington Pantagraph, gave a plea for a new gym for the Eastern Illinois school. Young stated in

¹Warbler, *ibid.*, p. 110.

²Jacobs, *op cit.*, pp. 16-20.

³Statement by Maurice Foreman, personal interview, August 4, 1970.

an article for the Teachers College News in January of 1929:

With each of the other four Normal schools of the state equipped with handsome new gymnasiums, friends of the Eastern Illinois State Teachers College at Charleston are hoping that Governor Emmerson will include a new gymnasium in his budget. ...Considering the handicaps under which he has labored...no coach in the conference has made a finer record than Charley Lantz...¹

In 1931 in his 20th year at Eastern, Lantz along with others continued the plea for an improved facility. The infamous "Crackerbox" was the constant topic of conversation. State Representative Sol Handy of Marshall, on numerous occasions sponsored the appropriation bill for the gymnasium. His argument centered around the fact that it would be used as a facility for intramurals as well as athletics. Again the bill failed and Eastern had little reason to believe that a new facility would be erected in the near future. Nevertheless, the pondering for it in the Teachers College News continued:

Coach Lantz and L.F. Ashley, Manual Arts Department head, have decided that the Manual Arts classes, particularly the carpentry branch..., can with assistance of the men of the student body erect a building which would be a decided improvement over the infamous cracker-box.²

This era in basketball ended without an adequate facility for basketball in a final plea expressed in the Warbler; "In Memory of the E.I. Cracker-box Long since dead Oh

¹News item in the Teachers College News, January 27, 1930, p. 3.

²Warbler (Published by the students of Eastern Illinois State Teachers College, 1931), p. 80 and a news item in the Teachers College News, November 3, 1931, p. 8.

Commonwealth of Illinois, Please announce the Funeral Day! "1 These teams produced an overall record of 113 victories and 134 defeats.²

Baseball

The 1922 to 1935 era of baseball was relatively unsuccessful if victories are considered the sole evaluative factor, yet the Lantz coached teams produced some outstanding individuals. In 1922 due to a lack of good weather at the beginning of the season, Lantz had a difficult time in preparing his team for the ten game schedule. The teams record was three wins and seven losses but a bright spot was the batting performance of Forrest Greathouse. Greathouse produced one of the highest batting averages of an Eastern player, hitting at a clip of .672. Also, Ray Duncan became the most valuable player due to his ability to play any position.³

The 1923 and 1924 squads produced records of two victories and six defeats; seven victories and four defeats respectively. The 1924 team was the first team in three seasons to have an overall winning record. It featured outstanding pitching provided by Dale Gilbert and Jesse Honn.⁴

¹Warbler (Published by the students of Eastern Illinois State Teachers College, 1935), p. 93.

²Jacobs, op. cit., pp. 15-25.

³Kirby, op. cit., p. 31-32.

⁴Ibid., pp. 33-35.

The 1925 season was marked with inconsistency; when the batters were getting hits the fielders made errors and when the fielders made good plays the hitters weren't hitting. Pitcher Jesse Honn managed to strike out 95 batters this season. The 1926 squad again had a disappointing season but managed a .500 record in the conference.¹

The 1927 Panther squad produced a five and four record with a .500 percentage in the conference. Jesse Honn was again the ace on the staff. This season he struck out one of every three batters he faced. The teams leading hitters were Dwight Dappert, Ralph Weber, and William Green.²

The 1928 through 1934 seasons proved to be long difficult years for the Lantzmen. During this period Lantz produced overall win and loss records of 20 victories, 50 defeats, and one tie. Yet, the Panthers ended this era with a .500 season in 1935. This season featured the outstanding hitting of Bill Lewis, and Howard Ballard along with the pitching of Okey Hona-finger.³

The overall record for Lantz in this era were 50 wins, 84 losses, and 2 ties.⁴

¹Ibid., pp. 38-39.

²Ibid., p. 40.

³Ibid., p. 41-53.

⁴Ibid., pp. 31-53.

Conference Position and Affiliation

During this era Lantz continued to be a moving spirit in the workings of the Illinois Intercollegiate Athletic Conference. Obviously Lantz saw the definite need for the conference but as time passed its ever increasing size caused it to become a cumbersome entity, In 1922 the I.I.A.C. was comprised of twenty-two schools. Despite its size the conference remained intact under the leadership of Charles Lantz. The size of the conference was only exceeded by the service Lantz gave to it. He served as president continuously from 1926 to 1931 and was treasurer in 1923.¹

The conference again added another school in 1928 and now totaled twenty-three schools. At this time the conference members were: Augustana, Bradley, Carthage, Eastern Illinois, Eureka, Illinois College, Illinois State, Illinois Wesleyan, Knox College, Lake Forrest, Lincoln College, Lombard College, McKendree College, Millikin, Monmouth, Mount Morris, Northern Illinois, North Central, Shurtleff, St. Viator, Southern Illinois, Western Illinois, and Wheaton.²

In 1932, Lantz attempted to assert his position in the conference. The depression had taken its' effect

¹Coleman, op. cit., p. 224.

²Unpublished report given at the final meeting of the I.I.A.C., entitled " Brief History Of Interstate Intercollegiate Athletic Conference 1908-1970 ", p.4.

on the private schools where the tuition was considerably higher than in the state supported institutions. Also, traveling became a very hot issue due to the scattering of schools across the entire state. Lantz proposed that the conference be divided into four divisions geographically; Northern, Southern, Western, and Central. Despite his efforts the schools continued to drop from the conference.¹

By 1934 Lantz had become a permanent fixture at Eastern and in the Illinois Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.

Physical Education and Intramural Development

This section deals with the growth in the physical education program being developed by Lantz. It also describes the course structure development that lead to the granting of second minor status to physical education. The intramural program is discussed with emphasis being placed on the events surrounding Lantz's increasing involvement.

Physical Education Development

The physical education program continued to progress under the direction of Lantz. The greatest innovations were in the professionally oriented courses. The required program remained generally the same with all freshmen and sophomores being required to take physical education

¹News item in the Bloomington Pantagraph, September 23, 1932, p. 14.

two hours per week.¹

In 1926 a series of three courses were added to the curriculum. They were basically sport oriented and only those who had been team members. They were numbered; 41, Football Practice Coaching; 42, Basketball Practice Coaching; and 43, Baseball Practice Coaching. The prerequisite for class entrance was two years as a player and previous physical education courses. The class met five hours per week and one credit was given for the entire year.²

Lantz's program was slowly evolving into one suitable for a minor in physical education and coaching. In 1933, the most notable break through came when physical education could be used as a second minor with the stipulation that no more than twenty-four quarter hours could be used to count toward graduation. The freshman and sophomore years of those involved were to remain the same, but professional courses could be taken during the students final two years. The courses available were as follows:

- 33. Physical Education for Teachers I, 2 qtr. hrs.
- 34. Physiology, Hygiene, and Anatomy. 4 qtr. hrs.
- 35. Physical Education for Teachers II. 2 qtr. hrs.
- 36. Basketball Theory. 2 qtr. hrs.

¹Coleman, op. cit., p. 232.

²Teachers College Bulletin, No. 92, (1926-27), p. 35.

- 36.c.Practice Coaching in Basketball, 4 qtr. hrs.
- 37. Football Theory. 2 qtr. hrs.
- 37.c.Practice Coaching in Football. 4 qtr. hrs.
- 38. Track and Field Theory. 2 qtr. hrs.
- 38.c.Practice Coaching in Track and Field. 4 qtr. hrs.
- 39. Baseball Theory. 2 qtr. hrs.
- 39.c.Practice Coaching in Baseball. 4 qtr. hrs.¹

The program now offered courses that would be helpful to the coach and also to the individual given the duty of teaching physical education upon securing a position.

The practice coaching courses consisted of assisting the high school teams which gave some practical experience to the student.²

Intramurals

An intramural program can go hand in hand with a physical education program, but in the first few years of Lantz's tenure he gave only a cursory attention to the program. With his assignment to both physical education and athletics little time remained for intramurals.³

With this lack of time for the support of intramurals a rift developed between athletics and a portion of the student body. In an editorial comment in the Eastern State News in December of 1930 Lantz's athletic program received a blast from the paper; " All students are agreed that interschool sports have been carried to

¹Ibid., No. 120, (1933), p. 35.

²Lawrence Crociani, "The History Of Intramural Sports For Men At Eastern Illinois University 1899 to 1966" (unpublished Master's thesis, Eastern Illinois University, 1966), p. 27.

³Ibid.

a great excess and should be abolished or replaced with intramurals of various kinds...".¹ The call for an increased intramural program under the direction of the athletic department continued. In reference to the money spent on athletics and the lack of it spent on intramurals, the Eastern State News put forth an opinion, "... Such partiality is not fair to the men of the college. We want intramurals,"²

In 1932 Lantz began to lend his support to the intramural program, when he presented the basketball championship trophy.³ Lantz dispelled all thoughts that he was against intramurals being supported or guided by the physical education department in a statement in 1933;

I believe that participation in games develops honesty, loyalty, sacrifice, manliness, and concentration. In games a boy is free to pick and choose for himself; he is guided by his own judgement. Here he has an opportunity to show not only his skill but his character as well. Each time he refuses to cheat he has added a cubit to his moral structure. If character traits can be developed by participation in games that alone justifies a place for intramurals in activities.⁴

Further evidence of increased support by Lantz developed in 1934, when substitute credit for physical education

¹Ibid., p. 33.

²Ibid., p. 37.

³Ibid., p. 42.

⁴News item in the Teachers College News, February 13, 1934, p. 1.

was granted for intramural participation.

In 1935 two developments gave Lantz the time necessary to devote to an intramural program. First, he announced that he would give up all coaching except baseball and devote his energies to being athletic director and physical education head. Second, the state of Illinois, at long last appropriated \$350,000 for a new physical education facility. The facility would give the badly needed room for athletics and a year around intramural program.¹

¹Crociani, op. cit., p. 43.

Summary

Of the three sports coached by Lantz football proved to be the most successful in this era. During a four year period beginning in 1927 he produced his most outstanding teams with an overall record of twenty-four wins, four losses, and two ties. The 1930 squad was only scored upon once by means of a safety. His overall win and loss record for the era was fifty-three wins, forty losses, and eight ties.

During this period his basketball squads were relatively unsuccessful in gaining only 113 wins and suffering 134 defeats. Lantz successfully motivated the addition of a 300 seat balcony to the Pemberton gymnasium. As the era continued the need for a new gymnasium began and became a very heated issue, nevertheless the era ended with no new facility. His baseball squads produced overall records of fifty wins, eighty-four losses, and two ties.

In this time as in previous times Lantz gave outstanding services to the conference by serving as its president from 1926 to 1931 and its treasurer in 1923.

He continued to work diligently on the physical education curriculum. A major breakthrough was initiated in 1933 when physical education could be used as a second minor. His association with the intramural program remained on a low level until 1935 when monies were appropriated for a new facility and he retired from football and basketball coaching.

CHAPTER V

THE ERA OF GUIDANCE 1935-52

Athletics and Conference Affiliation

Retires from Coaching Two Sports

In the fall of 1935 Lantz decided to ease his situation by retiring from coaching football and basketball. He had served twenty-four continuous years as the head coach of football, basketball, and baseball at Eastern. He still remained the head baseball coach but assumed a new title as the Director of Physical Education and Athletics which was basically the same duty he had performed since 1911.¹

Dr. Robert G. Buzzard, Eastern President Emeritus, stated that "... Lantz was wanting relief from an extra load of hours, which coaching demands ...", along with the time necessary for an ever increasing physical education program.² Also the school was in dire need of an improved intramural program which the students of the school had been calling for for many years. Perhaps this busy schedule left little time for himself and his family.³

¹News item in the Teachers College News, September 10, 1935, p. 1.

²Based on personal correspondence between Dr. Robert G. Buzzard, Eastern President Emeritus, and the writer on May 27, 1971.

³Warbler (Published by the students of Eastern Illinois State Teachers College, 1936), p. 116.

Baseball

The 1936 and 1937 Eastern baseball seasons were relatively lean years; his teams produced only four victories in both years combined.¹ In 1938 the most notable event was the dedication of the new Health Education facility which was to have far reaching effects on the program at Eastern. On this occasion Lantz gave the Teachers College News his prized football, basketball, and baseball all-star teams during his twenty-seven years of coaching at Eastern. His all-star football team consisted of: Herman Cooper 1916, Bill Hauser 1915, John Belting 1915, Earl Taubeneck 1915, Bruce Corzine 1913, Sumner Wilson 1914, Steve Turner 1920, Lester Highsmith 1920, Roscoe Hampton 1920, Martin Schahrer 1917, Ed Hood 1919, Merril McCabe 1920, Clyde Leathers 1921, Bill Creamer 1923, Forrest Greathouse 1931, Mack Gilbert 1931, Erett Warner 1925, Earl Lee 1927, Andy Taylor 1927, Ruel Hall 1929, William Routledge 1927, Bill Stone 1927, Eddie Leamon 1927, Pete Fenoglio 1930, Tuck Creamer 1923, Nolan Sims 1930, Rex McMorris 1932, Harland Baird 1932, Stanley Wasem 1932, Chuck Ashmore 1932, Herman Gibson 1932, John Powers 1932, Joe Kirk 1932, Carl Hance 1932, Ernest Pricco 1934, Eugene Kintz 1936, Edgar Swickard 1936, and Harry Sockler 1935. His all-star basketball team consisted of:

¹Kirby, op. cit., p. 55.

Ben Anderson 1916, Earl Anderson 1916, Howard Ballard 1916, Bruce Corzine 1913, Herman Cooper 1916, Sherman Gilmore 1929, Bill Hauser 1915, Maurice Hampton 1915, Ruel Hall 1929, Maurice Foreman 1927, Stanley Wasem 1932, Joe Curry 1937. His all-star baseball team consisted of: Jesse Honn 1927, William Schermekan 1914, Ed Hill 1913, Maurice Hampton 1915, Roscoe Hampton 1915, Mack Moore 1920, Steve Turner 1920, Leslie Cook 1923, Ray Duncan 1923, Forrest Greathouse 1929, Sherman Gilmore 1929, Cy Cole 1923, Bruce Corzine 1923, Mack Gilbert 1931, Harry Fitzhugh 1934, Jim Tedrick 1937, and Stanley Wasem 1932.¹

The 1938, 1939, and 1940 seasons yielded win and loss records of six and eight; five, eight, and one; and four and ten respectively.² The 1941 Eastern "nine" under the direction of Lantz produced the first winning record in five years with an overall record of nine victories and four defeats. The season was highlighted by defeating Northern on three separate occasions. Outstanding player Jim Phipps signed a professional baseball contract with the Chicago White Sox following this season. During this campaign Coach Lantz was stricken for several weeks with an ulcer inflammation and directed the Eastern team from his home with the

¹News item in the Teachers College News, May 14, 1938, p. 12.

²Kirby, op. cit., pp. 57-60.

aid of his assistant Ted Carson.¹

The 1943 and 1944 years of athletics at Eastern were decidedly different. World War II had now begun to take its toll and Eastern athletics were without enough boys or enough coaches for these teams. During these two seasons there were no football squads fielded. Lantz, due to his age, remained as the sole member of the athletic staff and in 1943 resumed coaching basketball for the first time in eight years. Despite the shortage of men his team recorded a respectable record of seven wins and nine defeats and managed a tie for third place in the conference.² A well known member of the squad, Walt Warmoth was twenty-nine years old and played at the request of Lantz. He stated, "I would not have played if I hadn't been asked by Dr. Lantz." Warmoth also stated that the Lantz pep talks prior to the games were the same 99% of the time. Lantz would say;

We'll do three things and only three, the referee will referee the game, I'll coach, and you play. No arguing with the referee.³

The 1943 baseball season yielded four wins and six losses despite the fact that Lantz had only two returning lettermen. Along with the duties as baseball

¹Ibid., pp. 61-62.

²Jacobs, op. cit., pp. 36-37.

³Statement by Walt Warmoth, personal interview, August 6, 1970.

coach in 1944 he organized a track squad since no other coach was available. The baseball team this season played only one game and was victorious. The lack of an adequate schedule was due to the war and its effect was felt on athletic programs throughout the country.¹

For the next two seasons Lantz fielded only mediocre teams but in 1947 a three year winning streak began. In 1947 Lantz captured his first conference title in baseball with an overall record of eleven wins and only five losses. His conference record for the season was six and two. The conference championship by no means came easy this season. It was decided finally in December. At the seasons end Eastern, Western, and Northern all claimed the title. Western claimed that Eastern by playing Southern four times during the season should not count the last two games. Therefore, Westerns four and two record would tie with Eastern. Northern's claim was based on their overall win and loss percentage. Despite these efforts Eastern retained the championship because they had won more conference games and Northern had not played the minimum of three conference teams.²

Again in 1948 Lantz produced an outstanding season. His Eastern squad produced an overall record

¹Justis, op. cit., p. 384 and Kirby, op. cit., p. 66.

²Kirby, ibid., p. 72.

of twelve victories and five defeats with a six and two record in the conference. Even though the overall record surpassed that of the previous season and the conference mark was equalled, the Lantzmen only placed second.¹

The 1949 team gave Lantz his second conference title in three seasons. The title was not settled this year until the final game when Eastern defeated Western.²

The remaining three seasons of his coaching career ~~never~~ reached the success of the 1947, 1948, and 1949 squads; nevertheless Lantz became heralded as an outstanding coach. In 1950 prior to the season the Eastern State News headlined its feature sports article with the following words, " Eastern's Connie Mack ready to go again."³

In 1951 prior to the opening of the season Lantz collapsed in Champaign at an NAIB play-off selection committee meeting and was rushed to Charleston.⁴ For several years Lantz had been troubled by stomach ulcers. The problem was compounded by the fact that Lantz was a diabetic. Dr. J.D. Belting, Lantz's physician for

¹Ibid., p. 75.

²Ibid., p. 79.

³News item in the Eastern State News, March 29, 1950, p. 5.

⁴News item in the Eastern State News, March 7, 1951, p. 1.

forty years and an original athlete on his football team in 1911, stated that Lantz worked for a period of many years under considerable discomfort.¹ At the time of his collapse in 1951 Lantz's life was saved through the blood transfusion supplied by the members of the Sigma Tau Gamma fraternity of which he had been sponsor for many years.²

During this period of coaching Lantz produced 94 victories, 105 losses, and two ties in baseball. The one basketball season added seven victories and eight defeats to his previously compiled totals.³

Conference Affiliation and Position

During this era Lantz continued to have considerable influence in the I.I.A.C. and was held in high esteem by his fellow conference members. In 1936 after a quarter of a century of coaching at Eastern, Lantz and William T. McAndrew, Southern's coach, were both guests of honor at a testimonial dinner of the I.I.A.C. in Bloomington. Both received an illuminated scroll as a citation for their meritorious service to intercollegiate sports in Illinois.⁴

By 1937 the conference membership had shrunk to thirteen schools. In the same year Lantz was elected treasurer,

¹Statement by J.D. Belting, personal interview, August 10, 1970.

²News item in the Charleston Daily Courier, March 8, 1951, p. 1.

³Jacobs, op. cit., pp. 36-37 and Kirby, loc. cit., pp. 55-85.

⁴Coleman, loc. cit., p. 225.

the first conference office that he had held since 1932. He continued in this capacity without a break until 1949.¹

Perhaps the greatest honor bestowed upon Lantz by the conference was in 1944 when the I.I.A.C. created a permanent trophy to be known as the Charles P. Lantz award. It was to be awarded to the conferences' most valuable baseball player annually. The process of selection was as follows; the lettermen on each squad would pick a most valuable player and then the list would be submitted to the conference coaches for voting. No coach could vote for one of his own players. The winner of the award would keep the \$100 cup for a period of one year.²

Lantz ended this era as he began the others, in service of the conference. In 1951, just one year prior to retirement, he again served as president.³

Physical Education and Intramural Program Development

This section deals with Lantz's continued work on the development of the physical education curriculum which enhanced greatly by the acquisition of the new health education facility. This portion also describes the procurement of the physical education major and the further development of the intramural program which was greatly influenced by Physical Education.

¹Ibid.

²News item in the Eastern Teachers News, August 16, 1944, p. 7.

³Coleman, loc. cit., p. 225.

these changes.

Physical Education Program: Professional and Required

Two significant occurrences in this era had great effect upon the physical education curriculum development. The first was Lantz's decision to only coach one sport and devote his time to physical education and intramurals. The second was the acquisition of the new health education and physical education facility at Eastern. In considering both reasons, the one most responsible for change in curriculum was the badly needed and long awaited facility.

Prior to the completion of the new building, the old Pemberton gym continued to receive open disapproval from the student body. The 1937 Warbler gave this account of the facility:

...He is known by several aliases, one very common one being "Crackerbox"; but perhaps his most vicious and insulting one is "Eastern's Gymnasium"...

...States Attorney Glen Sunderman, (sic student)... accused the defendent on six counts: malpractice, malfeasance in office, gaining money under false pretenses, gross inefficiency, defamation of Eastern's character, and general disrepute.¹

Its' completion in 1938 gave Eastern the facilities necessary to develop an excellent program in physical education. It featured four classrooms, a men's corrective gym, 12,158 square feet of playing surface, two large gymnasiums,

¹Warbler (Published by the students of Eastern Illinois State Teachers College, 1937), p. 32.

room for 2400 spectators, offices, numerous showers, and lockers all for the cost of \$450,000.¹

With the new facility came what Lantz had slowly been developing since 1916, a major in physical education. The courses were generally the same courses that had been offered for the past few years with only a few additions. A three digit system of numbering replaced the previously used two digit system. The courses offered in the major field were as follows:

- 120: Physical Education: Introduction
- 121: Introductory Activities
- 340: Methods and Materials
- 344: Kinesiology
- 347: Basketball Coaching
- 348: Football Coaching
- 349: Track and Field Coaching
- 350: Baseball Coaching
- 441: Student Teaching
- 442: Student Teaching
- 443: Student Teaching
- 451: Principles of Physical Education
- 452: Physical Education Administration and Supervision
- 453: Advanced Gymnastics²

The program apparently was quite well organized and planned by Lantz since it received commendation from Don Cash Seaton, the state director of physical education.³ The professional program remained generally the same until his retirement in 1952. An amusing event occurred in 1945 when a senior girl, Mary Eleanor Grossman, of Robinson enrolled in Lantz's

¹Ibid., p. 63.

²Teachers College Bulletin, no. 140, (1938), p. 101.

³News item in the Teachers College News, February 15, 1939, p. 10.

baseball coaching course. She was a purported fan of the St. Louis Gas House Gang and wanted to know more about the game. Lantz commented, " Well, it's alright I guess. If you can take it, I can. "¹

During this time there was little emphasis on change in the required program by Lantz. All freshmen and sophomores took physical education two hours per week until 1941. In 1941 it was increased to four hours per week due primarily to the emphasis on fitness by World War II; this lasted until 1948. In 1949 it was dropped to three hours per week where it remained until his retirement.²

Intramurals

Dr. Lantz's active involvement with the school intramural program was brief at best. His real activity did not begin until 1938 when the new gymnasium was in use and lasted until 1948. In a prepared statement for the 1938 Warbler, Lantz stated his commitment to expand the program:

In any educational institution a good intramural program is necessary. Beginning this fall we will expand our program in intramural activities. It is one of our aims to have every man in college participating in some activity. Intramural sports provides the finest type of general training, as well as school enthusiasm. All of these things have been made possible by our new Health Education Building.³

¹News item in the Eastern Teachers News, April 11, 1945, p. 1.

²Coleman, loc. cit., p. 232.

³Warbler (Published by the students of Eastern Illinois State Teachers College, 1938), p. 125.

Also in 1938 Lantz developed for the first time a centrally organized and administered program. He created an intramural board to run the activities. It was made up of eight team managers and Lantz. He also created a point system for determining a champion at the end of the year, with the winner being given a plaque that would hang in the new gym.¹ His involvement continued until 1948 when the school hired Henry Miller to direct the program. Lantz still supplied the officials from his coaching courses.²

EXTRA-SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

This section deals with the various civic activities and local involvements of Lantz. Also, a discussion of his professional growth in the field education and the various activities of social life will be discussed.

Civic Activities

The civic activities of the already busy life of Charles Lantz were quite numerous. It is known that he was the secretary-treasurer of the Charleston Officials Association. In this capacity he coordinated the referees for many high school games in the eastern Illinois area.³

¹Crociani, op. cit., p. 51.

²Ibid., p. 59.

³Ledger book found among the personal belongings of Charles Lantz entitled, "Charleston Officials Association"

Lantz also was a member of the Masonic Lodge and the Charleston Rotary Club. During World War II he served as director of the Coles county defense council and on the local draft board.¹

Perhaps of the greatest significance was Lantz's involvement with the Sigma Tau Gamma fraternity. He served as its' sponsor from the beginning in the 1920's under the name of Fidelis. In 1941, the Fidelis became the Sigma Tau Gamma fraternity and he continued as sponsor. Each year he and his wife would attend the White Rose Ball. His involvement was perhaps repaid in 1951 during an illness when a number of members of the fraternity donated blood to help save his life.²

Professional Growth

Lantz was a member in numerous professional organizations. He belonged to the National Education Association, the Illinois Education Association, the American Physical Education Association, and the Illinois Physical Education Association.³

In 1936 Lantz completed work on a master's degree from the Pennsylvania State University and was

¹News item in the Charleston Courier-News, May 8, 1962, p.1 and the Eastern Teachers News, October 23, 1942, p. 9.

²Based on personal correspondence between Mrs. Natalie Thompson and the writer, on March 23, 1971.

³Program for Dedication, op. cit.

given a membership to the Phi Delta Kappa graduate educational honorary fraternity. This honor was only granted to those whose scholastic record was highest.¹ But perhaps the greatest honor of his career was having an honorary Doctor of Pedagogy degree granted to him by Gettysburg College in the spring of 1938, because of his notable achievements since his graduation.²

Social Life

The social life of Charles Lantz was quite involved to say the least. He and Mrs. Lantz were very gracious hosts. They frequently entertained friends for dinner parties and card games. Mr. and Mrs. Lantz were avid card players, particularly bridge.³

The Lantz's were also the moving spirits in the annual faculty Christmas Dinners. Mrs. Lantz was the long standing chairman of the committee for the dinner and Mr. Lantz would always carve the turkey for the event. As Dr. Glenn Seymour stated, "Mrs. Lantz's hard sauce to grace Miss Ford's plum pudding, became famous at these affairs."⁴

Dr. Lantz carried on cordial relationships with his ex-athletes and fellow faculty members. Many

¹News item in the Teachers College News, September 8, 1936, p. 10.

²Program for Dedication, op. cit.

³Seymour, op. cit.

⁴Ibid.

faculty men following a long day at school were welcomed to come to the gym to shower or just chat with the gray-ing coach.¹ He also was an avid hunter and fisherman. He would hunt many times with faculty members or colleagues on a farm in Hutton, Illinois that belonged to one of his former athletes.²

Eastern President Robert G. Buzzard, Dr. J.D. Belting, and Lantz had December 14th as their birthday and they would celebrate it together each year.³ He also was a member of the Shakespeare Club which was a group of faculty men that would get together frequently for card playing. Lantz on many occasions would travel to St. Louis to see a baseball game or go to Indianapolis to view a preseason professional football game.⁴

¹Heller, op. cit.

²Statement by Dr. Thomas Katsimpalis, personal interview, August 10, 1970.

³Belting, op. cit.

⁴Statement by Dr. Maynard O'Brien, personal interview, August 5, 1970.

Summary

In the fall of 1935 Lantz retired from coaching football and basketball but still remained the department head and baseball coach. One cannot help but realize that the combined duties of coaching three sports and guiding the physical education department had been a monumental task for twenty-four years and this slow down in activity was a necessary occurrence. During World War II, due to a lack of available coaches, he again took over the helm as coach of the Eastern basketball squad.

His baseball coaching was interrupted in 1951 due to illness but he managed to return for the final season in his career. His 1947, 1948, and 1949 baseball squads were the most successful in all his years of coaching. He won two conference titles in these years and placed second the remaining years. His total win and loss records for this era were 94 victories, 105 defeats, and 2 ties.

Lantz continued to be held in high esteem by members of the conference and served as its treasurer from 1937 to 1949. In 1951, only one year prior to his retirement, he again served as president of the I.I.A.C. In the opinion of this writer the most notable show of appreciation and recognition for his services to the conference was the naming of the trophy for the most valuable baseball player in the conference in his name.

Lantz continued to develop an outstanding program in professional physical education with the culmination of his work coming in 1938, when it was granted status of a major field of study. This was due to two significant occurrences: 1) he dropped the coaching of football and basketball; and 2) the new physical education facility was finished at this time.

In 1938 Lantz for the first time began to lend active support to the intramurals of the college. He developed a centrally administered program under his direction with a point system to determine a school champion.

It is a fact that Lantz was a respected member of his community, not merely a coach at the school with little contact with the townspeople. His civic activities included secretary-treasurer of the Charleston Officials Association, a member of the Masonic Lodge, Rotary Club, member of the Coles County Draft Board, and the honored sponsor of the Sigma Tau Gamma fraternity.

Lantz was also a member of various professional organizations. He received his master's degree from the Pennsylvania State University in 1936 and was admitted to membership in Phi Delta Kappa honorary graduate fraternity for scholastic excellence. His highest award came in the spring of 1938 when his alma mater, Gettysburg College, granted him an honorary Doctor of Pedagogy Degree for being an outstanding graduate of the school.

In private life Lantz and his wife, Mary, were outstanding entertainers. They hosted many dinner parties and card games in their home. The Lantz's were also leaders in the annual faculty Christmas dinner. He also enjoyed a special kind of comradery with his associates and colleagues.

CHAPTER IV

DR. CHARLES P. LANTZ: ATHLETIC DIRECTOR EMERITUS

Lantz Retires

After forty-one years as coach and director of physical education at Eastern, Lantz retired. He had given unquestionable to the school and those boys he coached. His fame was certainly well-known in Illinois due to the service he had given to athletics. Many termed him as the "Grand Old Man of Illinois Athletics".¹ His fame was not merely limited to the midwest; the New York Journal-American on April 20, 1952, cited his achievements. "He will have coached Eastern teams in 170 football games, 373 basketball games, and 393 baseball games when this season is concluded."²

The retirement ceremony was to be a gala affair; a Jubilee committee had been set up to plan the days activities. On May 18, 1952, the official ceremony began. Former athletes came from seven states, all sections of Illinois, and all years and teams were

¹Heller, op. cit.

²News item in the New York Journal-American, April 20, 1952, p. 41.

represented. Lantz was reported to have said, "I can call them all by name."¹ The committee gave their coach a check for \$1200 and his wife a copper coffee urn.²

On this day his colleagues from the various I.I.A.C. schools were heavily represented to show their appreciation. The notables included: Glen Martin and Leland Lingle from Southern; Howard Hancock, Joe Cogdal, Ed Struck, and Eugene Hill from Illinois State; Ray Hanson, Stix Morley, Wix Garner, and Art Dufelmeir from Western; Ralph Allan from Millikin; Fred Muhl from Illinois Wesleyan; Art Bergstrom from Bradley; D.A. Glasscock, John Longfellow, and Wally Marks from Indiana State; H.V. Millard, the sports editor for the Decatur Herald and Review; and Fred "Brick" Young of the Bloomington Pantagraph.³

The master of ceremonies this day was former Eastern athlete, Ruel Hall. The main address and tribute was given by Eastern's president, Dr. Robert G. Buzzard. After the words of tribute had been spoken, Lantz arose and delivered the following acknowledgement of appreciation:

I am extremely grateful and honored for your many expressions of affection and regard as well as for your very generous gifts. However, I believe that it is you, the alumni, to whom the honor should be given.

Your success reflects glory on all of us connected with the college. The character of its students either makes or mars an institution. Our achievements are made

¹Eastern Alumnus, June 1952, p. 7.

²Ibid., p. 9.

³Ibid.

through you, the alumni.

As I greet you today and look into your familiar faces I can only feel very humble and very proud that I have served in any way to influence or guide you.

Forty-one years may seem a long time to you younger men, but to me the years were happy ones and passed quickly. Coaching has been my life's work and I have thoroughly enjoyed every year of it. It was not only made pleasant by winning games and championships; but also by the very many lasting friends I've made, the fine associations I have had with our Faculty, our students, and our alumni, and the athletic directors and coaches of the other schools.

My affiliation with the I.I.A.C. throughout the years has meant a great deal to me. The press has been most kind and I am very happy to have many of its members as my personal friends.

It has been my privilege to serve under two fine presidents. You older alumni recall Mr. Lord. President Buzzard's keen understanding and sympathy toward athletics has enabled Eastern to make many strides forward in our athletic program.

Even though I am retiring from the college, I still feel that I am a part of Eastern and I cordially invite you all to visit me at 910 Eleventh Street when you come to Charleston.

Thank you.¹

Many words of praise came from his dear friends and colleagues. George Evans, athletic director at Northern Illinois State Teachers College, expressed the loss that would be experienced, "...the I.I.A.C. will lose a diligent worker and college athletics in the Middle West will lose a true leader...". Glen "Abe" Martin of Southern spoke of Lantz's well deserved rest, "...We shall miss you but we know how fully you have earned the first leisure time of 41 years of service..."².

¹Ibid., pp. 9 and 14.

²Program from the Jubilee Banquet: Honoring Dr. Charles Philip Lantz, May 18, 1952.

This day came to an end with an alumni-varsity baseball game. Many of his former players participated in the game.¹

His honors did not cease upon retirement. On October 11, 1953, the Health Education Building of which he had been so proud and had worked so hard to procure was named in his honor. For this occasion some 400 people were in attendance. This day a portrait of Lantz was presented to the school by Alexander Summers, a member of the Teachers College Board; it had been painted by Richard E. Hult of the University of Illinois art department.²

Up to this point in his career this was perhaps his greatest honor. He eloquently expressed his feeling of humility and honor:

The State Teachers College Board has been very generous in naming the Health Education building for me and I want to thank them and Dr. Buzzard. It is with a feeling of pride and humility that I accept this great honor... For me this building symbolized 41 years of pleasant relationships here at the college and gratifying association with the people of Charleston and the surrounding territory. It represents for me the fine spirit and the high standards for which the college has been known.. But most of all it recalls to me the students whose personalities I have known, and in whose guidance I have had a part. If the naming of this building for me proves to be helpful in a fulfillment of an ideal and the realization of a dream I shall be happy. Thank you for your kindness.³

As the years of retirement passed by Lantz was again served with another award. In December of 1956 he was given

¹Alumnus, op. cit., p. 9.

²Program for the Dedication, op. cit.

³Ibid.

another recognition which more than any thrust his fame and accomplishments into national prominence. It was the Helms Hall of Fame Award given by the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics.¹ The criteria for his selection were as follows:

1. The contributor must be one who has made a major contribution worthy of national honor in the sport which is selected.
2. He must have made a contribution in the area of NAIA institutions over a period of years.
3. His character and leadership in the field must be considered.²

The event was held at the Marion Hotel in Little Rock, Arkansas, in conjunction with the December 22 NAIA Aluminum Bowl game between Montana State and St. Joseph's of Indiana.³

Personal Life

It had all come to an end as abruptly as it had begun. Lantz, now after leading a life that was so busy and filled with contribution, became a relatively inactive man. The only activity that he was officially involved in was his position as the commissioner of officials for the I.I.A.C. In this capacity he received a small salary and remained involved in the activities of the conference. It was felt by many that the adjustment from one type of life to another was quite difficult. Dr. Maynard O'Brien best expressed the feeling most likely sensed by Lantz:

¹Eastern Alumnus, December 1956, p. 11.

²News release (Office of Public Information, Eastern Illinois State Teachers College), December 21, 1956.

³Alumnus, loc. cit., December 1956, p. 11.

I often wonder how each of us would overcome such a thing when after forty-one years he had been working with a group day in and day out and all of a sudden there is nothing more I can contribute-yet here was a man of still keen intellect upon retirement...given a wealth of experience to the area in which he loved so much.¹

Lantz soon traded busy class days and athletic schedules for morning trips to Ike's Restaurant. "He would come in the morning and would talk to me for about 20 minutes. He appeared to be hoping to see someone he knew to strike up a conversation with." He would seldom miss an Eastern baseball game, serve as timer in track meets, and would traditionally open the Charleston Little League season by throwing out the first ball.²

In 1960 Lantz suffered perhaps the greatest loss of life when his wife Mary passed away. Soon after her death he sold his home on eleventh street and moved into an apartment at the corner of fourth and Lincoln owned by his friend Ivan Kennard³. His loneliness increased with the loss of his wife; he would frequently come over to the gym to take a shower or just visit with the many coaches who had worked under him a few years before. Dr. O'Brien recalled that he "...would drop into my office two or three times a week just to say hello or recall a point of our association... I always felt that he was a lonely man."⁴

¹O'Brien, op. cit.

²News item in the Eastern State News, May 16, 1962, p. 10.

³Statement by Ivan Kennard, personal interview, August 10, 1970.

The pattern of his life varied little with only a few trips to the East to visit his old friends and daughter Natalie. This quiet existence remained generally the same until the spring of 1962.

Summary

After forty-one years of unquestionable service to the Eastern Illinois State Teachers College, the "Grand Old Man of Illinois Athletics" retired. He was acclaimed both state wide and nationally. The retirement ceremony brought forth many of his colleagues and friends but most important were those young men, representative of four decades, that had played under his direction. His former athletes came from seven states and all parts of Illinois to honor their coach.

Upon retirement his activities did not completely cease. He served as the commissioner of officials for the conference. In 1953 he received perhaps the greatest honor that Eastern could bestow upon him. The Health Education Building was named in his honor. He continued to receive recognition but this time on a national level. In 1956 he was given the Helms Hall of Fame Award by the N.A.I.A. It was given for outstanding achievements in football.

During his retirement years in Charleston he made attempts to keep in contact with the school and his colleagues without appearing to be looking over the shoulders of his successors. This emptiness was compounded in 1960 by the death of his wife.

CHAPTER VII

THE END OF AN ERA

During the retirement years Lantz would occasionally take trips to the East to visit his daughter and friends. In late April of 1962, he traveled to Huntingdon, Pennsylvania to join his daughter and family for a vacation trip to Naples, Florida. According to his daughter this was his first trip to Florida and he was thoroughly enjoying the trip.¹

Soon after their arrival Lantz's diabetes went out of control. It was complicated by the fact that his ulcer began to bleed profusely. The combination of these two ailments immediately hospitalized him.²

Mrs. Thompson related in a letter some of the warm and lasting impressions she received while her father was in the Naples hospital:

...his greatest wish was to return to Charleston. He loved Charleston and the school. I even looked in to getting a private plane to fly him back but he was too sick to be moved. I would say he received a thousand cards while he was hospitalized. My husband and I marveled at how many friends he had.³

¹Thompson, op. cit., February 18, 1971.

²Ibid.

³Ibid.

On Sunday, May 6, 1962, Charles Lantz passed away at the age of 77.¹ The funeral was not held in Charleston but in Columbia, Pennsylvania on May 10th. The school was represented by his longtime friend and associate, Hobart Heller. In lieu of flowers the family requested that donations be made to the Charles P. Lantz Memorial Scholarship Fund.¹ Thus ended the life of an outstanding individual in the history of Eastern Illinois University and in the history of intercollegiate sports in Illinois.

Many people expressed the feeling of great loss at his death in various eulogies. His longtime friend, Dr. Charles Coleman, most aptly expressed this loss:

"...He has done more than any person to keep Illinois intercollegiate sports competition on a high plane. With him the interest of the player as a man and a student has always come ahead of temporary scoring advantages..."²

Eastern's president, Dr. Quincy Doudna, commented on his long term effect at Eastern. "He set standards for the physical education programs that will long influence what is done..."³

But perhaps of most significance was a sports editorial in Courier-News that summed up the overall achievements of his life.

¹News release (Office of Public Information, Eastern Illinois State Teachers College), May 8, 1962 and a news item in the Charleston Courier-News, May 8, 1962, p. 1.

²Alumnus, op. cit., June 1952, p. 4.

³News item in the Charleston Courier-News, May 7, 1962, p. 1.

...being around him it was obvious that he had gained much respect and loyalty from his athletes and fellow coaches....He spent his entire life in sports and when the final score was counted, Dr. Lantz was certainly on the winning side.¹

¹Courier-News, op. cit., May 8, 1962, p. 7.

Summary

Lantz along with his daughter and family vacationed in Florida in late April and early May of 1962. On this trip he became seriously ill with his diabetes and ulcers that had bothered him for a major portion of his life. Soon after he passed away in a Florida hospital, there was a response that was amazing. He had affected the lives of many boys and his fame was known in coaching circles throughout the country. He was buried on May 10, 1962 in Columbia, Pennsylvania. In attendance was his long time friend representing Eastern, Dr. Hobart Heller. The legacy he left to college athletics, particularly Eastern's will be one that will be remembered for time immemorial.

CHAPTER VIII

SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS

General Summary

There is no doubt in the opinion of this writer that Lantz's love of athletics was second only to his love for his wife. For a man to do a complete turn-about and abstain from careers that would have been more lucrative is a most amazing phenomena. He came to the small midwestern school and became a pioneer in the field of physical education.

Prior to his coming to Eastern he had only two summers of formal training in physical education. Despite this apparent lack of training he developed an outstanding program, and for the most part without assistance.

The most notable accomplishment in the long career of Lantz was the number of games that he had coached. He was not an ultra-successful coach, if one considers win and loss records as the sole evaluative factor. He produced the following statistics: in baseball 185 wins, 239 losses and 5 ties; in basketball 199 wins, and 220 losses; and in football 94 wins, 63 losses and 13 ties. Simple addition will give a most amazing number, he coached in a total of 1,018 games in a forty-one year career at Eastern. Even more important is the fact that this

number represents countless numbers of young men in whose lives he played an important role.

Of the now defunct I.I.A.C. Lantz gave a most commendable service; he even wrote his masters thesis on the subject.¹ The writer has found a great discrepancy in the number of times and offices that he served, but after considerable research it was found that he was its' president ten different times, vice-president three years and treasurer fourteen times. His services were adequetly rewarded when the most valuable player award for baseball in the conference was named in his honor in 1944.

In the case of Lantz there was no gap between the community of Charleston and him. The townspeople admired him and he reciprocated in being actively involved in many local organizations. He lead a complete life, one that was full in every respect.

Lantz: His Philosophy of Athletics

The basic premise on which Lantz's philosophy of coaching was that his love of sport was only outweighed by his primary objective of serving the athlete. This attitude permeates his entire coaching career.

In 1950 Lantz was quoted as saying; "the joy of coaching is not in the number of games won but in how

¹Charles P. Lantz, "A History of the Illinois Intercollegiate Athletic Conference", (Unpublished Master's thesis, Pennsylvania State College, 1935).

good a job you feel you have done in helping the player..."¹
 He did not feel that winning was unimportant, just not primary in his philosophy. His athletes were held in high esteem by him. Howard Hancock, an opposing coach from Illinois State University reiterated this finding, "he felt that the contests were primarily for the participants..."²

He did not stand merely as their coach but more as an outstanding influence in the lives of them. His guidance proved to be of the utmost importance. In returning to an earlier statement by Maurice Hampton, he reflects this feeling;

... these young boys that came in were green country boys. He helped direct them in the proper manner; they learned other things besides how to play football, basketball, and baseball.³

He had a respect for his athletes and would on certain occasions provide them with some financial assistance. According to Dr. O'Brien, through funds gathered from a coke machine in the gymnasium:

... it would gather for him about \$200 or \$300 profit a year... he used it for little pieces of extra equipment or would help somebody out with a small loan. All of the young men knew that if they were in trouble and needed a \$5 bill they could go to Dr. Lantz. Of course, ... they were expected to

¹News item in the Eastern State News, November 1, 1950, p. 14.

²Based on personal correspondence between Howard Hancock and the writer, October 22, 1970.

³Hampton, loc. cit.

pay it back and that was a part of their measurement of growth. It was his way of finding out a lot about a young man for a small sum.¹

Lantz's own words taken from his retirement speech best express his philosophy;

...I could not have had a more interesting career--perhaps a more profitable one--but certainly not a more enjoyable one. There is not a team, good or bad, of which I cannot recall personalities. And if I have taught some of the boys how to play the game, I did what I set out to do.²

Characteristics of Lantz the Man

He had various characteristics that also enhanced his success in life. He had a good sense of humor and was famous for telling a good story. Mr. Dempsey Reid, a faculty representative from Western Illinois University, related the following story that Lantz had told him in 1948:

A new coach in football was having a bad season--no wins for several games and Charlie went out to watch practice one afternoon. They were practicing point after touchdowns. He asked--'Why practice on the point after--you'll never have a chance to use it.'³

Discipline was another important facet in the character makeup of Lantz. He had a well ordered pattern of living and was extremely punctual. He gave those that associated with him a high degree of security because of this life style. His type of easy going discipline transcended also into his relationship with his staff. Dr. O'Brien gave

¹O'Brien, op. cit.

²Jubilee Banquet, op. cit.

³Based on personal correspondence between Dempsey Reid and the writer, October 17, 1970.

this story as an example of the Lantz type of discipline;

....I smoked a pipe...and I'd been smoking in my office for about a month. Charlie came in one day and said, 'Pat, I hate to tell you this but there's a university rule that says no staff members are to smoke on campus or in any of the buildings.' That's all he said and walked out. Later I asked him if he was telling me I couldn't smoke. He said 'No I'm just telling you the rule and you make up your own mind.'¹

Perhaps the most outstanding characteristic displayed by Lantz was the manner in which he gave the reins to a new man upon retirement. He had considerable influence, even while retired, but as his successor, Dr. John Masley stated, "He came around but never at the point of view to be looking over your shoulder."² In a statement following the death of Lantz in 1962, Masley went a step further in stating.. "This I consider to be the mark of a truly great man."³

Thus ends an era of a most outstanding man in the history of Eastern Illinois University.

¹O'Brien, op. cit.

²Statement by Dr. John Masley, personal interview, August 4, 1970.

³Courier-News, op. cit., May 7, 1962.

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Graduates from Pennsylvania State University with a master's degree.

Teachers College News. May 14, 1938.

Feature article on the dedication of the new health education building along with his all-star football, basketball, and baseball squads.

Teachers College News. February 15, 1939.

Report on the newly acquired physical education major.

The following newspapers were consulted but not used. They include some valuable information that may be helpful to future researchers on the subject.

Teachers College News.

February 7, 1922.

November 5, 1928.

May 20, 1930.

May 27, 1930.

Teachers College News. (Continued)

July 8, 1930.
 September 8, 1930.
 December 9, 1930.
 January 27, 1931.
 September 15, 1931.
 June 18, 1935.
 December 15, 1937.

Eastern Teachers News.

December 11, 1940.
 January 17, 1945.
 April 3, 1946.

Also much onformation could be gathered by looking through files of the following:

Bloomington Pantagraph
Charleston Courier-News
Decatur Herald and Review
Mattoon Gazette

C. PERIODICALS

Eastern Illinois State Normal School Bulletin. 1911 to 1917.

Normal School Bulletin. 1920.

Teachers College Bulletin. 1926 to 1938.

The above school bulletins deal specifically with the development of the physical education curriculum from its' inception through the time it was granted degree status. They include course descriptions and curriculum structure.

The Eastern Alumnus. Fall 1948, pp. 4-6.

A general article commemorating Lantz's service with specific references to the reasons for his coming to Eastern.

The Eastern Alumnus. Spring, 1952, pp. 3-5.

An article featuring the highlights and achievements of his career prior to his retirement.

The Eastern Alumnus. Summer 1952, pp. 4-14.

The feature article describing the retirement day feastivities along with a list of most notables in that day attendance.

The Eastern Alumnus. Winter 1956, p. 11.

Reports Lantz's reception of the Helms Hall of Fame Award.

D. PERSONAL INTERVIEWS

Belting, J.D. Personal interview. Charleston, Illinois, August 10, 1970.

Commented on many points of his relationship to Lantz, with particular emphasis on his physical ailments.

Foreman, Maurice. Personal interview. Charleston, Illinois, August 4, 1970.

Commented on the Lantz style of coaching, with particular emphasis on his basketball coaching.

Hampton, Maurice. Personal interview. Charleston, Illinois, August 4, 1970.

Commented on his close personal relationship with Lantz beginning with his team membership through his years of social contact. This interview is on tape.

Katsimpalis, Thomas. Personal Interview. Charleston, Illinois, August 10, 1970.

Related various points of their association.

Kennard, Ivan. Personal interview. Charleston, Illinois, August 10, 1970.

Commented on his brief relationship with Lantz along with some general information concerning Lantz's relation to the Charleston community. This interview is on tape.

Masley, John. Personal interview. Charleston, Illinois, August 4, 1970.

Commented on his brief contacts with Lantz, with particular emphasis upon the status of the physical education program at the time of transition. This interview is on tape.

O'Brien, Maynard. Personal interview. Charleston, Illinois, August 5, 1970.

Related much information that helped develop the concept of the Lantz personality and philosophy of athletics. This interview is on tape.

Powers, John. Personal interview. Charleston, Illinois, August 5, 1970.

Related personal experiences as an Eastern athlete under the direction of Lantz.

Seymour, Glenn. Personal interview. Charleston, Illinois, August 11, 1970.

Commented on his long personal relationship with Lantz and helped place him in the proper historical perspective at Eastern. The interview is on tape.

Warmoth, Walter. Personal interview. Charleston, Illinois, August 6, 1970.

Related his athletic activities under the direction of Lantz.

E. PERSONAL CORRESPONDENCE

Personal correspondence between Dr. Robert G. Buzzard, Eastern President Emeritus, and the writer.

Relates the reasons for and the situation surrounding Lantz's decision to refrain from coaching football and basketball.

Personal correspondence between Mr. Howard Hancock, faculty representative from Illinois State University, and the writer.

Comments on Lantz's value to the boys he coached and to intercollegiate sports in Illinois.

Personal correspondence between Mr. Glen Hesler, former Eastern athlete, and the writer.

Relates the Lantz football coaching technique.

Personal correspondence between Mr. Dempsey Reid, opposing coach from Western Illinois University, and the writer.

Relates his personal association with Lantz and some of the wit he demonstrated during the many years of their friendship.

Personal correspondence between Mrs. Natalie Thompson, daughter of Charles Lantz, and the writer.

In a series of three letters, Mrs. Thompson related many of the important personal aspects and impressions of her father throughout the duration of his life and the situation surrounding his death.

F. UNPUBLISHED MATERIALS

Crociani, Lawrence. "The History of Intramural Sports For Men at Eastern Illinois University 1899 to 1966." Unpublished master's thesis, Eastern Illinois University, 1966.

Relates valuable information about Lantz's participation in the development of Eastern's intramural program.

Dedication: Charles Philip Lantz Gymnasium. October 18, 1953. The program distributed at this ceremony.

This source gives a concise biographical sketch of his life and achievements while at Eastern.

Heller, Hobart. "The Dedication for Taylor Hall and Lantz Physical Education and Recreation Building." Address at Eastern Illinois University, Charleston, September 17, 1966.

The text of a speech that includes various comments on Lantz's value to and effect upon Eastern.

Interstate Intercollegiate Athletic Conference. "Brief History of Interstate Intercollegiate Athletic Conference 1908-1970". Mattoon, Illinois, May, 1970.

This history cites many of the years of service Lantz gave to the conference.

Jacobs, Virgil M. "The History of Basketball at the Eastern Illinois University from 1904 to 1962". Unpublished Master's thesis, Eastern Illinois University, 1959.

An excellent source of information on Lantz's basketball coaching career at Eastern with win and loss statistics based upon primary sources.

Jubilee Banquet: Honoring Dr. Charles Philip Lantz. May 18, 1952. The program distributed at the retirement day ceremony.

This source includes a biographical sketch of his life, including his statement depicting his philosophy of athletics. Also includes comments from various colleagues and athletic personalities throughout the state of Illinois.

Justis, Joel A. "The History of Intercollegiate Track and Field at Eastern Illinois University from 1912 Through 1966." Unpublished Master's thesis, Eastern Illinois University, 1966.

This source gives a brief description of Lantz's introduction of the track program at Eastern.

Kirby, Ronald F. "The History of Intercollegiate Baseball at Eastern Illinois University from 1904-1962". Unpublished Master's thesis, Eastern Illinois University, 1962.

The most complete source of information concerning Lantz's baseball coaching career. This thesis traces all forty-one seasons of his career giving win and loss records vased on primary source material.

Ledger Book. "Charleston Officials Association" Personal items of Charles P. Lantz.

His treasurers ledger book that contains many of the names of his close personal associates.

Lord, Livingston C. Letter written to Charles Lantz in response to his application for a position. Text supplied by Mrs. Natalie Thompson.

The exact text of a letter written to Lantz from Lord offering a position.

The following materials could be used to aid future researchers on this subject.

Lantz, Charles P. "A History of the Illinois Intercollegiate Athletic Conference." Pennsylvania State College, 1935.

Lord Letterbooks.

VITA

The writer was born and has lived most of his life in Springfield, Illinois. He received his education at Lanphier High School in Springfield; and at Eastern Illinois University, where he received his Bachelor of Science in Education degree in 1968, and a Master of Science in Physical Education degree in 1971. While at Eastern the writer competed in track, lettering three times and served as team captain during his senior year. The writer has been teaching physical education in the Springfield Public Schools since graduation in 1968.