

American National Biography 23 (New York 1999)

4 • WELLES

(1965), contains the most current. Democrat Oscar T. Shuck concentrated on Weller's pre-California years in *Representative and Leading Men of the Pacific* (1870), while Republican Theodore H. Hittell described Weller's term as governor in vol. 4 of his *History of California* (1897). *A History and Biographical Cyclopaedia of Butler County, Ohio* (1882) celebrated a native son. Lewis P. Lesley praised Weller in "The International Boundary Survey from San Diego to the Gila River, 1849-50," *California Historical Society Quarterly* 9 (Mar. 1930): 2-15, while William H. Goetzmann placed Weller's work in context in *Army Exploration in the American West, 1803-1863* (1959). A thorough account of the Downieville tragedy is William B. Secrest, *Juanita* (1967). Hubert Howe Bancroft detailed the Downieville hanging and Herbert affair in *Popular Tribunals*, vol. 2 (1887). Ward M. McAfee covered Weller's role in "San Quentin: The Forgotten Issue of California's Political History in the 1850s," *Southern California Quarterly* 72 (Fall 1990): 235-54, and settler actions are in "Majority and Minority Reports of the Select Joint Committee on the Mendocino War," appendix to *California Senate Journal* (1860).

ROBERT J. CHANDLER

WELLES, Charles Bradford (9 Aug. 1901-8 Oct. 1969), ancient historian, epigraphist, and papyrologist, was born in Old Saybrook, Connecticut, the son of Charles Thomas Welles, a Hartford banker, and Edith Smith. He was educated at public high school in Hartford, Phillips Exeter Academy for a postgraduate year, and Yale (B.A., 1924; Ph.D. in classics, 1928). The decisive event of his career occurred with the arrival at Yale in 1925 of Michael I. Rostovtzeff, the great Russian émigré ancient historian who led Welles to direct his talents from philological to historical pursuits. Welles's dissertation, *Royal Correspondence in the Hellenistic Period* (1934), a study of the language in letters of Hellenistic kings, thus became a corpus with historical and philological commentary of those letters. Welles became like a son to the childless Michael and Sophie Rostovtzeff and was later named the executor of Sophie's estate.

Welles was appointed instructor at Yale in 1927; in 1930-1931 a Sterling Fellowship allowed him to travel throughout Turkey, Syria, Egypt, and Europe to do much of the work on his first book and to meet many European scholars, including his contemporary Louis Robert, the great French epigraphist, who played an important part in his scholarly life. On his return to Yale in 1931, he was named assistant professor; after a year as associate professor in 1939-1940, he was appointed professor of ancient history. During the 1930s he was much involved with Rostovtzeff's excavations at Dura-Europos, a Hellenistic and Roman town in Syria that yielded many important and well-preserved inscriptions, graffiti, and papyri, many of which Welles published.

During these years he also joined the Army Field Artillery Reserve. He went on active duty in the spring of 1941, the first Yale faculty member to do so, training an all-black regiment in Louisiana before returning to Yale for two years as assistant professor of military science and tactics (1942-1944); a nickname of "the iron major" probably dates to these years. He was

then posted in Cairo as head of X-2, the counterintelligence unit of the Office of Strategic Services. His work earned him promotion to lieutenant colonel and the rank of honorary officer in the Order of the British Empire (1946). He returned to Yale in 1946 and plunged into scholarly activity, including editing an archaeological digest in the *American Journal of Archaeology*. But he also had a continuing role in military intelligence and was brought back to active service in 1950 for two more years, this time in G-2 in the Pentagon with the rank of colonel. He remained in the reserves until his death. Welles liked the military and its discipline, but military service required long absences from his wife, Eleanor Bogert, whom he had married in 1926, and their two young children. A lasting consequence of his service in Cairo was Welles's interest in the Middle East and his sympathy for Arab (and particularly Egyptian) views, as well as his keen appreciation of topography.

After Welles's final return to Yale in 1952, he entered an enormously productive period that lasted until his death, during which he produced with colleagues the monumental edition of the papyri from Dura and a first volume of Yale papyri, along with numerous articles. He served as general editor of the Dura publications for many years, devoting much time to the work of others. He was also active in scholarly organizations, serving a term (1956-1957) as president of the American Philological Association and, most importantly, founding the American Society of Papyrologists in 1961, serving as its first president, and launching a series of summer seminars to train students in papyrology. He was honored with a volume of essays published as the first number of the society's monograph series. Despite an often austere outer demeanor, he was a good mentor to his students, whom he treated seriously as junior colleagues and warmly as friends, and who responded with great affection. Many colleagues at a distance experienced this same generosity through his wide correspondence.

Welles's last years were shadowed by turmoil in the Yale classics department, brought on by the determination of a new chairman to emphasize the study of ancient literature at the expense of archaeology. The chairman dismissed several younger faculty and forced Welles into academic exile in another university building. A year at the Institute for Advanced Study was some solace, but the effective destruction of the multigenerational ancient history enterprise at Yale was a bitter blow. Welles died of a heart attack in a taxi in New Haven on his way to take a train to New York for a meeting of the Ancient Civilization Group.

Welles was highly productive, despite his military intermissions, publishing, in addition to *Royal Correspondence* and the two volumes of papyri, an edition and translation of part of Diodorus Siculus for the Loeb Classical Library and a textbook on Hellenistic history entitled *Alexander and the Hellenistic World* (1970), along with more than seventy articles (some of book length) and 110 book reviews. His editions of documents matched textual precision with profound

historical and philological commentaries. They and his Diodorus volume remain standard, frequently cited works. The articles of his later years took on increasingly broad historical themes. Teaching remained central, however, for Welles was profoundly concerned for younger scholars and for the transmission of his discipline, training many of the next generation's ancient historians.

- Welles's professional correspondence, books, and scholarly offprints, including a vast amount inherited from Rostovtzeff, are in the Duke University Library. Some personal papers are in the hands of his son David W. Welles in New York, who provided important information for this article. For a listing of his writings up to 1966, see K. J. Rigsby, "Bibliography of the Works of C. Bradford Welles," in *Essays in Honor of C. Bradford Welles*, ed. A. E. Samuel (1966), pp. ix–xxii. A frontispiece is also printed in that volume; an earlier photograph appears in the 1942 *Yale Banner*. On Welles's OSS service, see R. W. Winks, *Cloak and Gown* (1987), pp. 136–38. Obituaries include A. E. Samuel, *Bulletin of the American Society of Papyrologists* 6 (1969): 59–60; Anna Swiderek, *Journal of Juristic Papyrology* 18 (1974): 7–8; Fritz Uebel, *Archiv für Papyrusforschung* 21 (1971): 216; the *New York Times*, 9 Oct. 1969; and A. E. Samuel, *Proceedings of the American Philological Association* 100 (1969): xix–xxi.

ROGER S. BAGNALL

WELLES, Clara (4 Aug. 1868–14 Mar. 1965), silver-smith and designer, was born Clara Pauline Barck in New York City, the daughter of John Barck and Margaret Bowman, both of Scandinavian descent. After Clara's birth the Barcks moved to Oregon. In the late 1890s she left the Pacific Northwest to enroll in the Department of Decorative Design at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. Influenced by C. R. Ashbee and the English Arts and Crafts movement, she graduated from the school in 1900, and in September of that year she opened the Kalo Shop ("Kalo" derives from the Greek word for beautiful) at 175 Dearborn Avenue in Chicago. Staffed by young women known as the Kalo girls, the shop produced a variety of craft wares including burnt-leather and base-metal goods. In 1902 the Kalo Shop displayed their wares at the first annual arts and crafts exhibition of the Chicago Art Institute. The firm continued to exhibit there until 1921.

Clara Barck's marriage in 1905 to George S. Welles, a coal businessman and amateur metalworker, marked a watershed in her career. Husband and wife both shared an interest in silver, and they established the Kalo Art-Craft Community, a school and workshop that operated until 1914 in their suburban house in Park Ridge and sold its wares in downtown Chicago. In those years the Welleses practiced the somewhat utopian ideals of the Arts and Crafts movement to their fullest extent. In 1914, however, Clara and George were divorced; and Clara Welles merged the Kalo workshop with the retail operation and moved them to 32 North Michigan Avenue in Chicago. Once back in the city, Kalo became primarily a business venture, losing much of its identity as a community of craftspeople and students. The firm moved in 1918 to

the Fine Arts Building at 416 South Michigan Avenue, a prime location that served as a meeting place for artists and women's clubs. By 1925 Welles had moved the establishment to 152 East Ontario, a less accessible location that was not advantageous for business. In 1936 Welles moved the Kalo Shop back to the Railway Exchange Building at 222 South Michigan Avenue, where it would remain. She also maintained a retail shop in New York City at 130 West Fifty-fourth Street from 1914 to 1918.

Welles's Kalo Shop was one of the most important of the several enterprises that helped revitalize silver-smithing in Chicago in the arts and crafts style. Under Welles's artistic direction and management it became one of the leading silver shops in America, notable for its large size, its employment of women, and its encouragement of Scandinavian immigrant artists. Kalo objects were distinguished by their purity and simplicity, exhibiting clean lines, restrained ornament, and superb handcraftsmanship. Early designs tended to be angular and geometric, but the Kalo Shop soon adopted a soft, curvilinear style for which it became best known. The shop produced a full line of pitchers, bowls, and hollowware, as well as fine flatware and jewelry. Welles was praised for her fairness toward her employees and for her advocacy of women silver-smiths. As many as twenty-five craftspeople, many of them Scandinavian immigrants, worked in the Kalo Shop at one time, including Julius Randahl, Matthias Hanck, Emery Todd, and Esther Meacham. The Metropolitan Museum of Art included Kalo silver in a 1937 exhibition of contemporary design, and the high praise it received established the reputation of Welles as an important twentieth-century silversmith.

Welles continued to operate the Kalo Shop in Chicago until 1940. She lectured frequently in the Chicago area and led a vigorous public life; she was active in the Cordon Club, an association of professional women in the arts, the Municipal Art League, and the Improvement Society. In 1940 she retired to Mission Hills, near San Diego, California. In retirement she was active in the Travelers Aid Society and the American Red Cross. In 1959 she gave the Kalo Shop to its then-current four employees—Robert R. Bower, Daniel P. Pederson, Yngve Olsson, and Arne Myhre. She died in Mission Hills. The Kalo Shop remained in business until 31 July 1970, producing many of the same traditional designs that it had issued for more than half a century. Today, Kalo silver is represented in many public and private collections.

- Some three hundred Kalo Shop drawings, many by Welles or annotated by her, are on deposit in the Prints and Photographs Department of the Chicago Historical Society. The Decorative and Industrial Arts Department of the same institution has files on the Kalo Shop. Pertinent information on Welles is also included in the transcript of a 1976 interview with Robert R. Bower, a longtime Kalo employee, also at the Chicago Historical Society. Biographical profiles are by Kristan H. McKinsey in the *Historical Encyclopedia of Chicago Women* (1996) and by R. Tripp Evans, "A Profitable Partnership," *Chicago History* 24, no. 2 (Summer 1995): 5–21.