Interview by Margaret F. Hillman, Director of Planned Giving, and
Marshall P. Kean, Director of Research & Special Projects, with
Grace Berkley Brannon, class of '27, and Mary Barkalow Joyce, class
of '38, in Denver, Colorado on April 3, 1991

Mrs. Brannon was previously interviewed for the oral history
project of the College, in 1977, by Judith Reed Finley. A copy of
her tape and the written reports are on file in Special
Collections. The purpose of this interview was twofold: to do a
formal oral history interview with Mrs. Joyce and to jointly
explore their memories of student life at Colorado College in the
late 1920's and in the late 1930's.

Marshall:
I'd like to thank you both for agreeing to meet with us here today.
I think what we'd like to do is start with a little general
biographical background on yourselves; your schooling, information
on your family, and how you came to Colorado College. Mrs. Joyce?

Mary Joyce:
I came to Colorado College from a girls' Episcopal boarding school
in La Jolla, California in 1934; my father had died when I was
sixteen, my mother was left a widow with two daughters to educate,
and we came together to Colorado College because she had been
offered a position as head resident of Bemis Hall. We were very
careful to decide how we were going to react to each other, as both
"freshman" from very different stances, and we finally indicated
to each other that we were going to be, sort of, strangers, but
loving strangers for awhile. My background at that time was
influenced by the Great Depression. I was given a partial
scholarship and a job "hashing" in Bemis Hall. And almost
immediately was aware of having to count cash flow...pennies...and
be very conscious of how expensive things were and to budget
accordingly for my earnings. It's interesting in the light of
today, when we're going through a recession, to look back on that
period and to understand that many of our young today are probably
going through much the same thing. It was a wonderful freshman
year, and I, after having been rushed to belong to a sorority, I
joined Kappa Kappa Gamma, which offered some very fine friendships
throughout my college life and after. It was wonderful living in
a dormitory--that kind of group living I had experienced in
boarding school--but certainly not to the extent that I did at
McGregor Hall, Montgomery Hall and Bemis Hall. So it was an
experience that I will never forget, that I treasure, that was part
of, certainly, growing up, and my sister joined me, two years
later, so that both of us were there for part of our college life
together.

Marshall:
When you entered the college did you have any particular career
goals in mind?
Mary Joyce:
Yes, I did have...I had thought I would like to be a social worker. And I suppose that was somewhat... I was somewhat influenced by what was going on in the world at that time. My mother had found that she was almost immediately going to have to work after my father died; and she became the secretary, after going to secretarial school, to a county commissioner/welfare office in San Diego County. And she would sometimes bring colleagues back to the house for dinner, and I suppose I was influenced by what they were doing, and how they were doing it. And ultimately I did become a social worker.

Margaret:
May I ask Grace that same question?? Did you, when you came to Colorado College, have a career goal? Did women think about career goals in the 1920's?

Grace Brannon:
Women's career goals were pretty well limited to teaching, and nursing, and the other feminine arts.

Margaret:
And you chose to teach?

Grace Brannon:
I chose to teach and I chose as my subject, romance languages, I think because it sounded romantic. (Laughter)

Margaret:
Which was another career goal for women!

Grace Brannon:
Another career goal...but I stuck with it for forty some years, teaching.

Margaret:
Thank you.

Marshall:
I was wondering, and this is again, to both of you...what memories you have of specific professors, or courses you took. If you could tell us a little bit about the academic life in your time.

Mary Joyce:
Yes, I remember that English 101 was a course that I looked forward to being in, and I found myself almost the only girl in that particular section. And Arthur Sharp said to me, "Miss Barkalow, if you would like to go to another section, we could certainly arrange a transfer." And I was just stubborn enough, and never having been...having been in a girls' school...I thought it
probably would be interesting and more fun, to be exposed to a class where there were all boys. So he allowed me to stay, and it was a wonderful experience, because he was an absolutely marvelous professor, very sensitive and very knowledgeable. He was also the director of Koshari, which was the dramatic group at that time. And the other professors that I remember were Dr. Abbott, Miss Van Diest, Edith Bramhall—and the thing I remember about Edith Bramhall, who taught political science, was that she loved to travel. And she was also very "Scotch"—and so she would figure out a way of getting from one destination to another by contacting a mortuary, and say "have you got any bodies going this way or that way?", and she would accompany the bodies, and of course her transportation fee was practically nothing. Anyway, the other thing I remember about Miss Bramhall who was really a very independent woman, not terribly feminine—but she used to say: "Now if you're going by yourself somewhere, you must act perfectly helpless and very feminine." (Laughter)

Margaret:
We've lost that!

Mary Joyce:
Miss van Diest, who, and Dr. Abbott, and—I can't remember the name of the psychology professor—but anyway, they all had a wonderful influence on my academic program at Colorado College, and it ultimately lead to graduate school, in social work.

Marshall:
So they were the direct influence.

Mary Joyce:
Yes. I remember Miss van Diest said to me one time, "Mary, I want you to go call on a family that needs some help, and find out what they need" and who they are, and she gave me the address. And this was part of a work program to see how students were able to confront such a challenge, in order to decide whether they were really geared, and right, for social work. Well, I never told her this, because it was too embarrassing. But I did go—I went around the block three times before I got up enough nerve to go and call on this family. And then I got in the yard, and I was so appalled at the dirt, and the poor little runny-nosed kids that were so dirty, that I thought I'd have to excuse myself in order to keep from being nauseated. And finally, I accomplished my mission, went and got back to the car, and threw up!

Margaret:
How old were you at the time, eighteen or nineteen??

Mary Joyce:
Yes. I never told Miss van Diest that because I really wanted to go into social work, and I thought once I got over the initial shock it would be alright...and finally, my first real, paying job
was as a probation officer in the Denver Juvinile Court... and it was important for me to go and visit homes, but I was always accompanied by a great, burly Irish policeman.

So, I remember very vividly Dr. Murphy's, Dr. Bradford Murphy's, class. He taught Abnormal Psychology--and it was a very enlightening class because he finally got into all kinds of Freudian explanations--which, as a psychiatrist...he was a Freudian...but also he turned out to be an extremely good friend, and I remember his class with great pleasure.

Margaret:
Was it easy to make friends, with professors, in those days, or did you feel like there was a student/professor...sort of wall--barrier??

Grace Brannon:
I think there was a barrier.

Mary Joyce:
There was a ...certainly, a very real respect for professors, and we never called them by their first names, except for Art Sharp...

Marshall:
Really?

Mary Joyce:
...and we did call him by his first name...I don't know how that came about, but Art was an extremely informal gentlemen, and it came about, I think, quite naturally. But the others were always treated with great respect and admiration; they were our friends, but we weren't familiar with them.

Marshall:
There was no socializing of any kind? or was there any of that?

Mary Joyce:
No, not really.

Grace Brannon:
There was none in my case...but Dr. Latimer was my major professor. He taught French and Italian--somebody else taught Spanish--he was such a stickler for perfection--and I don't mean perfection of the spoken word--so that one thought in the language, but a literal, polished translation, word for word. And he was so picky that I've seen young women just burst into tears in his class, because he was nagging at them so...I don't think he ever brought any tears out of me, but we were not what you would call close buddies. The Spanish professor was--one of them, I remember--was extremely informal, and absent about half the time from his class and he'd always get me to fill in for him, so I got quite a bit of experience teaching--his last name was Snyder--I don't think he lasted an awful long time.
Margaret:
Did faculty play any role in student life on campus, besides teaching? Did they chaperone, or come to meals, or anything like that.

Mary Joyce:
Yes...Dr. Blakely was the psychology professor whose name I was trying to remember earlier...Yes, I think they all took turns, especially those who were married, chaperoning college dances, and those of us who belonged to sororities...even though we did not use our sorority houses except for meetings--by that I mean that we did not live in our sorority houses--I think we would often have faculty as guests, and as chaperones, and every sorority house had a house mother--as did every fraternity house--and that created a monitoring situation that was, it seems to me, a very good thing. As I look back on that rather restricted social life that we had...along with signing out when we were going out on a date, or to a party, and knowing that we had to be in by 10 o'clock on certain nights, and not later than twelve on other nights. There were some very real restrictions which offered a lot of security to college students at that time. You could say to your date, if you didn't think you were having a particularly good time, or if things were getting out of hand: "Uh oh, I have to be back..." you know.

(Laughter)

Marshall:
A built-in safety valve, I guess...

Mary Joyce:
Yes, exactly.

Grace Brannon:
I don't recall chaperones; we must have had them, because we were before Mary, but we must have been so law-abiding that they never showed up out of their dark corners!

Margaret:
Right...part of the wallpaper...

Marshall:
Were there a lot of events that were centered around sororities and fraternities, or were there more campus-wide things. What can you tell us about...just kind of the general social life, of the time. What did you do on Fridays and Saturday nights? for example...

Margaret:
...before eleven!

Mary Joyce:
Well, we would often have dates, and those would be just going to a movie, and having a soda afterwards, or on special occasions, dancing at the Broadmoor, or at the Antlers, depending on how rich we felt, or our boyfriends felt. And there was never any of this "Dutch" thing—you were invited out by a boy, and he paid for everything. And then you would invite him to a sorority function—a dance, or something like that. There were campus parties—inter-fraternity parties, and Homecoming...all kinds of Homecoming parties, with parades, and contests for Homecoming queen, and that kind of thing.

Margaret:
Did the parades go downtown into Colorado Springs, so that they were part of the community?

Mary Joyce:
Yes, floats...and prizes for floats....

Marshall:
So Homecoming was a very big event...

Mary Joyce:
It was a big event, yes...

Grace Brannon:
And decorated houses too...

Margaret:
Decorated houses?? the fraternity houses or the dormitories, or both?

Grace Brannon:
Both.

Margaret:
Outside decorations??

Mary & Grace:
Yes...and prizes...

Marshall:
Prizes for the best decorated house?

Mary Joyce:
There was a lot of competition....

Margaret:
How about a bonfire? was there a bonfire in those days?

Marshall:
Yes, did they have those?
Grace Brannon:  
...by Cossitt.

Mary Joyce:  
Yes, right.

Marshall:  
Back in the amphitheatre??

Grace Brannon:  
Yes, a great huge one...

Margaret:  
They just revived that this year, by the way... for your interest.

Marshall:  
Yeah, they did...they're reviving a lot of things right now...

Mary Joyce:  
There was a men's pep club and a gal's pep club... the Growlers... and the...I can't remember.

Marshall:  
Was it the Tiger Club?

Mary Joyce:  
Yes, the Tiger Club--and we wore... the Tiger Club girls wore black skirts and orange shirts...and it was a real honor to be asked to belong to the Tiger Club...and if you missed, though, you were out...so you had to appear at every football game...and flourish your...whatever you call those things...pompoms....

Marshall:  
Were the football games well-attended?

Mary Joyce:  
Yes, they were at that period in Colorado College history--because it was before there was......DU was eliminated, Boulder was eliminated, Ft. Collins ...all of those...

Margaret:  
There was a lot of Colorado rivalry.

Marshall:  
That was the old Rocky Mountain conference.

Grace Brannon:  
The greatest rivalry was with Boulder/CU---

Marshall:
in football?

Grace Brannon:
-uh huh...there were really great athletes playing in those days. Well, when I was a senior, Dutch Clark was just entering...Ed Honnon, he was a great football player, wasn't he...there were some well-known Colorado football players.

Margaret:
I've heard people talk about taking the train from Colorado Springs up to Golden, or Boulder, for the football games...that was a popular thing to do?

Mary Joyce:
I never did, but I think it was popular...and interestingly enough, my granddaughter, who graduated last June from Colorado College...we were talking about the difference in social folkways and mores, on the campus...and she said, "you know, we didn't really date, we always went in groups," so that was a very real difference in social life...

Margaret:
Very definitely.

Marshall:
Were there other sporting events other than football, perhaps, that would involve the Tiger Club, and the Growlers....basketball, maybe, or hockey---hockey came in the late thirties...

Mary Joyce:
Hockey...I can't remember being involved as a Tiger Club member in hockey, but I remember that hockey was a very popular collegiate sport. And the Broadmoor Ice house was a wonderful place to go.

Marshall:
I guess both of you probably remember Murray's Drugstore...

Grace Brannon:
Oh heavens, yes...

Mary Joyce:
Oh, yes! ...it was the hangout... wasn't it?

Grace Brannon:
Student center...

Marshall:
That was like the student center...

Grace Brannon:
There was no student center...except...
Margaret: 
...except Murray's Drug?

Grace Brannon:
Except Murray's drug...

Marshall:
So that's where you could find a large number of students, outside of classes...

Grace Brannon:
It wasn't a very large place, but it seemed to do what it was designed for...

Mary Joyce:
That's were people congregated...I think Jeff Murray was in my class...

Grace Brannon:
Isn't that where we bought our books, Mary?? ...at Murray's...I think they...

Mary Joyce:
Yes, I think so...

Marshall:
They sold your school books there, too? your textbooks?

Margaret:
Interesting...

Marshall:
Well, I suppose there are other aspects of college life which both...academic and social, or otherwise...such as the library, do you have any specific memories of Coburn Library that you'd like to share with us?

Mary Joyce:
It was just a very nice place to go to study...I remember one...I remember my freshman year...signing up...because this was the gym period...for a class in wildflower identification. Now that was highly unusual, and irregular, and different, for a freshman to use that for her, or his, gym--physical education credit... Mrs. Coles...of the Coles Foundation--had just returned from Switzerland--and I can remember what a handsome, fine looking specimen of a young woman in her thirties or forties she was, and she wore an Alpen hat, with a feather in it, and she took us on these nature walks...and that was a perfectly lovely way to get a credit for physical education.
Marshall:
For heaven's sake...

Margaret:
Did women have to take physical education, in those days?

Grace Brannon:
Yes, or a doctor's certificate...one...

Marshall:
But it was a requirement, though.

Grace Brannon:
Wasn't it, Mary?

Mary Joyce:
Yes.

Marshall:
This is a question I'm sure both of you can draw on your memories for...what do you recall of Chapel services...they were required, I understand...

Grace Brannon:
Oh yes, indeed...

Mary Joyce:
You were allowed three cuts...and many of the students used the Chapel services to do their homework...and having come from a very committed religious background...in a school where there was Chapel every day...this shocked the living daylights out of me...I was very disapproving...there was--you know--no respect, no reverence...it was a shocking revelation to see kids preparing for their next class in the Chapel...

Marshall:
How often was the Chapel service held...was it once a week?

Mary Joyce:
I think once a week...

Marshall:
And there were student monitors, who checked...

Grace Brannon:
...took role...I still have a little gem of a note on my memory books...says "Miss Berkly, I notice that you have been absent for two straight Chapel services...the third one..."--I forgotten what dire fate I was threatened with...(laughter)...but I evidently buckled down, and went regularly from then on...
Marshall:
Who would conduct the Chapel services...what was the nature of them?

Mary Joyce:
There was a chaplain, who had been hired, a very qualified man...I never could understand why he didn't clamp down...

Grace Brannon:
What was the name of that chaplain that was so long, in office...?

Mary Joyce:
I can't remember, Grace...

Grace Brannon:
I can't either...but it was pretty dull...a lot of the time... I think it deserved to be....put down.

Marshall:
Well, you had the Chapel services actually in the Shove Chapel--it was brand new, I think, when you first came...

Grace Brannon:
Ours was in Perkins...

Marshall:
Yours was in Perkins....that was what I was wondering, where they did it before Shove was built.

Mary Joyce:
...and Shove is a beautiful chapel...it was hard for me to understand why anybody would not be awed by it, you know...

Margaret:
...and just enjoy that time...

Grace Brannon:
Perkins was not built as...it was the Fine Arts Building, wasn't it...so that there wasn't the sacrilege to not paying attention to it that there would have been...

Mary Joyce:
in Shove...

Marshall:
...in something designed as a chapel...

Margaret:
that's true...you wouldn't have that same sense of where you were...
Grace Brannon:  
I remember the hymn we used to sing, every time... "God our help in ages past, our hope for years to come... Our shelter from the stormy blast... (and our eternal home..)"

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Marshall:
... convocation... so yes... it's still recognized as "the Colorado College hymn" in fact, that's what they refer to it as... in the program for the event...

Grace Brannon:
Isn't it in the Episcopal songbook?

Mary Joyce:
Oh, you bet it is...

Marshall:
St. Anne's hymn, I think it's called...

Grace Brannon:
Well now, CC was not Episcopal, it was Congregational...

Margaret:
Well, I think it's a general hymn... you find it in all the general hymnbooks.

Mary Joyce:
... in every denomination.

Marshall:
I was wondering if you could tell us something about your friends... who were you close friends with... any memories there that... of particular importance to you...

Mary Joyce:
Well, yes, there were a number of gals with whom I have had a lifelong friendship... in fact one of them... Martha Lou Phillips Chamberlain and I went on a Baltic cruise together a couple of years, and we have kept up... and there are others with whom I have kept up, but not quite as strongly as with Martha Lou. I wore a Phi Gam pin for three years... but that... finally wore itself out...

(laughter)

Margaret:
You know, that raises an interesting question. I wonder if students today "get pinned"... that was something we all took for granted...
Grace Brannon:
I have noticed...I haven't seen a sorority pin on anybody for years, I don't think they wear them, or exchange them or anything anymore.

Marshall:
I'm not sure that the students today would understand what the term "getting pinned" means...

Grace Brannon:
That was a pretty big thing in our day...

Mary Joyce:
That was the vocabulary of another era...

Marshall:
I think it was... well, do you have, either one of you, any particular memories of your commencement...I assume they were held in the Chapel in those days. What can you tell us about the event, the ceremony?

Grace Joyce:
Mine was held in Perkins, and it was a week of constant rain...and we were waiting to start back to Missouri for vacation and the roads from Colorado Springs to Kansas were muddy; we had to postpone our trip at least a week, and we got pretty impatient about it...

Margaret:
Was that a graduation trip, kind of thing...or?

Grace Brannon:
We were just going back to visit relatives.....Do you remember anything about yours, Mary?

Mary Joyce:
I'm trying to...I've been to so many commencements at Colorado College that my own doesn't really stand...it all gets blurred...

Margaret:
Graduating when you did in 1938, with the world economy as it was--the country's economy--what was your sense of what it was going to be like to go out into the world...

Mary Joyce:
Well, Roosevelt had come into...power...and I think all of us were quite hopeful by that time. We didn't take anything for granted. I think we all knew that we were going to have to work, and we were... we all knew that we probably needed more education other than a fine arts college, to get to that point...
Margaret:
...that's interesting...

Marshall:
Was there any feeling about impending hostilities...world hostilities or trouble?

Mary Joyce:
Not then.

Marshall:
That was still yet to come...I guess by 1939, it was much more of a fear.

Mary Joyce:
yes, and '40..

Margaret:
When you graduated from Colorado College, was the world sort of waiting to embrace you...was there a sense of optimism being a college graduate in those days...?

Grace Brannon:
My job search was rather distressing...I decided that I would not teach in any town of less than 50,000 people. So I sent out applications, and whatever amounted to resumes in those days, all over. I just really covered the country. And every blessed one of them wrote back: "Sorry but we hire only people who have had five years experience."

Margaret:
Oh, my gosh...

Marshall:
So where do you go to get the experience...

Grace Brannon:
...where do you go to get the experience...it happened that during spring vacation of my senior year we went down to Shamrock, Texas to visit my father's brother...and he was mayor of the town, and the president of the board...the school board, was a former classmate of my parents, back in Missouri...so I had enough "drag" there to get a job, in a town of about 3,000...and I taught there for five years...

Margaret:
Some things never change! and then you wrote back all those people...

Marshall:
...as you got your five years experience! That's funny--teachers today have the same problem, in fact, jobseekers in all professions
run into that constantly. I think it's a problem that all new graduates face...they did in my day, and I know they do today too. I think both of you have had a number of members of your family attend Colorado College, is there anything you'd like to add, that maybe we haven't already touched on involving your families, perhaps, and their relationship to the College?

Mary Joyce:
Well, I was particularly pleased when two of my grandchildren enrolled at Colorado College, and was struck almost immediately with the differences between the life at Colorado College during their time there and the life that I experienced at Colorado College. In fact I have talked at length with both of them about certain things that disturbed me...about what they were experiencing at Colorado College...and I've shared this with you, Margaret...I've been reading, being an old sociologist, I'd been reading a number of things that were frightening to me for them: the lack of some restrictions that I thought would have helped them...date rape...at the last commencement exercises that I went to I went into one of the buildings nearby, and was accosted by a guard, saying, "If you would like to go to the restroom, I will be glad to accompany you..."...and I said "oh, I can manage perfectly alright..." and he said "no, you can't,"...so he did accompany me and he waited for me. So then I interviewed him at length, and he told me there were seven other guards besides himself that were employed by the College, for safety reasons, because it's an open college, and there are a number of "invasions" from the city which threaten vandalism and other problems. I felt very sad about that because it used to be a very free, safe place to be, and to realize that my grandchildren were experiencing threats, and fear, and insecurity, was a shock to me, and a source of concern. I have been told, "this is the real world", and there are certain things we do that make it possible for safety. This is also a very different world, and one has to learn how to cope. And my granddaughter, when I questioned her recently, I said, "When you left the library did you always have an escort?" and she said, "No, I just took my chances and got home," and I said "Was the lighting good?" and she said "Oh, just fair." So these matters I think are now being addressed by the administration, for which I'm grateful; and I think there's a growing awareness on the part of students themselves which is important, for them. It's no longer the innocent place that you think of...or at least, I thought of when I was in college. So...

Margaret:
As young women going to Colorado College, did either of you ever worry about walking on campus?

Marshall:
...or walking in town?
Grace Brannon:
Heavens, no.

Mary Joyce:
No.

Grace Brannon:
Well, I was only a day student, but, at that time, there was of course, no problems at all.

Margaret:
Did you walk to and from campus, or take the bus?

Grace Brannon:
I usually walked.

Marshall:
Was there any kind of campus security at all?

Grace Brannon:
I don't think so, in my time.

Mary Joyce:
Just Margaret. Margaret was the maid at Bemis Hall who always used to let us in at night. And it was... the only source of concern about Margaret was that if you wanted to do a little smooching, there she was watching you!

Margaret:
It is sad...it has changed.

Marshall:
But I guess the world has changed too...I guess you've kind of answered the question I was going to ask and that's kind of comparing the campus life in your time, to the way it is today, from your perspective, or the what you understand of it. Do you have any additional thoughts on that, Mrs. Brannon?

Grace Brannon:
On how the campus has changed?

Marshall:
Well, or just how you would evaluate it from campus life in general from 1927 to 1991.

Grace Brannon:
You were asking a little while ago about friendships that have continued through the years--and at least a dozen of my closest friends, of now--well, some of them started in grade school--but also, most of them went to CC. And then, some of the--hall girls--as we called them--also became friends that lasted through the years. And I think most of those close friends--friendships--were
through the sororities--through the literary societies, as they were called in those days...

Margaret:
Let me ask this question, why were they called literary societies?

Grace Brannon:
That's the best question that's been asked today...

Margaret:
All of a sudden I realize I don't know--that's just something I've taken for granted...

Grace Brannon:
...they were in no way literary. They were societies. I suppose since they went back to the Greeks..."Minerva" and "Hypatia", "Contemporary" was not a Greek work, but it must have had something to do with the Greek origin of the names...I don't know how long they'd been going when we got there...

Margaret:
Maybe they were fooling the faculty, so they wouldn't know they were really sororities...maybe if we went back to that, we'd be...

Marshall:
I think they evolved into the sororities in the very late twenties or early thirties...

Grace Brannon:
They were already starting when I was there. We belonged to something called the "Crescent Club" which was sponsored by Mrs. Lucy Minnox? [sp?]...I've forgotten what it turned into...but I know that "Minerva" turned into Delta Gamma.

Margaret:
"Hypatia"--Kappa, I think...and "Contemporary" was Theta...

Grace Brannon:
Speaking of Greek--the innocence of those days--which I may have brought up in that interview with Judy--I think it was during our senior year--that a new group started up, a group of independent women--they're not called girls anymore, they're called women, aren't they--well now, I've lost my train of thought--oh yes--they started up a group, that was going to become-get ready to be a sorority, too, and they searched around for a name for themselves, and it turned out they were "Lesbians".

Margaret:
That was their name?

Marshall:
That's what they were going to call themselves.
Grace Brannon: 
That's what they were going to call themselves... and somebody set 
them straight...and they got a different name.

Margaret: 
They didn't know the real meaning for it, or...?

Grace Brannon: 
They didn't know the meaning for it--I didn't know the meaning for 
it--it was a complete surprise to me!

Margaret: 
I wouldn't have either, if that says anything!

Marshall: 
It was probably a name somebody had heard somewhere and it sounded 
Greek!

Grace Brannon: 
Or else somebody for meanness' sake, took advantage of their 
n Innocence, and suggested it...I was talking to Margaret and Dr. 
Barnes--at a reunion--Margaret Tyson Barnes being of our class-- 
and he said that he thought that the younger Mrs. Mierow, who 
taught in the Classics Dept. was just mean enough that she could 
have put them up to it. (Laughter)

Marshall: 
Was Dr. Mierow the president of the College when you were there?

Grace Brannon: 
Yes, he was.

Marshall: 
Then, you probably would remember, I guess, the inauguration, his 
presidential inauguration, did you attend that? It was held 
downtown in a movie theatre?

Grace Brannon: 
Mierow's? I must not have.

Marshall: 
We have a motion picture that was made in 1925 of the event, and it 
has pictures of all the students, and the faculty members, in caps 
and gowns, getting on the streetcar to go down to the movie theatre 
to inaugurate the president. It was the only auditorium in town in 
those days.

Mary Joyce: 
Is that right? Well, those days...
Grace Brannon:
Dr. Mierow...he was such a little classic man...so correct, and everything... and I remember one joke he told at...what were we talking about a minute ago, that we had every day--chapel--he said: "one fellow said, 'I graduated from Harvard--LLD'; and another fellow graduated from somewhere else, with another...name after it...and this other fellow spoke up and said, 'I graduated from Colorado College mirabele dictu'---"marvelous to say."

(laughter)

Margaret:
That's cute.

Grace Brannon:
But he's not a man you would think of remembering for one joke he told, in his whole life!

Margaret:
No, he wasn't a funny person.

Marshall:
I guess, Thurston Davies was president...

Mary Joyce:
Yes, I was just going to say that it was Thurston Davies first year, my freshman year; it was Evaline McNary's first year, my freshman year; and my mother was there for twenty-five years, and after her death, my sister and I established an award in her honor. The qualifications for the award are interesting because they are so completely different from what you think of today as qualifications for a woman. They had to do with really the qualifications of a lady. They had to do with leadership, campus responsibility, ability to contribute to the whole in terms of influence--all kinds of ladylike qualities that I've often wondered how we ever found young girls who met those qualifications, but we have every single year since then, haven't we?

Margaret:
We really have--but I'm listening to you list them now--and when it was conceived, it was a "lady"--now no young woman today would even know what we are talking about--and yet we talk about "leadership" and so many of those things have been incorporated into what we think about women's leadership--which is interesting to think about.

Mary Joyce:
Yes...almost inevitably, they...those who were given that award, were very prominent in campus "Quadrangle Association" positions, other campus positions--they were leaders for their peers, at that time.
Grace Brannon:
Did you ever get acquainted with any of them?

Mary Joyce:
Yes.

Marshall:
I'd like to ask two questions, I guess by way of summation, of each of you; and I would like to know how you would evaluate the college today, academically, or any other way, and also to describe if you can what effect you feel the college has had on your lives?

Grace Brannon:
Well, I think it greatly improved academically, from the standpoint of the quality of the professors, research, just every kind of angle, that a college should be...and what was the other part?

Marshall:
What effect do you feel the college has had on your life?

Grace Brannon:
Well, it probably had more effect on my life since...well I got interested in the Alumni Association when--on our 30th anniversary from graduation--I never had attended an Alumni affair, I think, until that--and then all of a sudden, Louis Benizet, Lew Worner, others of their calibre, came into my life, and it's been my second home ever since.

Marshall:
Mrs. Joyce?

Mary Joyce:
I think that the College had an enormous influence on my life, as a liberal arts college, and appreciation of the liberal arts--and a knowledge of them--a quest to pursue them--after my graduation--in such ways, as going to the symphony, attending art museum exhibits--an appreciation of all kinds of things, like good literature, good books...and opportunities in a community to pursue these interests. It's...a college education of that kind, I think, is extremely valuable, because then you can--it serves as a springboard from where you can continue to pursue all your life long.

Marshall:
So your kind of evaluation of the college as it stands today?...

Mary Joyce:
I think it still holds true. I've talked with my grandchildren about the academics, and I think they both approve of the Block system. I think my granddaughter Bonnie, was disturbed because her last year was the one where it was changed to eight instead of...and she found that difficult and she thought that probably it
helped professors, but she wasn't sure it helped students. I've been a little concerned for fear that she, who majored in math, didn't quite get the liberal arts that I had hoped that she would get. And then again, she said "Colorado College is a wonderful college, and I got a lot out of it, but I didn't get any skills." So, I thought that was interesting...so it shows maybe a difference in her expectations...from what...

**Margaret:**
Has she gone on to graduate school, I can't remember?

**Mary Joyce:**
She's...she's thinking of going on to grad school...she has a job with an insurance company at the present time, but she needs to know more about actuarial...whatever you call it...

**Margaret:**
Whatever it is they do...

**Marshall:**
Is she looking for that kind of a career?

**Mary Joyce:**
Yes...and she's very gifted in that way. She knows computers, and she's very knowledgeable about fiscal responsibilities...

**Marshall:**
It will be interesting some day, perhaps, to interview her, some years down the road...and look at her perspective, in hindsight.

**Mary Joyce:**
I think that it was a marvelous opportunity to be offered a certain period abroad. Now, for Bonnie that was not a good experience, it was an extremely unfortunate one. But I'm sure that doesn't happen all the time, but I'm just wondering if this isn't an opportunity to say I hope that the families are more carefully monitored, when students are assigned to them, to be sure that they are going to be happy there. Bonnie was just miserable.

**Marshall:**
That's unfortunate.

**Margaret:**
That is unfortunate.

**Grace Brannon:**
I should say.

**Marshall:**
Well, I'd like to thank you both for participating today, we've certainly enjoyed it, and...is there any closing comment...?
Mary Joyce:
I feel honored that you asked me to...express myself...

Grace Brannon:
I do, too.

Margaret:
Well, we feel honored that you would both agree...thank you.

Marshall:
Thank you both.