

Dr. and Mrs. Edward B. Liddle  
Class of 1943  
R-43

- I. Pre-Colorado College years.
  - A. Both Dr. and Mrs. Liddle attended Main High School, now Palmer High School.
- II. Why did you choose to attend Colorado College?
  - A. Mrs. Liddle's parents chose it for her.
    1. Their reasons were largely financial, as she could live at home while attending C. C.
    2. She was an only child and they didn't want her to go away.
  - B. Dr. Liddle attended C. C. for many of the same reasons.
    1. He knew that C. C. had a good pre-med program.
    2. He received a partial scholarship from C. C.
- III. Academic life at Colorado College
  - A. What were your first impressions of the classroom situation?
    1. "The classrooms certainly weren't any grander than those in high school."
    2. The academic life seemed pretty tough because Mrs. Liddle was mainly used to participating in activities and not having a lot of homework.
  - B. Required coursework
    1. They were required to take courses in every division.
  - C. Students were quite grade-conscious in those days, especially the pre-med students.
  - D. Student-professor relations.
    1. The students were usually quite closely acquainted with their professors.
    2. Students commonly visited professors in their homes.
      - a. Art Sharp, the drama coach was especially friendly with the students.
- IV. Koshare drama club
  - A. An extra-curricular group.
  - B. They put on 4-5 productions per year.
    1. Original musicals
  - C. They practiced in a little theater in the basement of Bemis.
  - D. The shows were put on at the Fine Arts Center.
    1. They sold season tickets to the public.
- V. Relationship between the college and the community.
  - A. There was always a sense in the community that the college was teaching socialism.
    1. The college taught about such things but didn't promote them.
    2. Professor Ralph Gilmore [Biology department] was very cautious about teaching the theory of evolution.
- VI. Recollections of Professor Gilmore
  - A. Physical appearance.
    1. Short, fat, "Santa Clause without a beard," twinkly eyes, bald.

2. Demanding.
  - B. Dr. Liddle had some good courses with him.
    1. Dr. Liddle was a Biology major and wanted to get into medical school before he got drafted. So he went on an accelerated course and finished college in less than three years.
      - a. He took some advanced field courses in Biology in Summer School.
  - C. Summer School with Professor Gilmore
    1. Gilmore taught limnology which is the study of the wildlife of streams and ponds. "He loved stummy green ponds."
    2. The entire class consisted of four students, and they went on field trips five days per week and picnicked.
  - D. The Dog Club
    1. "Anyone who was really into it did it more than once," i.e. they bit off the head of a waterdog (the larval stage of a salamander). That was the initiation into the club.
    2. "It was one of the crazy things that college students have always done," such as goldfish-swallowing and V. W. stuffing.
- VII. Recollections of Professor William Blakely (psychology department).
- A. He was terribly kind, very interested in his students.
  - B. Physical appearance
    1. Very slender.
    2. About 5'10"
    3. He spoke quickly.
  - C. He was not the best teacher Mrs. Liddle ever had.
  - D. He was a concerned individual.
- VIII. Recollections of Amanda Ellis [English department].
- A. She was "very much in evidence."
  - B. She liked people to write papers with sex in them which was strange at that time. People found that they got better grades if they did this.
  - C. Physical appearance.
    1. Medium height, rather plump.
    2. She always wore beautiful hats.
- IX. Recollections of Dean Louise W. Fauteaux
- A. She used to have girls in for tea in her apartment.
    1. "We were very carefully groomed, gloved, etc."
    2. It was a nice affair.
    3. "We never knew quite what we were supposed to do when we got there."
    4. She invited 4-5 girls at a time.
  - B. She had an apartment in Bemis.
- X. Recollections of Terry Golden---student/chemistry lab assistant
- A. "The original hippie."
  - B. He is now very conservative---the most established real estate man in the community.
  - C. "I remember him wandering up the middle of Wood Avenue, barefooted and in blue jeans with long hair at a time when nobody else was doing that sort of thing."
- XI. Chapel Services
- A. Attendance was compulsory for the first two years.
  - B. Freshmen also had to attend assemblies in Perkins Hall every Thursday.
  - C. Chapel services were mostly religious.
  - D. They were once a week.
  - E. They had assigned seats and attendance was taken.

## XII. "The Pit"---a lecture hall in Palmer Hall.

- A. Mrs. Liddle had Economics lectures there.
- B. Description
  1. The professor stood on a lower level.
  2. Capacity was about 80 students.

## XIII. Social life on campus in the 1940s.

- A. Being a sorority member helped Mrs. Liddle to adjust to the difficulties of living at home rather than in the dormitories.
  1. She studied with friends in the dorms and had other activities there.
  2. She was left out of much of the comraderie that develops from living in the dorm.
- B. Description of living in a fraternity house.
  1. "Grubby."
  2. The Phi Gamma Delta house was an old building which has since been torn down.
  3. The pledges were supposed to clean but they never did a very good job.
  4. The "chapter room," where they held secret rites, etc. was in the basement.
  5. The food was pretty good.
    - a. They ate in the dining room of the frat house.
- C. Sororities
  1. Rush
    - a. "Very social, very concentrated."
    - b. It was "bedlam." There were parties from morning until night.
    - c. There were four sororities.
    - d. Towards the end, the rushees attended preferential dinners--- formal affairs.
  2. Initiation
    - a. It was very secret.
    - b. They built a special initiation room.
    - c. "Everybody wore the prescribed garb."
    - d. The ritual was very inspiring.
  3. The Kappa house was the same as it is today.
    - a. They used it for meetings, suppers, studying.
- D. Fraternities.
  1. Rush
    - a. A hectic schedule.
    - b. Beer busts. There was a lot of alcohol on campus---spiked punch at fraternity parties.
      - i. There were also "beer places" in town. TBIF always met at "Rusty's," downtown on Bijou. They bought pitchers of beer, played drinking games, etc. Beer wasn't officially allowed on campus.
    - c. Hazing of pledges
      - i. They wore yellow beanie caps and yellow sweaters.
      - ii. They wore the pledge pin.
      - iii. There were meetings on Monday nights when they always found some reason to paddle pledges. There were a lot of "jocks" in the Phi Gam house and "it was a matter of pride for some of them to break the wooden paddles over the rear ends of the pledges...Bend over, hold your ankles and look out!"

2. Initiation

- a. One of the things they had to do was to eat, without a spoon or fork, a bowl of cold baked beans spread with catsup and mayonaise.
- E. What role did the Greek system play in the campus in the 1940s?
1. It was important to be in a fraternity or sorority.
  2. Fraternity parties were not all-campus parties.
  3. Sorority dances
    - a. "They were very nice affairs."
    - b. Elaborate decorations.
      - i. "False ceilings" made of crepe paper.
      - ii. They made an Aurora Borealis.
      - iii. It took a week to decorate for the dances.
    - c. The dances were held in the sorority house.
    - d. They had live orchestras. It was the Big Band era.
    - e. Every person in the sorority and her date attended.
  4. Fraternity dances.
    - a. Phi Gams annually held a "Bowery dance," i.e. with gay 90s costume.
    - b. They usually had a spiked punch called "Purple Passion."
- F. Homecoming
1. Fraternities decorated their yards.
  2. Floats.
  3. Parades downtown. They started at Tejon and Cache le Poudre, marched downtown and back and ended up at Washburn field.
  4. The football game was well attended.
- G. How did C. C. students in the 1940s spend their weekends?
1. Sleeping and studying.
  2. Always partying on Friday and Saturday nights.
- H. Student "hang-outs."
1. "Rusty's"
  2. The Hogan
  3. Murray's drugstore, corner of Tejon and Cache le Poudre.
  4. Broadmoor Tavern.

XIV. Sports on campus

- A. Hockey was popular---a fairly new sport at C. C.
1. There were a lot of Canadian recruits in those days.
    - a. Many were pre-Med.

XV. Clubs and committees

- A. Koshare drama club
1. Each Spring the group took shows on the road to little towns in Colorado.
    - a. Alamosa and Del Norte.
    - b. They hauled the equipment in a truck.
    - c. The students stayed in the homes of people in the communities.
- B. There was very little skiing in those days.

XVI. The impact of World War II on the C. C. campus.

- A. It was very strong.
- B. "Even before Pearl Harbor we were impressed by the rightness of the cause of the allies in World War II."
- C. Many people left college to go into the military.
- D. Recollections of the bombing of Pearl Harbor.
  1. It was a Sunday.

2. The effect on the campus was "gloom."
- E. A week before the attack Time magazine stated that the U. S. was invulnerable and Japan would never attack.
- F. The transformation of the campus (V-12) occurred after the Liddles graduated.
- G. Dean Fauteaux asked Mrs. Liddle to organize some women volunteers to attend dances at City Hall for the soldiers at Camp Carson.

## XVII. Recollections of Bert Stiles, '42.

- A. "A gifted guy."
- B. Physical description.
  1. 5'11", dark hair, good looking, athletic.
- C. Bright, enthusiastic.
- D. Even then he was writing stories for the Saturday Evening Post.
- E. He was eager to get into the war before he had to. He became a fighter pilot and was killed in 1944.
- F. He was a Phi Gam.
- G. "He was a beloved person."

## XVIII. Political awareness on the campus in the 1940s.

- A. Students were not as politically aware as they are now.
  1. They were more concerned with making a living, etc.

## XIX. Minorities on campus.

- A. There were only a few.
- B. Fraternities and sororities even discriminated against Jews in those days.

## XX. How did your experiences at C. C. impact your later life?

- A. Dr. Liddle got a good pre-Med education. In fact, he had covered much of the first year of medical school material at C. C. "I goofed off in medical school."

## XXI. Miscellaneous

- A. As students, the Liddle's were friends of Lew Worner.
  1. Personality as a student.
    - a. Low key, pleasant, congenial, thoughtful.
  2. He was a good golfer.
  3. He had a large dog that lived with him in the Beta House.
- B. Impressions of the quality of students in the 1980s.
  1. They are more serious about their place in the world now. "More people were there to have a good time when we went there."

## XXII. Hobbies and interests.

- A. Mrs. Liddle golfs, plays Bridge, sews, cooks, travels.
  1. They attended medical meetings in nice places.
  2. They are planning a trip to Scotland this fall.