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Morgan, Sallie Payne, 1895-1978
Colorado College Dean of Women, 1949-1957

CASSETTE ONE - SIDE ONE

FINLEY:

This is tape recording number six of the Colorado College Archives Oral History Project. My name is Judy Finley, interviewing Miss Sallie Payne Morgan, Dean of Women at Colorado College from 1949 through 1957. Following her retirement, Miss Morgan returned to Colorado Springs in 1964, as a part-time receptionist at Tutt Library, a job she still holds at the age of 81. This interview with Miss Morgan is taking place in her home, 1114 North Cascade Avenue, on December 6th, 1976.

Miss Morgan, you first came to Colorado College in 1949. Can you describe your arrival on the campus, and how you first decided to come to Colorado College?

MORGAN:

As you said, I came here in 1949, overlapping Mrs. Louise Fauteaux for a year, and my title was Assistant Dean of Women. Mrs. Fauteaux was to retire in June, 1950, when I would take up the job as dean of women. I had been at Randolph-Macon Woman's College for 13 years, and World War II came, and all my friends were joining some part of the service. I couldn't join the military service, because I couldn't take the type of discipline.

So I, with the help of a friend, I had a contact with a person in the personnel department at the Glen L. Martin Aircraft Company in Baltimore. And I worked there for three years in the personnel department. My job was to enlist or recruit students from colleges to work in the engineering department. I never have had an experience in my life exactly like that.

I've given you this background to let you know something of the attitude with which I came to Colorado College, because that experience changed my philosophy of education considerably. I worked there nearly three years, going to work in the dark, coming home in the dark, growing just thrilled with the experience I was having in that place

that employed 55,000 people on three shifts. I'd never had anything like it in my life.

My job was very exciting. The purpose was to lower absenteeism, and I did that by working with the people in the places in Baltimore that had to do with banking hours, longer hours, and I was allowed to have gripe sessions with the employees. And I learned to work with the people who were not college-educated. Many of them had never even graduated from high school. But they had a wisdom and a serenity that I had never met with before. And I had been in New York, at Columbia University Teachers College for my master's degree.

I had worked there in the summers; I had had many contacts there, and I had seen the people-- [telephone rings].

I had observed these friends of mine at Teachers College, Columbia working for their Ph.D.'s, and how discouraged they were. And my whole philosophy seemed to change, because these people in this big plant had a grasp and a meaning of life that I felt was very important for me to know.

I would go back to Randolph-Macon Woman's College at the request of the students to make a talk on my experiences in this big airplane manufacturing plant. I would say to them how I regretted having spent hours and hours in a judiciary committee with them, trying to decide whether a girl at Randolph-Macon could continue her education because she had broken a rule of the honor system, and had sipped a mint julep when she attended a dance at the University of Virginia. My whole philosophy of discipline in college seemed to be changing.

So I landed at Colorado College with this attitude. In the meantime, after I finished the job at the Glen Martin Company, I was not sure whether I wanted to go back into a job as dean of women, or dean of students. And so I took a job--I wanted to be in New York at that time, and just live there, and go to the plays, and hear the good music, and go to the museums. So I landed a job at Barnard College as counselor in residence. I was there three years, from '46 until '49. I realized education was the right place for me.

At a national deans' meeting in Chicago, I met Mrs. Fauteaux, who was looking for her replacement at Colorado College. I had been recommended to her by one of my good dean-of-women friends. She invited me to come to Colorado College for an interview, saying I was one of several candidates being interviewed here. I arrived in town at a date early in April. I stayed at the Acacia Hotel. The lilacs were blooming in Acacia Park, and the fragrance was

something out of this world to me, having lived in New York City for three years.

I walked to the college, up Cascade Avenue, where the crab apples were open. I looked at the Peak for my first time, never having been west of the Mississippi River in my life. I landed here on the campus. Mrs. Fauteaux took me to her apartment--a beautiful one--in Bemis Hall. I sat on the window seat looking out on Pikes Peak, and as we talked, I said to myself, "You don't know it, but I'm coming back here, to be your replacement!" [laughter]

I had a wonderful interview with General Gill. When he learned I had been at Randolph-Macon Woman's College for a number of years, in Lynchburg, Virginia, it, I think, was the reason I got the job. [chuckle]

Anyway, the committee who chose me were to be good friends later. They were Lew Worner, Glen Gray, George McCue, Howard Olson, and Frank Krutzke. I hadn't had such a good time in many a year as when those men talked with me. We had lunch together at the Broadmoor Tavern. I had a good job, and had had two other offers, but this was the one I really wanted. Before I left here, General Gill had offered me the job. And I came back in August of 1949. It was a thrill to arrive in this beautiful spot, and to look forward to my work.

At first, I was Assistant Dean of Women, and Mrs. Fauteaux and I decided that the important thing was to get acquainted with the students, and find out what they really wanted from a new dean of women.

I had an office on the ground floor of Ticknor Hall and I called myself a counselor in matters pertaining to vocational interests, academic interests. I had done a lot of testing as a volunteer in a vocational testing bureau in New York City, and I was familiar with the types of tests--the simple ones that would be right for me to use with the students. This was the approach I took in working with them, and it seemed to be very good.

At the same time, Mrs. Fauteaux and I had many conferences on what my work would be the next year. In the meantime, I made many contacts with the faculty. My philosophy has always been, as a dean of women, to work very closely with the faculty. I feel a dean of women is truly the faculty's dean of women. My job was to create an atmosphere conducive to the proper study and academic progress of the students, which is their purpose in being here.

So I cultivated, as much as I could, the faculty, by asking their help in various ways.

FINLEY:

Can you, before you go on, describe a little bit about Dean Fauteaux's approach to her job? Do you recall her personal manner, and the way she dealt with students?

MORGAN:

Mrs. Fauteaux was a very able person. She took an intellectual approach to the job, and did some very fine work in counseling the students. I had much to learn from her.

FINLEY:

Was she close, personally, to the students, or not?

MORGAN:

I believe she lacked a warmth, but in her heart, she was terribly interested, and helped many students, because they were most thoughtful at the time of her retirement. I think the big job was to help students who had financial problems, but there was a fine relationship with a great many of the students. But overall, she did lack--seemed to lack a warmth.

FINLEY:

Uh-hum. Well, now would you like to continue with your own recollections of working into her job when she retired?

MORGAN:

The next year, when I took over, I never shall forget the atmosphere in the Bemis Hall dining room, where we all ate. They came from nine different dormitories. Bemis, of course, was the most important one. McGregor, Ticknor, Montgomery and several little houses; Hershey, Slocum, Loomis, and across campus, on Nevada Avenue, we had Howbert, and at the corner of Tejon Street and San Rafael was Gregg House. That building was torn down when the fraternity houses were built.

FINLEY:

And all the girls came to Bemis Hall for meals?

MORGAN:

All of them came to Bemis Hall to eat. That dining room was, I felt, beautiful at that time. There was a dais, with a high chair, where the dean of women sat with her staff, and they always led into the dining room, and there was a student at the head of each table. The dean of women's job was to seat the people [chuckle] once a quarter, I believe, at the table where each person was expected to sit, at her assigned place. The tables were lovely always, with fresh white damask tablecloths, and napkins.

FINLEY:
And candlelight, right?

MORGAN:

And candlelight at night. The staff led in at each meal, followed by the seniors and on down. We sang a grace.

FINLEY:

Can you recall that grace for us?

MORGAN:

Yes. Miss Loomis is the one who selected this grace. It is from Psalms: "The eyes of all wait upon Thee, O Lord, and Thou givest them their meat in due season. Thou openest Thine hand and satisfieth the desire of every living thing."

FINLEY:

Was that said at breakfast, lunch and dinner?

MORGAN:

Only at dinner.

FINLEY:

Only at dinner?

MORGAN:

Yes. It was informal at breakfast and lunch. Now the time came when we could no longer afford to have--I'm sorry. I made a mistake. We first had dining rooms in Howbert and Gregg, I believe--no, Gregg students ate with the Howbert students, and that lasted only a little while, because the dining room service could not afford the separate dining rooms, and they had to come over.

I shall never forget the struggle I had with those students when they found they had to come over--walk across the campus to Bemis Hall. My dear friend, Sue Pfeiffer, led that crowd! [laughter] And they formed a petition to keep it, but they lost.

And so those were some of the very, very good things that I inherited when I came here, and the food service was marvelous. Evaline McNary gave us absolutely wonderful meals, and later, when her assistant took over, Little Eva, as we called her, Miss Sperling, meals were just as good. And it was a sad day in about 1955, I think, when we began to serve the meals cafeteria style.

Now, my job as dean of women entailed so many things that we don't have today. I had to do all of the room assignments. But it was good for me, because I learned an awful lot about each girl before she got here, and when she did arrive, all I had to do was put the name with the face, and that pleased her no end. And it gave me a head start in

working with them. I knew a good deal about them.

Those were lean years for us, financially. We had--salaries were low here at the college, and we needed students so badly. And my--I don't know whether it was expected of me or not--but I did it. I did a lot of recruitment from having been a member of the Admissions Committee, and knowing that there were very fine students who wanted to come, but didn't have the money. And I took it upon myself to find ways of getting good students here.

You remember Jane Carroll, and those--those were girls who couldn't have come here without help, and they came from Denver, and I was close to the dean of girls in each one of the high schools in Denver, and in other places in the state. And they would tell me about these very fine students who needed to come here, but had no money. I would, with Evaline McNary's cooperation and help, would find waitress jobs for them.

I would work closely with the scholarship committee, Mathias, who was chairman of admissions, on how we could find money for those people. And we began to bring them in. I would go to--this is one of the great satisfactions, at that time--I would go to a person like Margaret Cook, whom I knew very well then. She was active, she had income, she wanted to help students--she was a retired biology teacher from one of the eastern colleges. And I would say, "Here's a girl who, if she had \$200, could swing it."

And she would say, "I'll do it."

I would go to Ben Rastall, and say, "Here's somebody who needs just an extra hundred dollars." He'd give it to me. I did that so many times, so Ben said to me one day, "Sallie Payne, I really think you'd better stop panhandling!" [chuckle]

But he never turned me down. I remember one time I asked him for money to buy hoods for the choir, because those--the boys were the ugliest things you ever saw, with their loooonnnngggg necks, and Adam's apples standing out [laughter]. And no--and they looked so bad. Finally, Ben gave me the \$250 I needed for that.

But that's how scarce money was in those years. So my job was to recruit and get good people in, and hold them here, and work with them. I did it--it was a big part of my job, trying to bring in good students, and increase the academic standards.

Now, my best years were those in which I worked with General Gill. He and I worked together very well. He

trusted me, and I responded to that.

FINLEY:

Can you describe something of the social aspects of your job? There were many rules and regulations in the dormitories?

MORGAN:

Indeed there were! That's right! And my first requirement, in my mind, was getting in some good students, as best I could. The next thing was the work of AWS, which was the women's organization on the campus--Associated Women Students. They governed the residence halls.

FINLEY:

What were the problems of enforcing all these rules of residence halls?

MORGAN:

As I told you in the beginning, my philosophy was more liberal than I found these students, or the past administration to be. Freshmen were required to come in at 8:30 at night, every night except Saturday. I used to say to the girls, "These freshmen are 18. You're 19, and some of you 20. Now why would you make them come in at 8:30, when you don't have to do it? Can't we make one 10:30 rule for everybody?"

They would vote it down every time it was put before them, saying, "We had to do it; let them do it. It's good for them."

There were rules regarding dances on campus. I believe dances were not held off-campus, except for very special occasions. Fraternities and sororities had to register their dances with the dean of women, and she had to approve the chaperons that they had. And soon they were allowed to have their dances off-campus.

FINLEY:

But chaperons were still required?

MORGAN:

Chaperons were still required.

FINLEY:

On conduct--

MORGAN:

We had a judiciary committee of the AWS that would pass on cases of dormitory infringement. Anything bigger than that went before the Committee on Undergraduate Life, which was made up of faculty and students.

FINLEY:

What were the most common infringements--girls coming late on weekends?

MORGAN:

Chiefly that. We had one girl who stayed out all night and we worked on that a long, long time. And decided she should stay in school. It was vetoed by President Benezet, and that was one of my greatest disappointments--that something decided by the students, as the AWS was, was vetoed by him. But he felt very strongly about it. But the girl finally was allowed to make up the time that was lost, and she got her degree here, which was wonderful. She was back in 19--this year, for her 19--her reunion, I'm not going to say which class it was. But she was one happy girl, and was our friend throughout.

FINLEY:

It seems to me in retrospect that there must have been a double standard in existence in those days, because the boys had no hours.

MORGAN:

That's right.

FINLEY:

The boys weren't kicked out of school when something went wrong--it was always the girls.

MORGAN:

That's right.

FINLEY:

Did you face this situation and try to cope with it?

MORGAN:

Oh, yes. I used to have big fights with Juan [Reid] about it, and he couldn't do anything else but what he did. But it was terribly frustrating at that time.

FINLEY:

Yes. Well, can you describe a little further the social atmosphere that I'm sure you observed day after day after day? Perhaps a little more about how students' values appeared to be based, and if they accepted all of these rules? What they based their conduct on?

MORGAN:

That was the fifties, you know.

FINLEY:

Yes.

MORGAN:

There was very little--it seems to me now, if I can recall correctly--resistance to rules. They were very careful about the punishment--meting out the punishment for these rules. But there was not too much, I felt, interest in changing the rules. I would have given up AWS at that time, and let us go into a combined organization with the men, but--"nothing doing"--I didn't get anywhere with that.

I worked very closely with the girls who were in leadership, and we decided that we would try on a dorm, which turned out to be very satisfactory. When I first came here, I recall asking students what I could--how I could best serve them, and was told by some of them, those in leadership, that we should have younger people as directors in the dorm. We had older women in those years--much older--who wanted a black and white rule and penalty. And they wanted nothing that wasn't in the rule book, that was definite as a penalty if you broke a rule.

I understood that, and I decided with them that we would bring in younger women to head the dorms. That was one of my big problems, because these women--there were nine of them--who loved their jobs, and wanted to stay, and that made a problem. Of course, Mary Barkalow was head of Bemis, and no one had any notion of giving up Mary Barkalow, but I think she was the only one who seemed suitable to keep. And she had a place for herself on this campus, and it continued like that.

But there were these older women. Some of them had contacts with trustees, and they used those contacts, so you can imagine the kind of problem I had when I decided we were going to bring in younger people. I knew we had very little money--very little--but I got the okay to replace them, and give them room and board and \$1000 a year, for nine months.

I went to New York, to Columbia Teachers College, where I had been for a good many years; I had my contacts there. And I brought back to the campus these young girls, and told them that I could not pay them good salaries, but I could place them in good jobs after they'd had experience of two or three years with them. And it worked very well.

So we began by having one honor dorm, Slocum Hall, and it worked very well. The students themselves made the rules; they ran the houses with the help of the director, and it worked well. It ended by Gregg and Howbert becoming honor dorms, then later Ticknor, and later Montgomery, and at last, Bemis, where the freshmen lived. We had to wait for them. So that worked very well.

Now among that crowd was Vicki Hann. Vicki was a person who had great potential, terrific personality, and worked very well with the students and the faculty. She was head of Ticknor Hall, and was advisor to Panhellenic, and worked closely with the sororities. The time came when we could even have a Student Center, which was at Lennox House.

FINLEY:

Now the Beta House, right?

MORGAN:

It's now the Beta House, that's right. And Vicki was in charge of that. We had many activities over there. So the social program began to expand. There were already traditional programs that were held in the residence halls--Christmas programs, other things that were done. So the social life here was adequate. I think students felt that.

Skiing was not as popular, but I recall in 1951 going with a group on a bus to Fairplay, where we spent the night.

I recall how they thought they were going to have to slip and have their beer [chuckle] away from me, but when we sat in the great big lobby, after dinner in the evening, we had a good time while they imbibed what they felt was--but it was a great thrill for them, to be able to do that kind of activity. Because no drinking on campus was allowed in the those years, not at all.

I remember, Judy, you were student chairman of the committee to plan Rastall Center.

FINLEY:

Yes.

MORGAN:

And I remember what a terrific job you did of working out the plans, and all the interviews you had. So you made a real contribution at that time, whether you knew it or not!

FINLEY:

Rastall was in construction when you were here--

MORGAN:

Yes, just began its construction.

FINLEY:

Uh-hum. But now Loomis, as a women's dormitory, had already opened in about 1955.

MORGAN:

Yes. [can't understand] and I worked with the

committee on that, but neither one of us knew very much about building dormitories, and it was a hard job. I think if it were to do over again, we would make considerable changes. But the problem was a place on the campus for the dorm. We had no lot that was big enough to place it, and that made the big problem.

You have asked me to talk about memorable people on campus. I was very fond of President Gill, and worked closely with him. He didn't hesitate to counsel me when he thought my ideas were too far-fetched, or not good, but I felt he grew in his administration here to have the respect of the great majority of our faculty. And I'm sure that his administration made a real impact on the history of this college.

FINLEY:

Can you cite some specific contributions you feel that he made to the college?

MORGAN:

The honor system that he lived under himself at VMI, and he worked with Lew Worner, who had lived under this honor system at Washington and Lee. It was brought into our student life with--it turned out to be very successful and it's still in existence. I think that was one of his biggest contributions.

FINLEY:

What about academic contributions?

MORGAN:

I think--I'm told by Juan Reid, who's writing the history of the college, that it was under General Gill's administration that some of the great academic progress was made. I had wondered about that, but he says he can document it, and he said it was at the time the faculty took great initiatives in building the academic standards of the college.

I remember one of my hardest jobs was to administer the absent permissions, I mean the--not to administer, but to oversee class absences, if a student had taken more absences than he was allowed. There were many faculty discussions on how many classes a student would be allowed to miss, and if that student took advantage of that rule, and was absent too often, I had to interview them.

It was how I built up a very fine relationship with faculty, too, because we always brought in the advisor of the student at the time he was being penalized. And we worked together on why that student was absent, and worked with the

student on why he had to be absent. So that there were good things about it, as well as not. But the whole class attendance problem was worked on very carefully and hard at that time.

And I understand from Juan that students were disciplined for their failure to make their grades. They were really dropped out, and dropped from the rolls and told to stay out a semester, or a year. And they would come back, and make it up. Juan calls that good academic standards, because it was expected of them. But he can document more than that, I'm quite sure.

Now then, I was closest to Lew Worner when he was dean. There were three deans in my administration. I believe Mathias was the acting dean when I first came. Then they brought in a person named O'Dell, who was here only a year or two. Then Dean George Adams came in, who was very good in many, many ways. He was replaced during General Gill's administration by Lew Worner, and I was very close to Lew, and worked with him on many problems, and felt that much progress was made in my department at the time when he was dean. And we formed a friendship that has been lasting through the years.

Now for faculty, I was very close to a number of the faculty who are still here. And since I've been back here in a little job at the library, working part-time, it is wonderful to continue the friendships of these faculty. I've kept up with students of my day, at Christmastime and at other times.

And one of the thrills was to be invited, this last homecoming, 1976, to their homecoming reunion dinners, the classes of 1951 and '56, and to see those girls after 20 and 25 years meant something. And best of all, their sons and daughters are here in college now, as freshmen and sophomores, and I've come to know them. And two of them, Ruth Hunt's two boys are here; one is a junior and the other a freshman. It's really very satisfying to me.

FINLEY:

Can you describe any particular students that you found most memorable? Of course, I always think of the Pfeiffer family.

MORGAN:

Yes.

FINLEY:

But there were so many other girls, particularly,

outstanding girls. Can you recall some of them?

MORGAN:

Oh, yes! I remember Maita Gasser, who was president of the AWS, in about 1951, I think, and last year, that girl came back here, and I saw her come in the library, and as she approached the desk where I was sitting, I could say, "Maita Gasser." And it was thrilling to her that after all these years--she hadn't been back--to find somebody on the campus who remembered her.

Barbara Lett was here this last time. She's now married and with grown children, living in Columbia, Missouri. Any number of them I am able to remember. Marsha Frye, who lives in California--I hear from her every Christmas, as I do Gail Lund. And so there are many, many students that I can recall a happy association with.

FINLEY:

It was certainly the era of queens.

MORGAN:

Oh, mercy, yes!

FINLEY:

As I looked back through the old newspapers, there were so many photographs of beautiful girls--

MORGAN:

Oh, yes, yes, yes.

FINLEY:

--who were queens.

MORGAN:

Oh, yes, that was the thing! Their values were not the same as--no doubt they were the same underneath, but they didn't appear to be as serious as students are today. I find that they came here more to get a husband in those years. Today, it's very different--almost the opposite. They want to be together, and the way they--their standards, their social standards, their moral standards today are very different from those of the fifties, at least in appearance. And I like it this way today.

I have been a real supporter of the change, because I felt in my day, they would do things without our knowledge, and today they are open about these things. I've even approved of the plan that the students have of living together in dormitories; I thought it was excellent. I have not disapproved of their living together off-campus. I think it's good for them; it's a good way for them to learn about each other, and whether they want to live together

permanently or not. So their way of life now, on campus, is one I heartily approve of.

FINLEY:

Now you have some other particular things you want to discuss, so go right ahead.

MORGAN:

You asked me my personal interests now. I believe I'll talk a little bit first about my career at CC. My best years, my happiest years, were during the period of General Gill. Of course, I was here eight years. That covered six of those years.

President Benezet came in '55, I believe; I was under him for two years. The pressures, I began to feel the physical and emotional pressures in those two years. It had been discovered that I had a heart ailment that wasn't too serious at that time. But I needed to be free of much of the tension that took place in those years.

I had a very close friend at the University of Colorado, the dean of women, Mary Ethel Ball. She knew of my desire to free myself from as much of the pressure and tension of the job as I could. I had said when I came here that I wanted to taper off at age 62, and go into retirement at 65 in an easier way than just lead right up to it.

So Mary Ethel said, "I'll give you a job any time you want it," and I decided to go there--to Boulder--at age 62. I took a job as counselor to upperclass women, and lived in Sewell Hall with upperclassmen. I had three very good years there, and I retired at age 65 and went to live with a sister in Holly Springs, Mississippi, who had lost her husband that year. She had no children, was alone. I told her I would stay with her one year.

Soon after I arrived, the James Meredith problem of entrance to University of Mississippi arose, and you know the rest. I was there in the heart of that, only 20 miles from the university, of that racial upheaval. It affected me deeply. I felt the need of getting a part-time job, chiefly to be of what help I could to the young people in the public schools, and was a counselor to high school students, and I had a very satisfactory time in that job.

I was not happy living in that atmosphere--I guess you can't go home again. So that blessed Lew Worner knew it, and he had Mary invite me to have coffee with him one morning, when I was visiting Agnes Donaldson here in Colorado Springs, in the summer of 1964.

Lew came home at 10:00, at the time I was invited for coffee, and I remember saying to him, "Honey, what are you doing leaving your office at this time?"

He says, "I've come to tell you it's time for you to come back to Colorado Springs, and I have a couple of little part-time jobs to offer you."

He told me about two or three, and I chose the one of receptionist in the library. And I've been there, come 12 years in January, '77. It has been a very happy, rewarding experience for me.

FINLEY:

Twelve years! I didn't realize it was that long, Sallie Payne!

MORGAN:

Uh-hum!

FINLEY:

My goodness! You really can observe the changes of student attitudes through the sixties from that vantage point, as well--

MORGAN:

Indeed I did!

FINLEY:

--as anyone!

MORGAN:

Indeed, I did! They were different from these today!

You have asked me now to talk a bit about my personal interests, my hobbies, and my philosophy. Before I do that, Judy, do you feel you want to ask me questions that would help you to cover any topics that I have failed to mention?

FINLEY:

Well, there is one point that I would like to ask you to go into in a little more detail, and that is the time in your career when President Benezet came to Colorado College. You said you were beginning to feel the physical and emotional pressures associated with that period. Can you describe in some detail your assessment of Benezet's impact upon the campus--as well as on you?

MORGAN:

Oh, how we needed President Benezet at that time! He brought a new enthusiasm and a new hope for the college. He

worked very hard, and he worked his staff very hard, and I think it was one reason I was feeling the pressures, because I couldn't take the long hours I was having to take. We would have a picnic down in the Stewart lot, and afterwards President Benezet would call a committee meeting that would last until 11:00, 11:30, and I couldn't take it.

But don't let me discredit what that man did for this college. He brought us up by the bootstraps. He would call us together for our staff meetings, and he would say to us, "This college has it, and there is money in this country. There are foundations that have money that they want to give, but we've got to show ourselves to them as a quality place, in order to get that money."

And he inspired us a great deal. He brought up salaries of the faculty to a place where they needed to be. But I was not physically up, really, to the requirements, the physical requirements of the job at that time. But please don't let me discredit the wonderful contributions that Dr. Benezet made to this college.

FINLEY:

He was a man of tremendous energy, and--

MORGAN:

That's right!

FINLEY:

--I can see how the college went through a period of great [can't understand].

MORGAN:

I didn't always agree with his philosophy--certainly of student government--but it doesn't mean that I didn't appreciate everything he did for us.

FINLEY:

Right. Okay, anything further you want to say about the people you worked with at that time, under Benezet? It was essentially the same--

MORGAN:

It was the same, yes, yes.

FINLEY:

Okay. Why don't you tell us then about your personal interests and if we do run out of tape here, I'll just signal you to stop, and we'll turn it over.

MORGAN:

All right. My personal interests. I would say, as I grow older, I want to be helpful to others. My young friends among the students and faculty, whose lives I touch there in the library, they indicate their interest in the early years of my experience in life, and in my career.

For instance, the other night I had dinner with three students, history majors, and I was asked as a guest what it was like in the early part of my career--what were some happenings. I said I went with a large group of students at Randolph-Macon Woman's College in a chartered train car to Washington to see Franklin Roosevelt inaugurated as president in his first time. They looked goggle-eyed! [chuckle] They couldn't believe that there was anyone who had seen Franklin Roosevelt in the real!

Young faculty couples are interested in the early years of the college, both during my career, and before, as I've heard about the years. I believe I really care about the welfare of others, chiefly older people less fortunate than I. People who are lonely, have no transportation to the grocery store, to the doctor, to do errands. I'm terribly interested in national politics, especially now since Jimmy Carter is the President-elect. I'm pleased and proud a southerner is to be President of the United States. He is conducting himself well, I think, now.

The children of my faculty friends of my career years here are grown now, and I follow what they are doing with keen interest. Glenn and Ursula Gray's two girls, one of them my godchild, whom I held when she was christened, now at Boston University, not far from her Ph.D. in classical philosophy. Lisa, pulling down a beginning salary of \$11,000 as one of the budding editors in a reputable publishing company.

Linda Worner, a very successful teacher in Chicago public school system. What pride I have in Eric Sonderrmann--I babysat him at age five months, when Fred was in the hospital. I'm in close touch with most of these young people. The three Rucker boys--Mark and Artis from the city of Albany, New York. Casey, a sophomore at Yale, going great guns.

And others. Benson Shaw, I knew them all as babies. And now there's a new crop that I'm very fond of. The Griffith children; little Daisy Simons; Ranny Jones, daughter of Pam and Harold Jones. And what's more, I'm enjoying contact with sons and daughters of girls and fellows of my day who are now freshmen and sophomores here in college. I'm full of interest in so much that's going on around me.

My hobbies and interests overlap. I'm reading more than ever before. My job at the library, three hours a day, offers so much in contact with students and faculty, and the public. I do a lot of hand embroidery, as I watch television programs. I do crewel embroidery on pillows, and give them as presents at Christmas and birthdays, to special friends and family who seem to like them. The TV offers some very interesting programs. I have Cablevision that brings the fine programs on Public Television channel. I have five pet squirrels--the papa and mama named Harvey and Minnie. They have three children; all expect to be fed every day. The parents will eat from my hands.

I've loved entertaining on a small scale, but that is curtailed somewhat since I had an illness six months ago--a coronary heart attack. I'm getting stronger, and hope to resume that activity, along with some travel, come spring and summer.

Now a bit about my philosophy. I love life, the very act of living it. My philosophy has always been to reach out beyond myself, not to settle into a rut, but to be always growing, and I do not intend to get into a rut as I get older. I'm now 81. Most people over 70 are just killing time. There are so many things to do, and so little time now to do them. One of the greatest blessings of age, for me, is the freedom it brings from the pressures of the career.

I'm not deeply concerned any longer with the things that seemed so important when I was younger. I don't have to prove myself, or save face, or try to impress anyone, or go anywhere unless I really want to. I'm more conscious of other people than I used to be. I'm more conscious of other people than I used to be--of older people, than I used to be. I've studied them in the supermarkets, I make judgments on how they are getting along, but that isn't good. I must make judgments by what is inside, and not in outer appearances. I've learned from these modern young people that outer appearance doesn't count. Taste in dress--no! Cleanliness--yes! But they are exceptionally fine young people today.

My outlook on the world's ills is not calm. My generation has fought four wars. A big depression in 1929 and the thirties. Riots, fears -so, we older folks should be able to stand against anything. I pray that my last years will be continued here at Colorado College, among friends, and will not involve too much trouble for anyone else.

As of now, I am still in love with living. I want to continue life in dignity and independence, right here in my

own little home. Oh, if I am unable to look after myself, I will bring in help, or if necessary, I'll go to a good nursing home.

I must be in charge of my life, and not its hostage. Throughout, let me love so that others will feel this love that beats in my heart. Help me to take what comes, and keep young, believing things will get better. This philosophy seeped into my bones early in my life, learned from my parents. Floods came in that region, but they planted again. Our need today: give more of ourselves; expect less or nothing.

FINLEY:

Thank you so much. This has been a very pleasant morning--lovely to be with you, and for a person 81 years old, I must say, you're the youngest woman I think I've ever met, Miss Morgan!

MORGAN:

Thank you, Judy! I've enjoyed being with you very much.

THE END