

M. CARL ANDREWS

During his student years at William and Mary (1923 to 1927), Carl Andrews was involved in two endeavors that he would later pursue. He was a staff member on the Flat Hat for all four years, serving as editor in his senior year. At the same time he was a student waiter in the dining hall, and in 1972 he helped found the Order of the White Jacket, an alumni organization of student waiters. He spent most of the years between graduation and retirement on the Roanoke World-News, where he ultimately was editor.

Always a William and Mary supporter, Mr. Andrews served on the alumni board and from 1958 to 1966 was a member of the Board of Visitors. In this interview, taped at his home in Roanoke, he discussed his experiences and associations with the college.

101, 102
C-68

INDEX SHEET

Interviewee M. Carl Andrews
Date of interview June 10, 1976
Place 2814 Crystal Spring Ave, Rossville, Va.
Interviewer Emily Williams
Session number 1
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Contents:

Approximate time:

as student (1923-1927)	
as student waiter	10 mins.
Order of the White Jacket	3 mins.
as student waiter (cont'd.)	2 mins.
visit of Coolidge	2 mins.
expansion of campus	4 mins.
student view of Chandler, rules,	4 mins.
attitudes on campus, relations with professors	4 mins.
Flat Hat in mid-1920s, in later years	12 mins.
as alumni board member in 1951	3 mins.
and 1955 study of "peer protests"	2 mins.
and 1942 selection of Pomiret	2 mins.
and "peer protests," A.D. Chandler (cont'd.)	2 mins.
Colleges of William and Mary	3 mins.
as Board of Visitors member (1958-1966)	
own objectives	3 mins.
appointment	2 mins.
Colleges of William and Mary (cont'd.)	6 mins.
selection of Paschall as president	3 mins.
Colleges of William and Mary (cont'd.)	5 mins.
expansion of campus	9 mins.
branch colleges	5 mins.
expansion of programs	3 mins.
recollections of student days	10 mins.
See back of sheet for names and places mentioned in interview	

M. Carl Andrews

June 10, 1976

Roanoke, Virginia

Williams: I know one of the things that you were actively involved in and that was being a student waiter. What were your duties in the dining hall like?

Andrews: Our duty of course was to serve a given number of tables. Usually it would be three tables ~~of~~ a dozen (~~ten or twelve~~) students to a table. The second year I waited tables and I had three tables of girls: One was the table of the Kappa Kappa Gamma, ^(Kappa Alpha) one was the ^{Theta} Thetas, and then I had a table between those two of ^{NON-} ~~nine~~ sorority girls; I told them ^{that} was to keep the peace between them. The first year I waited ^[tables] I had freshman men, and they almost worked me to death. Everybody tried to avoid that if possible because freshmen had a reputation for eating everything in sight; they would eat it as long as you brought it to them. The girls were more or less picky about the food. They didn't like some of the college food, and they'd wind up by going to College Corner to the place we called the Pocahontas Tea Room and have a sandwich to tide them over, so to speak. We had to set the table and clean off the dishes after the meal.

Williams: Did you serve family-style?

Andrews: It was usually served ⁱⁿ big dishes -- yes, family style.

Then when they were through, ^{we'd} clean it off and find time to eat ourselves. Sometimes if they would dawdle over their food you would have a pretty close shave (for example at lunchtime) in getting your tables cleaned off, getting your own meal eaten, and getting to class right afterwards. But nevertheless, looking back on it, it was a lot of fun in a way. It was work and you had to be there at every meal. Sometimes they complained to the waiters about ^{the} food. We didn't have anything to do with that. We just got what they gave us in the kitchen and took it in. I noticed that nobody starved to death in spite of the complaints about the food.

Williams: Did you ever wait on President Chandler's table?

Andrews: I can't recall that I ever did wait on his table. He usually had a regular waiter, and the waiter would pick wh^mever he wanted for his substitute. I don't recall that I ever waited on him; I waited on others in the faculty.

Williams: The faculty took their meals in the dining hall as well?

Andrews: Yes. In my student days -- the first two years at least -- the President had a table in the main dining hall. It was right in front of the doors to the kitchen, so he could not only hear what was going on in the kitchen, but he could survey everybody that was eating there. Trinkle Hall was built after an old building we called Penniman burned down. Maybe somebody has told you about that. That was a World War I barracks brought

from Penniman Camp, and that had the freshman dining hall in it as well as a number of rooms. When Penniman burned one summer they got an emergency account from the state and built what was called Trinkle Hall. That was quite an improvement over the old facilities because all we had before was the Penniman building and the original dining hall, which was very small. That is used now for a hot dog stand or something isn't it?

Williams: I really don't know. I'm not that familiar with that end of campus, to tell you the truth.

Andrews: I've forgotten what they call it, the Wigwam or something.

Williams: At one time the Wigwam was over there, but I think now it's in the Campus Center. I'm not really sure.

Andrews: Well, all of those developments have come later. We had our meals at the time they set aside. If we didn't eat then, we didn't eat, unless we wanted to buy ^{it} downtown. And not too many could afford to go downtown and eat. I couldn't have gotten through if I hadn't worked in the dining hall, and I'm sure most of the others, too.

Williams: Several others I've talked to have said the same thing, and it strikes me that a number of the men there about the time you were have become conspicuously successful people. I wondered to what you would attribute that?

Andrews: Well, I'll tell you, Miss Williams, I believe fundamentally that it taught all of us the value of a dollar and the value of giving work in return for that dollar. when we were ^{given} 1

the opportunity to wait on tables for our board and room.

That was a great step forward for many young men who otherwise couldn't have gone to college.

I don't know whether anybody has ever mentioned this to you or not, but a good many of the waiters were athletes. That was what was a scholarship in those days -- a job in the dining hall. They didn't get any money for playing football or basketball or money under the table or anything else, whereas ^{it} is done at many institutions today, no doubt about it. They worked for their meals just like all the rest of us. The one concession that was made was when they were away on a trip with the team the athletic association would pay their substitute. But on the whole I think the student waiter had a good lesson in life as to working for what he wanted. It taught him the value of a dollar, to conserve his time, how to organize it so that he could study and do the work and do other activities. I did a great many other things in addition to that. And I think that is the secret behind the success of the Order of the White Jacket we finally founded. All of those men have great recollections of their student days, and without exception they'll tell you that that taught them a great deal in beginning life. They learned that there is value and dignity in work and giving an honest day's work for an honest dollar, as we used to say a good many years ago. I never knew anybody that shirked his work. He couldn't get away

with it. He was assigned tables to wait on, and he had to cover that. Sometimes one would fill in for another who was having problems of one kind or another. But I think in many ways it's unfortunate that the days of the old dining hall have been eliminated. Everything is cafeteria now, ^[-style] as you probably know. So it's a different situation, but nevertheless those that work in the cafeteria do equally as hard ^a work as we did.

Williams: You mentioned the Order of the White Jacket. Let me slip in here. Where did the initiative come from for the founding of that organization?

Andrews: Well, there were several of us who were classmates in the class of '27 who often talked about forming an organization of former student waiters. The ^{Principal} ~~principle~~ ones, besides me, were Art Matsu, our famous Japanese-American quarterback, and Dr. Lee Todd of Quinwood, West Virginia. Dr. Todd has succeeded me as president of the Order now. We wrote back and forth over the years; the writing I suppose mainly was between Art Matsu and myself, and they kept begging me to do the work. They knew that I was interested in it, ~~but~~ ^{and} I told them I didn't have the time to do it while I was still working, ~~but~~ once I retired I did go right to work on it. As you know we finally got the organization formed in 1972 -- in October. ^{It} ~~Started~~ ^{Started} out with sixty-eight attending the first meeting as a result of the letters I sent out to everybody I could think of and announcements in

the Alumni Gazette; now we have grown to over 400. We have included, of course, girls who have worked in the cafeteria in recent years and also decided to admit former students who had worked at dining halls and restaurants in Williamsburg. They were doing the same kind of work, although they didn't work for the college; why, they certainly were eligible. The same was true of any who waited on tables in fraternity houses and sorority houses, ^{we had} a few of those. So the idea has caught on and been very popular. It is an organization that I think means a great deal to the college and probably will more and more as time goes by. We have ^{had} inquiries from at least a dozen other universities who are interested in forming chapters, and we may get around to that before long. It's a matter, just like it was with us, of having somebody who is interested enough to do the ground-work. We hope to have a room in the Alumni House designated as the White Jacket room. We're trying to raise the money now to furnish it.

Williams: You mentioned fraternity and sorority waiters. When you were there did the fraternities and sororities eat in the houses, ^[Fed] or were they [^] in the dining hall, too?

Andrews: Not when I was there, but later they did have some dining facilities in some of the larger fraternity houses. I know my own (Phi Kappa Tau) did. (My mother was housemother there one year.) Not all of them had that. And then some of the

sororities had their dining halls.

Williams: I knew the sororities did.

Andrews: And they had student waiters. I might say this, Miss Williams, I never found anybody among the student body who took a superior attitude towards a student waiter or looked down on him because he was working serving them. Nobody really thought anything about it, as far as I can remember. And there certainly was no social distinction because I frequently dated girls that I waited on in the dining hall.

Williams: A good point to make.

Andrews: I thought a great deal of all of them, mighty fine people. And we all have remained friends through the years. I see some of them every now and then. The organization of this Order of the White Jacket has caused a lot of ^{them to} remember.

Williams: I imagine so, I imagine so. Were you waiting on tables the day that President Coolidge came?

Andrews: Yes, but I can't remember where I was. I wasn't waiting on him. Now as I recall, Coolidge and Byrd (Governor Harry F.) were there in May of '26.

Williams: The same day, right.

Andrews: There are pictures in my annual of that. They awarded them honorary degrees at the same time. That's the first time I'd ever seen the president, as far as I can remember. I have some pictures here of that. * Yes, there they are.

Williams: Oh yes, oh yes.

Andrews: William and Mary I think has given a degree to just about

* Turns to pictures in 1927 Colonial Echo.

every president since the First World War. You probably have a better record of that than I do. There may have been one that we missed in there, I've forgotten.

Williams: I really can't recall offhand if they did. Harding got one. Coolidge got one. Hoover got one down at Yorktown. Roosevelt, I would think got one at Mr. Bryan's inauguration. Truman got one.

Andrews: It might be that Kennedy was the one they missed.

Williams: Yes, Kennedy I think was the only one. Kennedy was the one they missed. But I had wondered if you had been in the dining hall that day because I had heard that was a very gala event at William and Mary.

Andrews: Of course that was in Trinkle Hall. I've even forgotten whether the president had him in the little private dining hall or not. ^{It} Seems to me that he was at a special table [^] out with the students.

Williams: That would be exciting.

Andrews: I don't really remember. It's been so long ago.

Williams: Do you remember the day that old Phi Beta Kappa Hall was dedicated because I've heard that was also a very special event.

Andrews: Yes, I was there then. I don't remember too many details about it. I remember when it burned, too.

Williams: Oh, yes. That was apparently a memorable thing, too.

Andrews: That was while school was not in session, I believe.

Williams: Right. It was over Christmas vacation.

Andrews: I don't think they ever did find out what caused it. But in a way it was a blessing because it probably was the worst auditorium ever built by the hand of man. It had a flat floor; it had a balcony around both sides and the back; and the acoustics were just absolutely nil. I don't know why they built it like they did. Anyhow, the new Phi Beta Kappa Hall is a vast improvement over that. They didn't save but just a little bit of the old building.

Williams: When you were there as a student were the students conscious that Dr. Chandler's building program meant a new day for William and Mary, or is that something you only see in hindsight?

Andrews: Well, I know this: when I entered, the physical facilities of the college were slight. All of us, I think, were aware that Dr. Chandler was doing everything he could to get money to build more buildings. There was a great deal of squawking about not having enough dormitory space, not enough classroom space, no auditorium in which to meet, and no real gymnasium. Blow Gymnasium was built while I was a student. I remember running around the track many a time under the roof, afraid I'd fall through the rail and hit the floor.

That's where the track team practiced in the winter. It was a very small track, although it seemed big in those days.

But Dr. Chandler did a magnificent job in building the new college. He took the college as he received it from Tyler, who had also done the best job he could in the wake of the Civil War, and carried it into this century. I often think we don't give those men enough credit for what they did against great odds with very little. Chandler built a rather modern plant in his day which has been the nucleus for what we have now. On the new campus I'm sorry the architecture does not match the old, but that was a matter of financing, as I understand it. The state just wouldn't permit any more building along the Wren lines, with the dormer windows and so on. They considered that wasted space and wasted money.

Williams: But did the students appreciate Dr. Chandler ~~at the time~~ for what he was doing?

Andrews: I don't say that all did, but a great many of us did realize that he was doing a good job

in trying to build the physical plant with very little, just what he could pump out of the legislature every two years. Chandler was a tough taskmaster; he had the reputation of being pretty rough. He had pretty strict rules that he saw to it were enforced. I think looking back at some of those rules now would be strange to the modern generation. If we had dates we had to have the girls back in the dormitory by 10:00, when the curfew bell rang. You could stay out a little later on Friday and Saturday nights, when we ^{had} special dances (card dances), which were always the most beautiful social events ^{-- something} that I think today's generation misses. It was a formal dance. We usually ran those until midnight. I can remember too you didn't hold hands with girls on campus--you didn't touch them at all. That was strictly against the rules; you got a severe reprimand, to say the least, if you were caught doing things like that. That was a real no-no. There were other rules that would seem nonsensical to today's generation. But then that was a part of the system.

I don't think many of us paid too much attention to it; we obeyed the rules and that was it! We knew we'd be in trouble if we didn't, and Dr. Chandler would be right on our necks. The school was small enough then--never over about 1200 or 1300 in my day--that the president knew every student, boy or girl.

I might add there that to me a small college was much preferable from the standpoint of social life. Every student knew every other student. You spoke to them on the campus; it's something that's missing today. It's hard to explain, but I always feel strange when I go down and walk across the campus and students pass by and look at you and won't say a word. I often speak to them, and they seem surprised. But that was the advantage of a small school. I don't like a big assembly-line university at all.

You had a relationship with your professors, too. You knew every member of the faculty, whether you took a course under him or not, and you knew him fairly well. There were several of my professors

~~that~~I just greatly admired. One in particular I was friends with was Dr. Havilah Babcock, who taught English (short stories). He had charge of what journalism classes there were. He was also the advisor of the Flat Hat, which I was editor of my last year; actually I was on the staff all four years in college. Babcock and I were such close friends that I frequently visited his home; I went with him on trips when he went to teach extension classes in Norfolk and Richmond. We were practically buddies. (I've visited him since down at the University of South Carolina, where he went to teach. I saw him right after World War II; he died not too long after that.) But he was a dear friend and a great inspiration to me. He used to tell me that I turned in good papers; I had a portable typewriter, and I typed everything. You'd usually get about ten points more if you had a typed paper. He ^{would} tell me, "That was a good paper, but I didn't give you as much as you deserve--people might not like it because we're such good friends." So if he gave me a 90, I knew that was probably a 95.

He was a great fellow. He wrote a number of books, and he loved outdoor life. (Discussion of Dr. Babcock's books.) I thought a great deal of him.

Of course he wasn't the only professor that I was fond of. I think of a number of faculty who ^{had} a lot of influence on my life as to the things I studied and the interest I took. For example, Dr. John Garland Pollard was professor of government and citizenship. I took every course Dr. Pollard offered; particularly he interested me in Virginia government. He was an expert at it since he had been attorney-general of the state before he came to William and Mary. He turned out to be a natural when they were looking for somebody to follow Byrd during the depression and "sit on the lid," as they put it, because there was no money to spend. But he did have to run the government and he knew it. He could do a good job.

Another one of my professors I loved through the years was Dr. Dick Morton. We were very good

friends. I first knew him when he taught me Virginia history. We had the class in the old chapel. I think he had the freshman class divided into two sections. It was a tremendous job lecturing to a class that large in a little old flat[^] board chapel. But he made Virginia history live for most of us; those who paid attention learned a great deal. Over the years I kept in touch with Dr. Morton; until his death I always tried to visit him when I was in Williamsburg. He was a very fine man. Another thing about him: I used to attend the little Presbyterian church, which was a little wooden building not far from Bruton Parish, ~~down~~ on Palace Green. Dr. Morton and I were the tenor section. I never did discover what happened, but some years after I left he left the Presbyterian church and went to Bruton Parish and became a wheel over there. He was a fine professor.

Williams: You mentioned Babcock--were you in his class that revived the Virginia Gazette?

Andrews: Yes, but I was working in all my spare time on the Flat Hat, so I didn't have an opportunity to work on the Gazette.

Williams: Was that from student initiative or was that his idea?

Andrews: It was his idea, and he tried to get all his class interested in helping ^{out with it.} He was well aware, of course, that I had all I could do with the Flat Hat. He used to come to the Flat Hat office, which was a cubbyhole in what we called the Citizenship Building (it had been converted from the gymnasium they had had back in the Tyler administration). He'd frequently come over and shoot the breeze with me in the Flat Hat office. Being our advisor he was supposed to keep pretty close touch with everything that went in the paper, but he told me that he wasn't any censor and that he'd rely on my good common sense not to write the wrong things and to see that the news got in properly. I don't think he ever demanded to see anything we'd written; sometimes I'd show him things that I'd written.

I remember ^{the} one time that I came closest to getting in Dutch with the administration was

when I wrote an editorial concerning the time that was spent by our professors ⁱⁿ teaching extension classes in Richmond and Norfolk ^{and Newport News,} among other places. Very frequently it was rough on them to go some place at night (say in Richmond or Norfolk) and then come to teach the next day. Students are pretty sharp; they could tell that the man was tired. And I wrote an editorial entitled, "~~At~~ What Price Extension?" That was the one and only one that Dr. Chandler ever got after me about. He gave me a little lecture about it. The funny part of it was that half of the faculty ^{must have} came to me off-the-record, saying the editorial was just what they needed. They thought something needed to be done; ^{too much was expected of them.} Eventually they got around to hiring people to teach extension, which in turn led to a better type of regime at R.P.I. and the Norfolk division and built them up into branches. Of course, they were still that when I later became a member of the Board of Visitors.

Williams: On the Flat Hat was there anything in the production of it that would be different from the way it would be done today--certainly printing processes are different by now.

Andrews: There was no printing plant in Williamsburg, of course. The paper came out on Friday, as I recall. We had to have all our copy ready and get it down to the printing

company at Hampton (the Houston Printing Company in Hampton) on Wednesday night or Thursday morning. Then they would set it and do their own proofreading (we never had a chance to read our proof, so many errors that got in, were too bad). They did a good job. The paper was delivered by truck on Friday and distributed that day. I understand that things are a little different now with the printing procedure. We didn't have many illustrations because they used to cost so much, and they had to be made by somebody else besides the printing company. The engraver would be from another company.

Williams: That's why there aren't many pictures in the Flat Hat from that era.

Andrews: Yes, that's true of any paper of that day. It was not until they established their own engraving plants that things were different. [Discussion of illustrations in Roanoke paper.]

Williams: Was the paper supported simply by student fees plus advertising?

Andrews: Yes. Most of the merchants in Williamsburg would take an advertisement in the Flat Hat. Some few, like Casey's, would advertise their goods, but for most of them it was a small complimentary card. It helped us break even. Incidentally, the business manager when I

was editor my senior year was Cotton Rawls (Dr. E. Cotton Rawls of Stamford, Connecticut), still a very close and dear friend; I hear from him every now and then, and he gets back to some of the reunions. He's also a member of the White Jackets.

Williams: Was your readership just intercollege, or was it a little bit wider than that?

Andrews: The student body and the faculty, and that was about it. Not many in town took it, except the merchants, and I think they got a copy if they took an ad of a certain size. They were our salvation because I don't think the student fees would have put out too much of a newspaper.

The Flat Hat when I entered was a little four-column paper. It stayed that way for three years, and then Cotton Rawls and I got together and ^{decided} we were going to increase it to five columns (to regular tabloid size), which we did. We got a new masthead. The paper has been that size or larger ever since then.

Williams: This is a question that I often ask people who have been involved with the student newspaper: would you say that the Flat Hat in the period that you're talking about (the mid-1920s) was reflecting student opinion, or was that its purpose?

Andrews: You mean editorially?

Williams: Editorially or otherwise.

Andrews: Well, we tried to cover in the news everything that was newsworthy. We tried to encourage organizations to have reporters or somebody who would give us the information. Usually if an event didn't get covered it was because the officers of that group didn't let us know or didn't furnish information for us (we couldn't have somebody at every meeting). On the whole I don't think we had any real complaints about the paper during my time. Editorially we wrote on the things that we thought were important. Mostly they were on student affairs or things ~~of~~ around town; we didn't engage in always criticizing the administration--faults that I have noticed in the Flat Hat ^{more} in recent years. As a newspaperman I have a good deal of criticism of the Flat Hat in more recent years. It's become a very poorly edited and written affair, engaging in vulgarity and four-letter words that were absolutely unnecessary, apparently included in editorials and news stories to try and provoke the administration or shock them--I don't know what else because they have no real meaning--no good purpose at all. I even wrote a letter to one of the editors giving him a piece.

of my mind after forty-some years in the newspaper field.

I think perhaps one difficulty in turning out a good college newspaper at a place like William and Mary is the lack of proper journalism courses to teach what a newspaper is and what it's supposed to do. Too many over the years have gotten the idea that it was just a play-thing and that they could do as they darn pleased and pay no attention to what the student body thought. In my one criticism I wrote ^{down there I} tried to explain

that actually they had a captive audience because the students had to pay for it; they therefore should be the voice of the students and not just themselves. They owed that much consideration to the students. (I don't know how much of an impression I made, but sometimes you have to get those things off your chest.)

Williams: You mentioned the journalism courses; were you opposed to it when Mr. Bryan abolished the journalism courses?

Andrews: Yes, I was. I felt that the journalism courses should have remained, if for no other purpose than to educate those who are taking part in student publications. Williamsburg was in a good position between Norfolk and Richmond to acquire the use of facilities.

I didn't like the abolishment of that or ^s number of things that happened during the Bryan administration ^{that} I didn't approve of. There was too much emphasis ^{in these days} on the social atmosphere and not enough on the hard work. ~~in these days.~~

Williams: Let me ask you this: you became editor of the newspaper here in Roanoke. I've thought it somewhat unusual that you were on the alumni board when it voted for Charlie McCurdy not to continue publishing ^[athletic investigation] the articles in the Alumni Gazette. Did you have conflicting feelings?

Andrews: That was a very bad situation there. I was torn between my feelings for Charlie and what I felt was the proper thing to do. Charles was using the Gazette to attack the athletic program from his own personal viewpoint, and it antagonized a great many ^{of our} alumni, particularly those that had been connected with sports or supporters of it. So we had a great deal of discussion about the situation, and it looked like it fell to me to try to put over to Charlie, who was a good friend and I hope still is, that the alumni society was ^{publisher} of the Gazette, that it represented all the alumni, not just those who were critical of the sports program, and that the alumni board as the elected representatives of the alumni in general

were therefore the publishers of this newspaper, and it was up to them to set the policy. I explained that that's the way it operates in the news world. It's operated that way with me for years; the owner of the paper (the publisher) would sit down with me and discuss things, and we'd determine what ^{the} policies should be. Then he'd leave the writing of the editorials up to me, relying on my ability in the light of what he had said to follow that pattern. You don't have to write what you don't believe in; no editor worth his salt has ever done that. In other words, if I hadn't approved of the policy I could have resigned. Charlie, though, was in a position where he was in direct conflict with the board as a determiner of the po^licy of the alumni society as to its own publication. So that was what the crux of it was. I always felt badly that Charlie felt he had to resign, but it happens occasionally even in newspapers that ^{that} conflict comes about, and there's nothing else ~~to do~~ for a man to do but to get out if he doesn't like it. That settled the problem.

Williams: I also know that in 1955 (you'll probably recall) that there was something of a ruckus between Admiral Chandler and the students. It was called various things; some called it the "beer protests." I was very much intrigued with a report that you made, on your own apparently; I wonder why you did undertake this?

Andrews: Well, that was before I became a visitor. I ^{had been} on the alumni board for six years, and like all alumni I took note of what was going on down there and these protests about Chandler. A great many of the students were calling him a "naval dictator," ^{accused him of} trying to run William and Mary like a battleship. I knew enough about the problems that Chandler had to know that he had a real situation to deal with in that discipline had practically disappeared during the previous administration. I might say parenthetically that I had a great deal to do with the naming of Dr. Pomfret as president, because that matter got into politics. I took the matter up directly with Senator Byrd (Senior) and told him that the Byrd organization was being used by his lieutenant, E.R. Combs, to try to force the election of Combs' nephew, who was then president of Mary Washington College, regardless of what the committee of the Board of Visitors had recommended. I told him that if that happened, there was going to be a tremendous stir, and it was going to do

the Byrd organization a lot of harm. He gave me a very courteous reply in which he said that he was not aware that anything like that was going on (if it were) and indicated that he would look into it. When it came to a showdown, the report of the committee nominating Dr. Pomfret for president was accepted, as I recall, by one vote. That report was given by George Scott Shackelford, who was from Roanoke; he was chairman of that committee. I felt that that was an important step that we got a real educator in there as president of the college, and a very honorable and competent man.

Williams: Do you think Senator Byrd had acted upon what you had to say?

Andrews: I think he blew the whistle on Combs; that's my personal feeling. As you say, that was totally on my own initiative, but I think I spoke for a great many alumni with whom I had talked. It was general knowledge what Combs was trying to do, and there was anger all over the state. That's why I did what I did. Dr. Pomfret is a mighty fine gentleman, a good educator; I don't think there is any better, but he was not an administrator or a disciplinarian. The students, just like a good racehorse, get the bit in their teeth and go to town. Discipline got pretty bad. When ~~Dr.~~ ^{Admiral} Chandler came in, that created another situation because anybody who got to be a vice-admiral ^{is going} to be a disciplinarian. He decided he

wasn't going to take any guff from the students --
 trying to tell him what to do and how to run the college.
 The Board of Visitors had put him in there to correct the
 situation and try to get some order, so he proceeded to
 do that. In the beginning, I didn't like the idea of
 putting a non-educator in there, but later I came to
 know Chandler very well. We became good friends, and I helped with a
 lot of his programs over the years, particularly while I was on the
 Board of Visitors. We had a particular problem; you
 may remember that he was made Chancellor when the General
 Assembly formed the Colleges of William and Mary, which
 was an idea that I never thought a whole lot of.
 There was William and Mary and the Norfolk division
 and RPI, Christopher Newport, which we had formed,
 and Richard Bland. So they insisted, against the feelings
 of the board, in setting up the Colleges of William
 and Mary; we would have rather had it the way it was.

Williams: Do you think the Admiral would have liked it, too?

Andrews: I think he would have probably liked it the way it was.

We named him the Chancellor of all of them. In two years
 the General Assembly completely reversed itself and
 just wiped out the Colleges of William and Mary, which meant
 that Chandler was out because we had elected Paschall
 as president of William and Mary. I never told anybody outside
 of the board about this before, but we had a meeting of

the board after this all had transpired, and I asked to speak under a personal privilege status. I called their attention to the fact that Admiral Chandler had given up a vice-admiralty in order to come back to the college when he was asked to take over the presidency. That meant that he would sacrifice in retirement pay a considerable sum--several thousand dollars. I felt that it was a matter of honor for every member of the Board of Visitors to see that he didn't suffer for that. That's why we retained him in an advisory capacity for about eighteen months more until he would acquire enough time for the state pension which would help make up the difference between the retirement pay of a rear admiral and a vice-admiral. I'm happy to say that's what happened and I think he deserved it. He did a real splendid job (in my opinion) for the college in continuing the physical development of the college that his father had done years before. We got a tremendous amount of building funds in those ^{eight} years I was on the Board of Visitors. Governor Almond appointed me in '58, ~~and~~ ^I served for four years and then Governor Harrison reappointed me from then until I retired in '66. That was a period of great growth for the college. [#] There were three things that I particularly wanted ^{to see} done in the physical plant when I went on the board. One was a student union building;

the second was a library, a real good library; the third was a coliseum to house our sports program. I put those in that order. We did get the Student center first, then the library, and finally the plans had already been drawn for William and Mary Hall when I went off the board. I think they were three of the most badly needed facilities that we had. ^{Visiting} the library today and remembering the kind of library my dear old friend, Dr. Swem, had, I know that his spirit must be proud to know that a library ^{is} there like that today, and I'd rather see my name on a plate in that library than any place I know of.

Williams: You mentioned you were appointed to the board first by Governor Almond; why do you think you were appointed?

Andrews: Governors make appointments to public bodies like that for several reasons. One is, of course, personal friendship. Second, he needs to have somebody--in this case an alumnus of the institution--who has a real interest in it and will not just be attending meetings, eating meals, voting "yes" or "no" and leaving. I have been a good friend of Judge Almond, we call him Judge Almond because he had been a judge of ^{the hustings court here in Roanoke as assistant} Commonwealth's attorney, ^{so that covers a lot of years}. When this vacancy ^{took} place after George Scott Shackelford retired from the board, my friends and the alumni here in Roanoke put

forward my name, and Governor Almond appointed me. As far as continuing another four years, that's more or less a matter of formality. I don't think any governor refuses to reappoint somebody if he has done a fairly decent job. Of course, I knew Governor Harrison, too. (I've known every governor of Virginia since Byrd.) My interest has always been in government, being a newspaper man. (I majored in political Science and also in English.)

Williams: The Colleges of William and Mary were set up under Governor Almond, and they were dissolved, ^{though} even the report came out under Governor Almond's administration, I think it just went through the assembly) after Governor Harrison became governor. Is there a causal relationship there?

Andrews: No, I don't think so. What happened was that there were some influences that wanted to see RPI, and the Norfolk division divorced from the college so that they could become separate institutions. That feeling was beginning. Part of it undoubtedly was an antagonism toward Chandler, because as a military man he was kind of ^{abrupt,} but he always said what he thought. There was never any doubt about what Alvin Chandler thought. ~~to this day~~ To me, that's an admirable quality; I hate anybody who beats

around the bush. That was basically the cause of the breaking up of the Colleges of William and Mary. [#] [#] As you know, the board appointed me as a spokesman to oppose ^{it,} and I did the best I could in pointing out the advantages of remaining under the William and Mary wing. They would certainly have a greater reputation being a part of William and Mary, which was internationally known, and whose degrees are respected everywhere; whereas if they became institutions on their own it would take them quite a while to build that up. Also, I felt that the two community colleges-- we called them junior colleges, two-year additions-- that they should remain under the college. I predicted then that this separation and the creation of these separate institutions was going to create a greater competition for the tax dollar and that it would be spreading the state's money thinner and thinner all the time, as these institutions tried to get everything that William and Mary had-- and more. That's exactly what has happen^{ed}; each one has tried to grow on its own and compete with all the other state institutions, William and Mary being just one of fourteen four-year institutions that the state was supporting, and now there are more than that. ^{(twenty, I guess).} That hurts everybody in the long run; the money is spread so thin. That is coming right back to us now in that

There is just ^{not} enough money to do the things we need to build the physical facilities and so on. Of course, the General Assembly went ahead; they took the bull by the horns and broke ^{the system.} up ^{Now, I guess} Christopher Newport ~~has~~ become a four-year. That's another thing I ^{tried to} pointed out; that one thing we didn't need was another four-year institution half way between Williamsburg and Norfolk. It stretched matters entirely too thin, and I still think so. I think there is room for a good community college there, just as we established, but not for another four-year institution just twenty-five miles from Williamsburg or closer than that to Norfolk.

Williams: Did your committee think that there might be a way to influence the General Assembly, or after the state council* recommended that the Colleges be split was it a forgone conclusion?

*State Council of
Higher Education

Andrews: We knew that the cards were stacked against us, and I would have preferred to have somebody ^{else} to do the talking for our board. Since the job was wished on me I did the best I could. I made some predictions then that have held up. I don't know exactly what they had in mind in the beginning ^{by} about creating another big university there, but [#] there was nothing whatsoever ⁱⁿ common between RPI and the Medical College of Virginia. The forced union

of the two is resented to this day by nearly all of the graduates of the Medical College of Virginia.

They're not even close together physically speaking, and they're even farther apart in every other way you can think of, but it's happened and we're stuck with it; so is Virginia and the taxpayers.

Williams: ^{Going back to 1960 when Dr. Paschall was elected:} After the great uproar which there was in 1951 when the

Admiral was brought in without consulting outside the board, did the board you were on in 1960 think of this when Dr. Paschall was appointed?

Andrews: Well, I think some of us did. ^{I don't know how many members talked to other alumni}

and asked them their ideas; I know I did to see who they thought would be a good man, if that happened.

Of course, when the time came we had to move fairly

fast. We knew that "Pat" Paschall was a fine educator.

He attended ^{the} college right after I did; we were not in school together, but I knew enough about him to know that

he was ^{an} able educator and would do a good job. Probably

in the wake of Chandler's administration, being from ^{strong} a disciplinary standpoint, it would be well to have

someone like Paschall to take the job. He was very

happy to move from ^{the state ranks} to Williamsburg. It

proved to be ^{very} a good choice. ^{In his later years} he ran into the same troubles

than were happening to Chandler in his day, except that

during Pat's administration we had this hullaballou

over Vietnam and the war in general. He held the line pretty well, I think, in pointing out that he wasn't going to permit the disruption of College activities just because somebody wanted to demonstrate how they felt about what was going on in national affairs. The two were not even closely related. That's where a good many institutions across the state and across the nation made a mistake: not drawing the line about using the institutions as a weapon to fight national policy. Things are not done that way; that wasn't why educational institutions were begun in the first place. It may happen in other countries, particularly in Europe and Asia where students try to run everything; the result is that they don't have good institutions. They spend more time on their politics and ideological protests than on their studies.

Williams: You mentioned the board split on the subject of separation of the Colleges. I wonder how serious, how deep that

was? Was it a deep philosophical issue, or was it merely a difference of opinion, do you think?

Andrews: The majority favored continuing the system as it was and giving it a chance. It never had a chance; it was only in existence two years. The majority felt like it deserved a chance to prove itself, and ^{as a} part of that Admiral Chandler as Chancellor. But there were others who felt that, "Well, good riddance. ^{do} Get out from under

it . We don't want any part of RPI" which some of them called an institution of hippies, probably with good reason. As you know, it grew out of a school of social work. We tried to make it into an educational institution, and I think we pretty well succeeded; it was a lot different institution when it left us ^{than} when I was on the board. ^{We had} a good man, [^]George Oliver; we put him in there to take over after Dr. Hibbs retired . Dr. Hibbs was a dear old man and had a lot of ability along his particular line, but there again he was not a full-fledged educator and he was not a very good administrator. So Oliver had a problem when he took over, and he did a magnificent job. He laid the groundwork so that they could have a fairly decent institution when they were separated, and he continued in that capacity, as you know. There was no real bitter fight on the board about this division, and we got along very well in spite of the difference of opinion. I think they all appreciated the job that I tried to do for them in convincing the General Assembly, which already had its mind made up.

Williams: Did you go to Richmond and try to sell the idea?

Andrews: Yes. There I ran into this problem: This was handled in a very high-handed fashion in the General Assembly.

In the House of Delegates, the thing was ^{rammed} through without ^{our} us knowing anything about it. I found then that it hadn't gotten very far in the Senate; that's when I made the contacts to insist that we be given a public hearing, which we had not had from the House of Delegates; we were never invited to a committee meeting or anything. *Our board* didn't know anything about it except through the grapevine. The Senate very courteously gave us a full hearing, and that's when I presented the case. After some time they went ahead and joined the House of Delegates, and that wiped out the Colleges of William and Mary.

Williams: Had it been assumed when it was set up and the top position was to be the chancellor, ^{that} the Admiral would become that top person, or was there a thought that he would stay at William and Mary and someone else would become ^{the} superior?

Andrews: He was not anxious to leave William and Mary as president, but at the insistence of the board, which pointed out to him that he would be chancellor with higher pay and ^{would be the head man of a group of five} *[he decided]* schools, ^{that} it was probably the best thing for him to do. We had no way of knowing that it wouldn't last, of course, ^{that} it was just a two-year flash in the pan. It was one of the most unfortunate chapters in the history of higher education in Virginia that ~~was~~ was done the

way it was done. In the first place, we didn't ask for the system. In the second place, Lord knows we didn't ask for it to be broken up after just two years without any opportunity to be proven.

Williams: ^{A minute ago we started talking about expansion, and I said we'd come back to that.} I know that you were an outspoken opponent of the architecture on the new campus; you were very much upset over that.

Andrews: I raised hell several times about that with the architects and everybody else I could reach. They were forcing a new type of architecture on us that had nothing in common with the so-called Wren architecture of the old college. I was particularly irritated in that the State Art Commission was trying to pursue the feeling of some in the General Assembly that this Wren architecture could not be continued because it was too costly, with its dormer windows and hip^{ped} roofs and so on. At the same time, they permitted VPI to continue their construction of[#] stone, which costs a whole lot more than brick, and go up and use these dormer windows and hip^{ped} roofs in[#] a lot of their buildings. Somebody managed at VPI to put it over with the General Assembly and to let them continue their style of architecture. But here we were, with the state's most historic institution, with a type of architecture that goes all the way back to England,

not permitted to continue with that and having to accept what they called modified Georgian. Before I went on the board, this monstrosity called Yates Hall had been built; that rubbed me the wrong way--and a lot of others. I guess I talk^{ed} more about it because maybe my aesthetic senses ^{were} more damaged than some of the others. I like things to be harmonious, and I feel that the new campus, while it is beautiful in itself, doesn't harmonize ^{too well} with the old. I'm glad it is separated by the dell and a little more space; otherwise it wouldn't look good at all. I say that remembering ^{that} they had built a couple of buildings (the first gymnasium, which became the Marshall-Wythe school* and the old Science Hall) they didn't look like the Wren architecture either, but they became so old and decrepit that they were torn down. Then the rest of the old campus was completed in the Wren theme. I think in the defense of the architects, with whom I argued with a great deal, that they did a pretty good job, the best they could with this new type of architecture. ^{They designed} in designing it themselves, knowing that they couldn't use the hip ^{ped} roof and dormer windows. I particularly liked the new Phi Beta Kappa building, which is very nice, and the auditorium is very splendid; the addition of Andrews Hall to that, the library--all of that has helped set a theme for the new campus that

* of government and citizenship

is very good. I'm becoming more reconciled to it because I have to, but I ^{still} regret that it couldn't have been all alike, because we have it for a whole future. ^{They say} public buildings only last seventy-five years, but I think they built some of them better in the good old days, when they built three-foot walls.

Williams: It strikes me that [#]Dr. Paschall was extraordinarily skillful in getting the appropriations for the new campus. I wonder why he couldn't get just a little more for the Georgian [architecture]? Do you think it was the mood of the times? *The economy maybe?*

Andrews: The economy, and the feeling in the General Assembly, and lack of really thinking it out on the part of the State Art Commission; they could have done more for us if they wanted to, but I can't remember if William and Mary had any real friends on that Art Commission or not. ^tIt is regrettable that things happened the way they did.

Williams: To what would you attribute Dr. Paschall's skill that I spoke of?

Andrews: Pat, having been in the state superintendency, got to know every member of the legislature, and consequently he knew all of the top officials and middle officials of the whole state government. He was a personable ^{-- well liked.} man. He had this dry sense of humor and this slow-paced drawl, plus a brilliant mind. He managed to put over his point ^{to the people who counted in Richmond:} the governors, the

General Assembly, and everybody else. I think he did
 a real fine job, ^{for the college,} I have a great affection for Pat;
 he couldn't have done better.

Williams: How active a role did the board take in the construction matters? It seems there was great deal of detail presented to the board as I look through the minutes.

Andrews: We reviewed the plans of every building. In the first place, we told them what we wanted after the Administration (the president, working with the Board) decided what we needed to have. That's when I made my personal priorities on the things that I mentioned, and I'm glad to say that everybody went along with it. That enabled us to build according to our needs as fast as we could get the money. The board would meet with the architects, Wright, Jones, and Wilkerson; we would meet with them and discuss what we needed in a building, admitting that we couldn't go ahead with the Wren architecture ^{we'd} ~~to~~ get the nicest looking buildings we could. Then we hit on this modified Georgian, as they call it. Frequently they would bring things in that we would ^{raise our hackles about} and insist be changed. I remember in particular the battle over trying to keep the lobby in DuPont Hall. It was a beautiful thing and really the heart of the whole dormitory. It had a beautiful entrance ^{was} and utilitarian in every respect. We were about to have

that pulled out, and I just insisted that be left because it wouldn't look too good without it. That happen^{ed} on most of the buildings. We did go over the plans pretty thoroughly; they would come down and spend maybe a whole morning discussing the architecture of a building with us. I think we felt the necessity of doing this as a result of the Yates Hall fiasco. Some day that building will have to come down and be replaced; it doesn't fit in, and it just isn't built right. I never found a student who lived in it that liked it at all; they all hate it. So as a result of that we felt we had to keep our noses to the grindstone as an overseeing authority on the architecture and get the best we could for the money that was available. I think the results speak for themselves.

Williams: Originⁱally, it's my[#] impression that William and Mary did not particularly want the two two-year colleges.

Andrews: My recollection of that is that the Board was not particularly anxious to have these schools, but it did recognize that the problem existed for getting at least the first two years of college to more Virginia young people. This was well in advance of the community college system. Therefore, it[#] was necessary, we finally

admitted, to have something like this, and we tried our best to set those two schools up so they would be respectable adjuncts of William and Mary. Anyone who attended there could come on to William and Mary for his last two years and we would know that the work given there would be commensurate to what was done in Williamsburg. I think gradually we ^{be} came reconciled to the fact that we had to have ~~them~~; so we set them up. Of course, that became a part of the Colleges of William and Mary. We ^{'ve} still got Richard Bland. I still don't approve ^{of} separating Christopher Newport; I didn't approve ^{of} making it ^a four-year school because there was no real necessity for it. It's just competing for the tax dollar, of which we have too few.

Williams: Did the coordination of the two branches again, as there had been two branches earlier, ^{-- has that been} a real problem? Do you think that William and Mary would have been better ^{off} without ~~it~~ them?

Andrews: Things have changed since I went off the board. I've been off ten years; it's hard for me to realize that. So times have changed, and I have not kept the contact that I would have liked ~~with~~ these two schools. I can't hazard an opinion now. I suppose that Richard Bland is

going to continue in the foreseeable future as a branch of William and Mary, particularly in light of the putdown they had by the courts over becoming four-year. They either will remain a part of William and Mary or eventually be transferred to the community college system. I believe, from what I know that they prefer very much to stay where they are because the transfer factor is there, and they claim a relationship to a nationally and internationally known college that they wouldn't have simply as another among twenty-odd community colleges. I think there is a great difference, may be not actually, ^{but} a spiritual situation between the two.

Williams: Another general development over these years that you were on the board is the expansion of programs. The board invariably approved programs presented to them, graduate or other offerings. I wonder, knowing some of the discussion that went on in other quarters, if the board also felt that this was changing the orientation of William and Mary?

Andrews: I have always had in the back of my mind, and had for many years (even before I got on the alumni board, which was before my Board of Visitors experience) the hope that William and Mary would once again recover its ^{university} status. It was ~~in an area of the state~~ : the

only thing east of Charlottesville, so to speak,
 in the position to be a university, which would have
 schools. We already had the law school, but as I
 understand it to be a university the college needs
 to have five schools. Nowadays, it's gotten to the point
 where every institution ^{at a wide place in the road} calls itself
 a university. You and I both know that that
 is not the [#]case; they are not universities by any
 stretch of the imagination. William and Mary had
 a heritage in the fact that it was the first university
 in America, and I wanted to see it recover that.
 So I did support this business of establishing
 certain courses that would fit in with the overall
 purpose of William and Mary in remain^{ing} an academic
 institution of the fine arts. I didn't want it to be
 another VPI or anything like that, but I did want to
 have a sufficient, broad scope in the courses that
 were taught that it could be a university. I think
 the vast majority of the board felt the same way.
 There was only one course that I kept ^{fighting} for
 and I still haven't managed to sell anyone
 on, and that is a first-rate course in library
 science at William and Mary, because there is none

in Virginia; they've got an excuse for one up here in Madison. The powers that ^{be} refuse to go ^{along} with that idea and have to this day. I've tried to point out to them how difficult it is to find competent, trained librarians in Virginia; not just in main libraries, but in high schools. Here in Roanoke, for example, every time they want a librarian, they almost always have to go out-of-state to find one. That's silly when you have a state this big and comparatively ^e as wealthy as it is not to have a first-rate course in library science, particularly when you ^{ve} got one of the finest libraries anywhere in Virginia and the southeast. It kind of irks me that it hasn't been done; I guess you can't have everything.

Williams: Is there anything I need to cover that you ^{cash} think of?

Andrews: I guess you've investigated all my background while I was in college, the things I did and didn't do.

I kept pretty busy. All the time I was in college I managed to work in the dining hall. [¢] By the way, another way I made money (was that) I fired the furnace in the fraternity house for my room. ^[rent] My chief recollection of that is that I kept telling the house manager that

something had to be done about that so-called
furnace. It was coal-fired (they didn't have stokers),
and it was going to blow up some day if they didn't
do something about it. One day it did! —————>

Well, this furnace blew up one morning, and it just covered me with soot from head to foot. Of course, it made such a noise that everyone came running to the head of the steps to look down and ^{in the basement,} there I was! They said that all you could see was these two eyes out of all this black. After they saw that I wasn't really hurt they started laughing, and that made me madder than ever. [#] Some of them laughed so hard they got down and rolled on the floor. I had the second laugh, particularly on the house manager, because they had to have all of the rugs and draperies in the house cleaned, and nearly everybody had to have their clothes cleaned. It was a case of being penny-wise and pound-foolish, I think.

In addition to doing that and working in the dining hall, I worked every summer at various jobs. One summer I worked as a rigger in the shipyard ~~at~~ ^{Newport News.} Another one I worked in the bank as a runner. . .

Williams: What does a runner in a bank do?

Andrews: He carries checks from one bank to another, particularly bad checks, and various notes and accounts that have to be interchanged among the banks. I worked for an optician one summer--I had four different jobs while I was in school. But while I was in school I was waiting on tables and firing the furnace, and of course I had my activities on the Flat Hat and was

a debater and on the track team. Just looking back on it I wonder how I ever had time to do anything else or have any social life at all. But I enjoyed it and think back on my college days as I guess just about everybody does with a great deal of pleasure. I think about not only the students I attended college with (and many of them I have kept contact with all these years), not just fraternity brothers, but others:

The faculty who influenced me most (I mentioned some of them, and I was trying to jot down some of them here awhile ago). I mentioned Dr. Babcock, of course, and Pollard and Morton. Dr. Swem was a wonderful friend, and of course, I needn't tell you that he had the reputation of being one of the finest librarians in the country. He did marvels with what he had in that little library (even when he got that stack room, which everyone thought was so wonderful). I knew him the rest of his life. There was a unanimous feeling ^{that} that library should be named for him. He's the man who designed all the historical markers on the highways of the state.

Then of course Dr. John Lesslie Hall was the last of the "Seven Wise Men." I guess everyone

thought he was going to be there permanently. I don't know when he did retire--he signed my degree. Sometime after that he retired. He was a real character, among other things.

Williams: Do you have any good Dr. Hall stories? I have a whole collection of them. I'm fond of them.

Andrews: Well, back there in the '20s when I was in college was a day of the real short skirts, almost as short as the miniskirts. (The skirts usually hit the girls at the knee or above, and they had the very ugly custom of rolling their hose down to the knee. When they sat down they showed a little expanse of bare leg.) Well, Dr. Hall (he seemed to me to be a real old guy, even then) never was in favor of coeducation, I understood. When he had these classes, some of the girls would insist on sitting in the front row. Imagine what happened when, with the new styles, they crossed their legs! He stood it about as long as he could, and he ^{one day} looked down at one of the coeds in particular, and he said, "Young lady, pull your dress down! I'll have you to know that an old man's got some feelings." She turned about forty shades of red--I don't know if she ever sat on the front row again or not.

He had a ^{rather} high-pitched, nasal voice, and he liked to tell stories about the good old days; everybody enjoyed hearing them. While he was a tough man in the classroom he was a wonderful person to get to know, as so many of us did. He was just an institution in himself, ~~left~~^{left}over from back in the last century. He was just a rare article, and I thought a great deal of him.

The other man that I mentioned whom we haven't already talked about was W.A.R. Goodwin. Everyone knows him as the man who persuaded Rockefeller to restore Williamsburg, and he did a magnificent job. That, incidentally, started in the fall after I graduated, so I wasn't in on that. I knew Dr. Goodwin very well, and when I wasn't singing at the Presbyterian church I went down to Bruton Parish. My chief recollection of him is walking around the campus and downtown with his pipe. I never saw that man without a pipe in his mouth, except in church, and I wondered how he managed to get by then. It was just part of him. He was a most persuasive talker and a good storyteller and believed in what he felt was his mission: to see that Williamsburg was restored. I suppose not only Williamsburg, but the college as a result of it, owes him an eternal debt. If that hadn't happened the President's House and the Wren Building and the Brafferton ^{probably} wouldn't

have been restored. They looked a good deal different in the old days. (Looks through 1927 Colonial Echo.)

William and Mary's a graat place, and I go back every chance I get, which doesn't seem often enough any more. My wife thinks I'm a professional freshman. Between being on the alumni board and my service on the Board of Visitors I was there constantly for fourteen years. It just became a part of me.

Williams: Well, I thank you for taking time to talk about it today.