

Warren G. Hill with Clayton R. Brower, June 21, 1991. Oral History.

Brower: Welcome to another chapter of living history chapter of Trenton State College, I'm Clayton Brower, former President of Trenton State, and it is my pleasure and honor to have a conversation with Dr. Warren Hill, who was President of Trenton State College from 1963 to 1966. As I have told him before we're on camera, we are celebrating the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Kitty and Warren's leaving of campus. I'd like to, Warren to, begin to tell us a little bit of his early history, and that would lead up to Trenton State College in 1963.

Hill: I'd rather to start with something you just said, Clayton. And that is that you celebrate our leaving.

Brower: Haha.

Hill: I don't hear anything about you celebrating our coming years.

Brower: We'll get into that.

Hill: No, uh, I was very fortunate in the depression, up in Maine, to live near a Normal School. And I was fortunate to be playing basketball before you had to be 9 feet tall and was in tournaments, we were finalists in the tournaments, so that I became aware of the College, they became aware of me a little bit, and in 1935 in the depths of the depression we went there for a \$100 a year, and commuted. And I did 4 years there, I began teaching on an island off Bar Harbor Maine, and I had the highest salary in my class. I was principal of a 2 teacher school, taught the upper 4 grades, and did the janitor work for \$25 a week—

Brower: Is that right?

Hill: Oh 1939, sure. A year there, then a Master's Degree at Boston University. Then back on the faculty of the College in the year of Pearl Harbor. Then went into the war as a Coast Guard officer, later a Navy officer, then came back went to Columbia, got a degree in 1947 and went up and became Sam Brownell's assistant at New Haven State Teacher's College. And you recall Sam went on to become the US Commissioner of Education, and I worked after that in the state department in Connecticut for a year and a half, then went to Maine as a Commissioner of Education.

Brower: How long were you Commissioner of Maine?

Hill: 7 years.

Brower: And who was the governor at that time?

Hill: Ed Muskie.

Brower: Ed Muskie.

Hill: And then John Reed.

Brower: John Reed.

Hill: Great, great days, because everything was onward and upward, we were doing '56 til I came here in '63.

Brower: '63. Interesting that you mentioned New Haven, President Martin, who you followed, had been at New Haven too and you knew him.

Hill: We worked together.

Brower: You worked together?

Hill: Oh yeah. He was getting a doctorate at Yale and working at The College at the same time. I finished my graduate work, and I was assistant to the President, and Ed was an elementary supervisor, along with other things, and we had four city schools that we used as training schools, and he had one of them, plus he taught, you know, courses and all that sort of thing.

Brower: And you knew another person, Jim Orr, was Jim Orr there?

Hill: No, Jim Orr was--

Brower: He was at our registrar here.

Hill: He worked at Yale,

Brower: I see.

Hill: He was getting a degree, but he didn't work at the College.

Brower: I see. ...

Hill: Oh yeah, sure.

Brower: So then he went to Commissioner, Commissionership, at a relatively early age, and was there for seven years.

Hill: I think the youngest ever in Maine. In Maine you're supposed to be older, you know, before you do these things.

Brower: I remember coming to Trenton State College the year before, in '62, before you came, when Dr. Martin was still President, and he was preparing himself to a distinguished career in the state department with the Agency for International Development. And we were excited that a Commissioner, a State Commissioner, was going to be our new president. How did you, what were some of the deciding influences that took you away from a Commissionership in Maine and brought you to a college presidency in New Jersey?

Hill: First, I guess, would I'll say, economic. I had a daughter heading for Cornell--

Brower: Sonetta?

Hill: Yeah, and my salary was like \$12,000 a year--

Brower: As Commissioner?

Hill: As, after seven years, and this is all relative, so you begin to, you know, to listen, and I think Fred Raubinger heard me make a speech in Miami to a national meeting, and came and talked with me, and was interested in you know, what I had to say. I can even remember what I was talking about; I was talking about the need for gatekeepers. In other words, there were virulent attacks those days on certification activities you see. The state should not be so hard on these wonderful people who want to teach, so I'm making a speech about needing gatekeepers, and apparently I hit a responsive chord with Raubinger. So that, I had an invitation to go meet the Deputy Commissioner up in Boston one day. , I was suspicious, but they wanted a little more information,

Brower: Sure.

Hill: And then I became an applicant, and I was offered a job in New York as Deputy Commissioner, under Jim Allen at the same time, and turned it down to come here.

Brower: I think is what's interesting, I think, as I think back, Commissioner Raubinger had, was the Commissioner of Education for all the public schools, but he had under his bailiwick all the state colleges as well, and as I think back we in those days there were no search committees for the President, when the Commissioner tapped a person--

Hill: I think they interviewed 3 people, think of it in all of this, there was no national search that I'm aware of. But there were 3 people interviewed for this position.

Brower: Isn't that interesting. We never knew who until you appeared on campus, we never knew who was going to be our new president, I'd been here for just a year. I remember very well your and Kitty first visit, with a luncheon in Phelps Hall, I'd be interested to know some of your first impressions of becoming College President at Hillwood Lakes?

Hill: Well let me give you a different impression first of that luncheon.

Brower: Okay.

Hill: Because I've laughed about it for years. I happened to be sitting next to George Krablin.

Brower: Yes, haha.

Hill: And being a sportsman, a fisherman, and other things, I asked Krablin if there are any fish in these two lakes that are on campus, and you know, he looked at me for a moment, and said, "I saw a fish," he said, "that far from the shore, it was that long."

Brower: Haha.

Hill: But the thing about Trenton, and it's true about most places that I've ever gone, people have always welcomed us, made it warmly. And Trenton particularly true, we came here and found excellent people on this campus, and you never ran into resentment, which says you know this guy was up in Maine, nothing. Let me reach sideways and say this to you, I think Trenton State College has a very favored situation here. In that you're in the periphery of greater New York. You've always been able to attract people here, that you couldn't get in

Fargo, North Dakota, or Madawaska, Maine or something; they're not just going to be there. And we have them here, and we have faculty wives, and other people, who are magnificent people, you know, leaders of their field.

Brower: Absolutely, yeah.

Hill: So Trenton's benefitting from there. So we came here, and felt we were joining an excellent enterprise, and the fact that we were accepted and made welcome, and people worked with us very well, very positive.

Brower: I remember you lived in Garden House, a little 2 story frame structure which is--

Hill: About where Holman Hall was,

Brower: About where Holman Hall is now, and Charlie was, your son, your youngest, was in Antheil School.

Hill: That's right.

Brower: And had Dick Hewitt, and quite a few people, Mr. Wondishin, who is now at Ewing High School, and a lot of fine faculty from Antheil School, and we called it a demonstration school.

Hill: Yeah, excellent. Absolutely great.

Brower: And Sonetta was at Cornell at the time.

Hill: At the time. Came home summers, and worked.

Brower: Yeah, well as you entered your first, you were here for 3 years, right? Up to the day?

Hill: Up to the day.

Brower: Do you have any recollections of or memories of not necessarily people, but maybe people, but some of your experiences and not only within the campus, but among your colleagues, among some of the state college Presidents, maybe even Montclair.

Hill: We became fast friends of the Partridges. He was President up in Montclair, and I found a great kinship with him, the things he was trying to do up there, and the things we wanted to do down here had a marked similarity, and I think a little bit rebellious in nature, in that the whole system was confined to certain basic beliefs that the Commissioner and I assumed at the Board of Ed at the time. But you recall, Clayt, that every student had to be from New Jersey, save that little handful of foreigners we let in.

Brower: What were some of the foreigners we had?

Hill: Oh Willie, the great soccer player,

Brower: That's right, Willie Bliemel?--

Hill: I couldn't come up with the last name.

Brower: He scored the first goal for Mel Schmid's soccer team up at Montclair, I remembered Willie Bliemel, and you probably have followed Willie, and he probably—

Hill: No I didn't, I apologize for that.

Brower: Mel, of course, could import soccer players, so we imported, we had an exchange program with Germany. How about Maine? Did we get up to Maine? I think we did, didn't we have a, didn't we have someone from Gurb?

Hill: Hahaha, you mean, not a student, you don't mean.

Brower: An exchange student.

Hill: I think that uh- Clayt, I can't come back with a name. I'm sorry about that. I thought you were referring to the first appointment that ever was made when I got here.

Brower: Okay, let's talk about that.

Hill: I uh—

Brower: I was President of the Trenton's... of the Education department, and who did I bring into your office?

Hill: Well you brought in a girl by the name of Henrietta Libbeck,

Brower: That's right, that was her maiden name--

Hill: Maiden name, and I'd gone to college with her.

Brower: Lee [?] Hubbard.

Hill: Hubbard. And I had a thing, and I still do, about an administrator who moves to a new position. And the first thing he does is start bringing in people from where he was. You know, the old team and all, so here I'm faced, the very first person that's going to be employed here after I get here, is a girl I went to college with, and I didn't know her well or anything, and she was an able person. And glad [?] to her, but gosh I had a laugh about that, real tight.

Brower: Interesting enough, as Chairman of the Education Department, we also attempted to bring Phil Ollio, Dr. Ollio, who is now Dean of the School of Education. And he worked for the state department, and that was a little tough wasn't it?

Hill: A little tight. Hahaha

Brower: Bringing Phil in, and Mr. Raubinger, who ran the ship, made it really difficult for us to bring in, but that led to I think, be well to mention here, where you, there was no search committee, there was directions from on top, meaning the Commissioner's office, and yet there was the struggle, of a great campus like Trenton State College, and Montclair, to spring their wings, and--

Hill: Well let me go back to that description, we not only just had New Jersey students, we only had teacher education. 100%. The Commissioner believed with all his heart that the reason he was getting the support from the legislature, that he was getting, was because he could say to them, all of our students were from New Jersey, and they were all being prepared as teachers and going into the New Jersey schools, you know, where they're needed. And the kind of aspirations of a college, don't fit those kind of confines forever, you see, so we were anxious to bring in arts programs and so forth, and actually did, and got by him with a beginning.

Brower: Wasn't it under your administration, I'm just trying to recall, you worked with Steve Poliacik, who was in Raubinger's department, and didn't we bring in, didn't we start the nursing program?

Hill: Yes, we did.

Brower: And that was under your administration.

Hill: And The College needed that at the time, I mean you have to have institutional pride in your endeavors. You have to know you're doing good things, growing, and serving the public, and all that, and if you're getting mandates on top which restrict, then you chafe under it, you see.

Brower: You know, I think this nursing program was then the first break in all of the 6 state colleges at the time, for a non-teaching degree program, and that was within your administration. You know, I think we look back and we, Fred Raubinger was a great guy, I think we both admired him. I was a public school man in Plainfield before I came here, and looked up to Commissioner Raubinger, but times were changing, and I think, and it was very interesting, as I started to look for good teacher candidates for Plainfield, I looked at two state colleges. I looked to Montclair, and I looked at Trenton State, and I think it's ironic and I think it's wonderful, that you and D. Partridge, who was the President of Montclair, became very good friends, and Dr. Martin, was very close the Partridges, too. And I think that's symbolic, and if there were two institutions that led the road towards autonomy, and that autonomy fight is still going on, but it was cleared the way, finally, through several college presidents after you, was culminated with Dr. Eickhoff's valiant lobbying, cajoling, and working 26 hours a day to finally bring about an autonomy bill to fruition, which would give all the state colleges a lot more freedom to act. It was a gradual process, but that was the crowning cap, but it started with you and Ed Martin.

Hill: I don't know, it's interesting, if you look across the nation, about the parallels between one state and the other, how they go through this series to gain more, freedom, isn't a totally descriptive word here, but more autonomy, because colleges are at the one time fragile institutions, at the same time they're very strong, persevering places. And they're not like a clothespin factory, they're not like a grammar school, they are, in a very sensitive relationship between the public and the public's needs, and at the same time upholding and developing academic traditions, and trying to attract people who are leaders in all the different disciplines and fields, and you can't do that through central mandates.

Brower: Right.

Hill: Gotta do that on campus.

Brower: Very interesting. A lot of pleasant thoughts I have about your administration. You were my mentor.

Hill: You keep saying that, Clayt, and I appreciate that, but you didn't need mentoring.

Brower: Oh, I, Ed Martin, Dotty and I are very grateful for Ed Martin bringing us here, and you nurturing us, and I remember you asked me to be an administrator after I thought I was going to escape the good world of being a faculty member, and it was in those days, I was still on a faculty salary, but you guaranteed me six hours of summer school pay if I served as a dean of administration or something. I will reflect Warren Hill was a great speech maker, he was very much in demand around this country. I remember before you even came there, I hastily looked in the Journal of the National Association of Secondary School Principals where you had given a talk out in the Midwest, St. Louis.

Hill: St. Louis, yeah.

Brower: And reading this, I knew I'd like you, as soon as you came. But then as the three years went on with your leadership, the rest of the country and educational associations didn't forget you, and you found yourself speaking, flying someplace, giving a talk, and coming back to campus, and I think I can always appreciate our great talks in the car, as you'd go to South Jersey or something, and I'd accompany you.

Hill: I want to tell you a story from that speech, and it was put in the Congressional Record by a congressman. And this story to me, illustrates some of the frustrations of life, and how you set out to do one thing, then something else happens. The story is about-- It's a Western story about an old timer telling his friends about a bear hunt he was on. And he said he trailed this bear all day, and just at sundown it went into a canyon that had two very steep walls and boxed end, and there was nothing there except one big tree and the bear got behind it. Well, he didn't dare go in. So he finally decided that the way to get the bear was to ricochet a bullet off the wall, like billiards, a carom shot, behind the tree. He told his friends, he figured this all out, he figured the angle of incidence and the angle of reflection, and the weight of the bullet how many, you know, grams. The size of the powder charge, the velocity of the bullet, the wind direction, humidity, temperature. He figured all these things and then fired. They said, "Did you get the bear?" and he said, "No, I missed the wall." That's kinda, the way some of us... have operated throughout the years--

Brower: And that was a good lead into your story?

Hill: Oh yeah, sure and that's in the Congressional Record. While I was here, there were a couple of things I was involved in that were actually very interesting. I made a speech at Penn State to a big NEA convention. And as a result, I was invited to be a member of what they call the TEPS commission.

Brower: Teacher Education--?

Hill: Teacher Education Professional Standards, right, and became eventually chairperson of this. And you know I was away with that sort of thing a lot. The other had to do with the military, and I was an adviser to the overseas military schools. And you may or may not remember I went to Germany and spoke to the keynote at big convention up there.

Brower: And you visited our exchange professor up there?

Hill: Oh did I not? I went up the Rhine on a Sunday and had a great time with it. The military schools were very interesting because later I became involved with the international schools. And uh, the difference is this: the military schools are totally at the mercy of a base commander. He handles the budget, and in it is the school operation. And if he decides he wants to pave some roads instead of adding the four people you need, well he can do that outta hand, you know, it's a pretty straight line. The international schools around our embassies; those were under the Department of State, very well funded, excellent. And the international name comes from their bringing in students from the embassies, and from the host country, very well thought of and very well done.

Brower: Your involvement was at the same time you were here.

Hill: In the former, not the latter.

Brower: Not the latter but the--

Hill: I'll tell you this, the first group, the military schools, we gave them some advice, and there was a subcommittee of Ed Meade, who later was with the Ford Foundation, and Gordon Cawelti, who was out in the North-Central, and we recommended that they follow the agreement they had with their teachers and pay them on a basis comparable to a pattern here in the United States, of certain groups. And we appeared before Congress, and Gerry Ford was a Congressman in that, in fact sitting there staring at that thing. So we gave them the advice that they ought to pay them, and they never heard, people had the idea that every person in the old schools spent the weekend in Paris, and that there were a thousand people standing in line to get the job, so why raise their salary?

Brower: Sure, yeah.

Hill: And they forgot about all the people who never got to Paris and did all these other things. Well anyway, they abolished our committee. The Pentagon abolished the committee after we gave that advice and the teacher sued and about three years later, they all got back pay.

Brower: Is that right?

Hill: Yes sir.

Brower: Well that's certainly something to remember. You mentioned Ed Meade, and that brings to mind something else you helped to develop when you were, uh, during our three years. Outward Bound. As an outdoors man, loving to fish and hunt, and seeing it as very important that people set out on their own with a great deal of confidence, we had contacted, again, going back to Raubinger's day, we did have an outdoor education program where every, I think every teacher, had to go to North Jersey for a week out in the woods, and I think that's still going today. But you brought, through Hurricane Island, you brought another dimension to higher education and outdoor education while you were here. You recall that?

Hill: Yeah, that program, of course, is still prospering. It's expanded over the years, and now they will take, you know, a group of women executives, you know, that sort of thing. And my first exposure to that was, I saw a film of the one in Colorado, fascinating. We got in touch with those people, my own son went to Hurricane Island



when he was 16 years old. But militaristic beginnings that came away from that, and over here, started in England you see, and I think a very valuable program.

Brower: And Josh Miner was President of Outward Bound, nationally, originally from Andover I believe, and one of our students, Phil Costello, was a uh, and still involved I understand, one of my former students brought me up to date on Phil, he was an ex-marine, scared me half to death, he had kids repelling off of Crowell hall one Sunday afternoon. I guess that's what you call coming down with the rope, but I always thought and of your contributions too, and the emphasis then was to bring Outward Bound to the urban student, and there was an Outward Bound component to our demonstration school at the time under Leon Durkin, Grant School, which was a demonstration school. Let's follow you, see you left us pretty soon, we were sort of upset.

Hill: Well I was upset. I came here, you know, forever. And in three years, I left.

Brower: To the day.

Hill: I, in today's parlance, I was made an offer I couldn't refuse. I had worked in Connecticut before, in the college there, and now they had a new system, and they were looking for a chancellor, and here you've got a whole state and all the institutions in it, with a heavy involvement with the private colleges, because the law required you plan cooperate between the two. A chance to establish it with a Board of Commissioners, which were very prominent, able people, and set up your own staff, the way you want it. And I went up there in '66 and did that for 8 years.

Brower: 8 years as?—

Hill: Then went to Trenton--

Brower: Were you the Chancellor of Higher Education?

Hill: Oh yeah, the day I went up there I was Director by choice. When you go in there, nobody in an institution loves central agency people. I had a couple of rules. For instance, nobody from my office ever went on a campus without being invited or letting them know we were coming. Standard rules. We wanted to work with them, not have them see us in a cat and dog relationship. So when I was asked, what do you want to be called? I said Director, that's fine. Then a couple years later my own commission without even letting me know they were doing it, they excluded me from a meeting, and I thought what's going on you know, and they called me back in and said they had raised my salary and made me Chancellor on the same things. But an exciting 8 years.

Brower: That must have been!

Hill: Oh boy.

Brower: And Connecticut was one of the leaders in this field, developing this, it preceded the Chancellorship and the formation of a Board of Higher Education here in New Jersey by several years.

Hill: Oh yes. It's great to be in on early on things, nationally, as well as you know within the operation itself. So those were good years. All my years have been good years. I've been so fortunate, I have never worked anywhere where I went to work unhappy. I had wonderful and great support from Kitty all my life, whatever I've

wanted to do, but I've been privileged to work in things that I thought were important, and work with people who were not just cooperative and able, but helpful and friendly, I mean we could put a team together and work. So I don't know, I don't want to spend my life over again, I've, I couldn't do that well again, Clayt.

Brower: I just bask when I hear what you say because these are the keys to leadership, of successful leadership. That people have to suggest working with people, not threatening them. I think just your statement in the last minute, would give, would be the basis of educational leadership as I see it. But then I remember Ken Runquist, and George Krablin, and a group of Warren Hill fans, made the trip to good Lord, Hartford, I guess it was, to go to a farewell dinner for Warren Hill.

Hill: Over the hill is it?

Brower: Over the hill, right. What they give you?

Hill: Haha.

Brower: They even gave you a Jeep, did they?

Hill: Well, they gave me a lot of money towards a Jeep. They really did surprise me no end, and a clock, I'm very proud of it. I'll show it to you in our home in Florida, it's an Atmos Clock, and you never wind it, and it's energized by the changes in the atmospheric pressure. It's an Atmos Clock, in other words you can't set the hands, when you start it, you release the break, and it starts.

Brower: And it never stops?

Hill: Never stops. It's as near perpetual motion, but of course it's the changes in atmospheric pressure.

Brower: I think there's a connotation here, you never stop. But what took you away from Connecticut?

Hill: Oh, a great opportunity. See, I also have a theory, Clayt, that when you get into an intensive job, it's like a relay race. It needs a series of people running just as hard as they can run, and not one to run forever. And 8 years is a fair piece of time, I also like to leave when you're in great shape.

Brower: Right, at the top.

Hill: So what happened, I was very active at ECS and I was very active at SHEEO. That's State Higher Education Executive Office.

Brower: And ECS is Education Commission of the States.

Hill: Education Commission of the States.

Brower: So what was Education Commission of the States? What was that?

Hill: Oh boy, I've got a four hour lecture on that. It's as simple as this: James Bryant Conant, an ex-President of Harvard, got money from Carnegie, after World War II, to make a series of studies on education. Do you remember them?

Brower: One was the high school?

Hill: One was the high school. And one was called Shaping Educational Policy, and in it he said, you know, and this isn't a states right thing at all, but he said educational policy should be, and it is determined at the state level rather than at the federal, and they didn't want an encroachment, but he said states need to get together and work on problems. See. And you ought to bring the educators and the political leaders together. Now he sold that to the governor, to Terry Sanford, down...

Brower: Terry Sanford, North Carolina.

Hill: Governor of North Carolina.

Brower: Currently President of Duke?

Hill: No, no, Senator, United States Senator, he left Duke to be.

Brower: Oh right, right.

Hill: He sold that to the governors, and they bought in. Now, the states are the members, and each state has seven people, the commissioners. The governor, two legislators, elected legislators, and four people in most instances named by the governor. And they tend to be very prominent people. They're named commissioners of education among their four you know or a lay person who is President of the Board of Trustees of the University or something. So here you're working with 350 very able people and with a steering committee of 53, cause you've got the islands and so forth. And that has to have 1/4 of the 53, have to be governors, and 1/4 have to be legislators, so you always have the political leadership and the educational leadership together. And the concept is here are critical problems, that if you're not dealing with them now you will be. But where is the light? I mean, how do you move? Who knows about this? What's been done in other states?

Brower: Right.

Hill: Anyone, a legislator could call us from New Jersey, and say in 30 minutes I'm going to get up on the floor of the legislature and make a statement about kindergarteners, or whatever it was, what can you tell me? We'd tell them. Or we'd get requests that we'd get back to within 24 hours. Because if there's anything that political leaders don't want it's to contact somebody and to never get an answer. We promised an answer in 24 hours even if we said this is all we can tell you now but we are still working on it. We get back to them. It's a wonderful institution. And we had about 2 million dollars from the states, and we raised about 7 more. We had about a 9 million dollar operation.

Brower: And you were executive director of ECS for how many years?

Hill: Well, I went out there not to become a director.

Brower: To Denver?

Hill: Yes, after two years they made me executive director without me applying.

Brower: Is that right?

Hill: Oh, the applicants all over the place and I recommended someone else. I went out because SHEEO, the State Higher Education Executive Office, and I was the immediate past president of that, and got a big grant from Kellogg to bring legislators, and governors, and the others, the educators to gather around certain critical problems. And I went to run that. And for two years, what a job, I mean you're working with wonderful, bright, able people everywhere, and you hold meetings in New Orleans, San Francisco, New York City, Hawaii, and all the--

Brower: Very exciting.

Hill: Oh, and great reports came out of this.

Brower: And ECS, looking to the present and I don't know, but I would assume that ECS has been a leader in with President Bush, as I recall, President Bush went to the governors and his program for education under Lamar Alexander,

Hill: Who was an ex-chairman of the ECS, and who headed a tremendous study group that was set up.

Brower: And out of this there is some testing that was proposed, the core of which was established nationwide in your...

Hill: Well, we had the national assessment, we were there. And that was a four million dollar federal grant to get it done. Very valuable because it was trying to determine what kids really know in school at certain points you see. And they no longer have that, it's up at ETS, they lost it after I left there.

Brower: I see. But it started with you, where the governors are going now.

Hill: Oh yeah.

Brower: I always, a personal note, I remember when Warren was skipping around the country, and had a governor ahead of this always to deal with, and he came to New Jersey one time, we looked forward, Dottie and I, looked forward to have him bunking in at 110 Murphy Inn--

Hill: For one night! Heheh

Brower: For one night, and he arrived in a snow storm, and the snow kept coming. And you were going to see Commissioner Burke and--

Hill: I was going to see the Governor, and never did.

Brower: And you never saw them. But you had conversations with him.

Hill: The Governor was riding around on snow plows! You know, this kinda stuff at the time. But we finally gave it up and we'll find another time. Finally you got me to an airport and I got back to Denver. But I must have been at your house for three nights!

Brower: And our pleasure was we never kept a fire in the fireplace, it never stopped, we kept throwing in another log, and I heard all the Warren Hill all jokes over again, and learned some new ones, and it was just a

very pleasant time. Interesting enough, too, Dr. Eickhoff, Governor Kean, was head of ECS at the time, and he appointed Harold Eickhoff--

Hill: Is he a commissioner?

Brower: To a committee, of which the governor of Arkansas, Clinton, Governor Clinton, chaired. And Harold Eickhoff has served on a committee that came under the umbrella of ECS of which you were--

Hill: All of the major committees/studies, essentially is what they're doing, are looking at critical issues, are chaired by a governor, chaired by a governor.

Brower: How long did you stay in Denver with ECS?

Hill: Six years.

Brower: Six years. Interesting. Seven years as Commissioner, three years here, eight years in Connecticut, and six years with ECS—

Hill: Well I—

Brower: And we don't want to forget that teaching assignment you had, where you kept the fires in the schoolhouse out in the island. What a career.

Hill: We go back there every year, every year. And by the way, for the record, this oral history that's being done, and is done, and was funded for them by the Frost foundation.

Brower: Now what oral history are you talking about? Not this one?

Hill: No. On August 9, hopefully it's going to be presented up at Bar Harbor, at The College of the Atlantic, because the President has done four of these with funding from the Frost foundation, and what happened was the SHEEO organization was interested in oral histories being done, and four people were identified. And I've been retired for eight years when I got to that college, and I was one of the four.

Brower: Isn't that wonderful?

Hill: And—

Brower: ... Capstone?

Hill: Well, it's out of a lot of people, you know, and it's been a very interesting assignment, and that will be available. And I said this morning, I will see that a copy finds its way to Trenton State College.

Brower: That would be wonderful, we would all be anxious to see it. And I think this is a wonderful capstone, it's been a great privilege, as I've said, told you I didn't want to embarrass you but to work with you and to know Kitty and you and your kids. And if there's any personal touch that I have been able to add to education leadership, it's been following your leadership, Warren. We thank you for your contributions, I think Trenton State to have an educational leader as you, to have had you as President for those three short years is distinctive

of the quality, reflects on the quality of this institution. I'm just proud as the devil, too, now living in Arizona, to wear the Trenton State College T-shirt, and if I can catch anyone's attention for a period of a minute or two to talk about some of the great people that I have been fortunate enough to have been able to associate with at this institution, you arrive at the top of the list, and I think I speak for a lot of other people.

Hill: You're more than--

Brower: And even Dick Matthews. I read an article on the humbleness of the Warren Hill. I used to walk over from Garden House with you every once in a while, and you would be leaning down half the time picking up a little litter. And you were just the example; I finally thought well, gee, if the President's doing it, I better do it too. So we'd be picking up litter between Garden House and your office.

Hill: We wanted it to look right.

Brower: But I've always thought, when I read Dick's, it's the first thing he remembered about you, that signified the humbleness that you brought to your office, and as a result it bounced off; you didn't miss the wall.

Hill: Ah haha! Well thank you very much, Clay. It's been great years for Kitty and me.

Brower: It's been wonderful. Thank you very much, as I've said a couple of times it's been a privilege to share these few minutes with Warren Hill, and we're all very fortunate to be on campus here in June 1991, to see ourselves hung. This is legitimately, and in the library, in the Roscoe West Library. We're on campus at this time, with Ed Martin and his wife, Dorothy, Kitty, and Warren, and Dottie and I, and what a wonderful experience. This is a chance to get together and to renew to a lot of happy and sometimes anxious times, and be back at Trenton State College. Thank you very much, we'll see you all again.

End of video.