HERE AT STONY BROOK - Monday, Nov. 14, 1983

THEME UP AND OUT

Hi, everybody.

Today, we are going to look at what it means to get older.

First, we will talk with Dr. Patricia Coyle about the most common chronic illness to strike the elderly, the disorder called Alzheimer's Disease. More than likely, when we talk about senility, we are talking about this condition. It affects two million Americans—75 per cent of them women. Every year, 100,000 people die from Alzheimer's Disease.

Later in the program, we will talk with Dr. Jane Porcino about her new book, "Growing Older, Getting Better." As the title implies, the book's tone is optimistic and encouraging even while recognizing the grim conditions that older women in our society face.

Patricia Coyle is assistant professor of neurology in the Department of Neurology at the School of Medicine in the State University of New York at Stony Brook. She is one of the scientists who spends research time on Alzheimer's Disease, the so-far incurable and untreatable disease of the elderly. Dr. Coyle, I guess we ought to clarify that "elderly business" right from the start. You needn't be all that old to suffer from Alzheimer's Disease, need you?

INTERVIEW DR. COYLE:

(NOTE: Nov. is Alz Dis Month and Lew Thomas' "disease of century")

-- Describe symptoms, conditions of SDAT (senile dementia of the Alzheimer's type)
-- What are the potential causes?
-- Federal aid up from $17m to $24m in 1984; what areas of research involved? At SUSB?
-- For more information.

14:00

THEME UP AND OUT

MORE
There's an old line that goes, "You're not getting older. You're getting better." Jane Porcino uses a variation of that as the title of her new book, which is called, "Growing Older, Getting Better." Dr. Porcino is director of the Gerontology Program in the Center for Continuing Education at the State University of New York at Stony Brook. She was herself into midlife when she first confronted the problems of growing older. As a woman, she recognized problems that were women's problems. For more than 15 years now, she has devoted her professional career to bringing greater understanding to women in midlife and older.

Dr. Porcino, I know you are also the editor of a newsletter called, rather appropriately, I think, "Hot Flashes." Did the book grow out of that experience?

INTERVIEW PORCINO:
--- Define "midlife."
--- How do women in midlife differ from men? Older?
--- Why were women, and men, not encouraged to take "new risks" in mid years?
--- What's being done now?
--- What remains to be done?
--- What's ahead for Jane Porcino; new book?

28:00
THEME UP AND UNDER

Next week we will talk with Ann Sneed, director of a group called International Art of Jazz. We'll play some jazz music and talk about what's happening today in the world of jazz. And, we will hear some scholars, from several disciplines, talking about George Orwell's book, "1984," and about how close our 1983 society is to Orwell's 1984 society.

Until then, this is Al Oickle. So long, everybody!