

one of them. Fellow name of John Chewy. He said, "You know, Dick, I found a broad axe." He said, "I believe you're far enough along to make a tie,." I said, "Well," I said, "I'll try." And he put an old handle in that broad axe and sharpened it up for me. Well, me and my mother went right over there on that hillside and that timber was just standing thick in them days, when I was a boy, and we cut a load of ties, ten. And so...I took the broad axe up there and I started in. And I went to making ties and there was about eight of us living in this little house right here then. We'd got burnt out up there. And so I got my ties all laid. And I went over here and there was a fellow name of Joe Blackbird, an Indian fellow. He was a blacksmith at this home. He was a good one, too. And so I went over there and borrowed his mules. So I ask him, I said, "Well, now." He come over there. Come and drove a team round there and help load them. And I went right through here and I come by and ask him, "Well, what all do you need in groceries?" And they said, "Well, just go on. You ain't gonna get nothing out of them, no how." Said, "they probably won't pay for the haul." Well, Joe done told me it wasn't going to cost nothing for the use of his wagon and team. And so I went on. So I went to the tie yard and I didn't know what--

(Where was the tie yard located?)

Stilwell. And I didn't know exactly what I was going to do. But I drove right up there in the tie yard. And this old boy was buying ties there. And he looked my ties over. And so he said, "Well, unload 'em." So I thought, well I sold 'em. So I unload them and they brought me six dollars and forty cents. I'll never forget that. /laughter/ Well, them days you could go in and buy a slab of meat that wide and that long for fifty cents.

(Yard long...)

Yard long...