

afternoons of the summer time we played on the vacant lots and sometimes we'd line up--a bunch of us and we'd have--oh, a song or two. We liked to sing, but very few of us could carry a tune. And after school--after Sunday School and church on Sundays, we usually went out on the prairie to pick flowers and in those days there were so many of the old buffalo wallows. Not long ago I was down there. The little village was only about 1/5 as large as it was when I enjoyed it most. In those days, 1905 and 6, there was a bank and on each side of the street there were shops and merchants, different little businesses, but as I was down there shortly, there was only one side of the street left. Seemingly only about one store and in it the post office. The railroad station, in which we had enjoyed as children when we went down on Sunday afternoons to meet the train to see who got on or who got off, was gone. The section house was gone. The old hotel that had kept so many travellers was gone. In fact, the village look most desolate.

No, we didn't know what refrigerators were in those days, in fact, we didn't have an ordinary ice box. I can't remember any one in the town who did have. And I do think there was two telephones. I believe there was one at Bealer's Store and another one in a barber shop. The barber shop belonged to a Lucian Farrow. He had two sons in school. One of them got a whippin' one day and I hated to see that so bad. He was a very good boy, but the teacher whipped him for some little something--I think he threw a paper wad at her--but that wasn't unusual.

(Did you say that you used to carry water up to the house?)

I had to carry water when we didn't have any ice box. So I carried water from a well in the back of the lot up to the house. Oh, about 3 times a day and my grandmother would have me carry up this cool water--put it in a small tub in the shade to put the milk in to keep it cool. And that was our biggest refrigeration