

raise your own garden?)

Yes.

(And what did you raise in them?)

Anything. Beans, pumpkin, sweet potatoes, corn.

(Did you make your own bread back then?)

Uh-huh.

(How did you make your bread?)

Mrs. Downing: Not actually it's bread. It's a corn meal. Cornbread.

(Mrs. Carey's comment in Cherokee)

Mrs. Downing: (In Cherokee)

(Did they let it dry and then they beat it up into meal? Or how did they do it?)

Mrs. Downing: No, they skin 'em just like this--

They soak them corn with a lye.

Mrs. Downing: Ashes or something like that.

(Uh-huh, in a big tub? Or how would they do it?)

Mrs. Downing: No, they just use pan. They soak 'em in there about two hours or three.

(Would this be fresh corn off the cob? I mean right out of the garden?)

Mrs. Downing: Yeah.

(And they'd soak this corn in a pan two or three hours with lye did you say?)

Mrs. Downing: Yes.

(And that's the kind of lye that you buy in the store?)

Mrs. Downing: Uh-huh.

(So after you'd put the lye in the pan--?)

You kinda wash it first.