

We used to keep the molasses.

(That's how they'd pay you? And then what would be something like your sweet stuff in the wintertime. What else did they use that sorghum molasses on besides just the pumpkin?)

Sometimes sweet potatoes like that, isn't it?

(But they didn't have any spices back then like we do now, huh?

They didn't have any cinnamon or nutmeg?)

They don't know how I guess.

(Now can you remember any at all besides salt and pepper?)

Mrs. Downing: (In Cherokee)

MAKING COFFEE OUT OF CORNMEAL

In the coffee my mother makes if she ain't got no coffee they use, I guess, they had some, what was that.

Mrs. Downing: (In Cherokee)

Mrs. Carey: (In Cherokee)

Mrs. Downing: Coffee bean. I forgot now, Lena. They made coffee.

What was it they made -- (Cherokee words)

Corn meal.

(They'd take corn meal.)

Mrs. Downing: To make coffee.

(How would they make coffee out of cornmeal?)

They'd burn 'em up.

Mrs. Downing: Yeah, that's right; burn it up.

(Put it in a skillet? And how would they do this?)

Put it in a skillet.

Mrs. Downing: Burn it.

(Stir it?)

Yeah. Just let it go, I guess. It would burn. It would turn