

Oh, there was some prowling around up there, I guess.

('Course, I hear they used to fight and shoot each other without being outlaws though.)

(Words not clear)

(What did they do in the early days for law and order? In this country, did they have any marshals or---)

Yeah, it was run by Cherokee law. They'd had their sheriff and deputies, you know. Yeah, oh, yeah, and I'm tellin' you, they were glad to get you.

If you had shot guy, why, they'd take you over there to Tahlequah right off outside to where that county keeps that--well, it's right back in there, back of the old county jail. I don't know if you could still see them or not, but, boy, there used to be some pits down there, and that old bell was hung up there, and, boy, they wouldn't fool around with you. They'd take you over there, and break your neck.

(Well, I'll be doggoned.)

You're doggoned right, mister.

(They didn't fool around them, did they?)

No, they'd have a trial. If you'd murdered some guy, just out right murdered him, and if they'd caught you, why, they'd keep after you 'till they'd got you. They'd take you over there and give you a trial, and, boy, they'd just take him down there and hang him. I think, there was one time that an uncle of mine--it was back when I was just a little boy. I guess, I was just three or four years old, but he was just, by gum, wasn't grown yet. It was my mother's brother. He was up there at Tahlequah. They lived down around Horseshoe Bend. He went to town. They went about every week, and he come home, and he said, "They're going to hang two white men and a 'nigger' down there," he said, "let's go down and watch them." Well, he said, "I don't know if I want to see that." (End of Interview)