

big field. I had to furnish my own team and buggy. Have to run around and visit the allotments. When the man want to lease the place I go up on the farm and get the proper number of the lease land and visit the place, and go over it and tell them what kind of land it is and whether there's any improvements on it--any fence or nothing on it--and what it's best adapted to, and make all that kind of report so they'd know how to appraise it over there at Anadarko. There may be a house on it but in poor condition and the fence is all down, and I reported just how I see everything. Maybe land is rolling, rocky, and not good farming--it's good for grazing, mostly--and I make that kind of report. So they know how to appraise the land. The Indians don't put the evaluation of their land. The government puts the evaluation on it. And the Field Man is the one that pass on the kind of land it is--what it's best adapted to and all that. That was my job. I have to go out all the time. And they don't have to make--Some of them come to make an application, when they make application I take their application and I send it in to the Agency, and they check it over and send it back for inspection of it. Well, I go over to that place and make a report on it. Then they value it and then they just put a bid on it. When the bid is close to their evaluation, they'll accept the bid. If not, they don't approve it. And Mr. Roulette was head of the Lease Clerks. He was a Chippewa Indian, graduated from Haskell Institute.

(How many years did you do that kind of work?)

Well, when I was doing this work, in the meantime I was farming, too. I hired a Mexican to plow the ground and put (unintelligible phrase) and watch my cow. At the same time I was doing this other work. And after they complete the contract and have to send it in to Anadarko and this man--the farmer--has got to take his bondsman and go to Anadarko and make his contract out and then they get it all signed up and then run back. So the Office asked me if I wouldn't handle that