

river bank there. They was having a dance there. Somehow I drift into that town and I see my grandma standing in front of the garage. I went down there. She said, "Go in." She said, "Your grandpa's going to buy a car," she said. "You know how to drive?" "Yeah." I said "yeah" right quick! To tell you the truth, I didn't know--of course, I'd seen it--watched my uncle drive all the time. But I never did run one. So he bought it. It cost him five hundred dollars. A Model-T--a brand new one. He said, "Go ahead." He called my Indian name. He said, "Drive it out." So I got in there. Course I had lots of nerve, and I'd do anything. I got in there. I hold that--they call it " " --it's right here (on the left), I start it up. It had a starter right under you feet, you know. I stepped on it. Boy, it kicked off pretty. And I pull that spark down a little bit. Pulled that gas up here (on the dash), you know. It's on the floor, now. I looked back and I stepped on the middle one, and boy, it just oozed out. Kinda surprised myself. Got out there and they all got in. So we started out to that pow-wow. So we stayed there with about ten o'clock that night. "Well," they said, "Let's go home." That's when I got scared! Anyway, I drove. Yeah. That was all right. When we crossed that big bridge and after we got on the hill it was sandy. And them tires is about almost as big around as bicycle tires. You have to watch it. If you get in that sand, they get away from you. I just follow that trail, you know. When I got home I know that I could drive!

MORE ON LIFE IN CHILDHOOD: MOVING ABOUT

(Actually you were more or less raised by your grandmother and grandfather, weren't you?)

Well that time I was brought up, they kind of supported us, you know. My father and my mother was hardly able. Some way we just--course, it's my mother's uncle, you know. We stop there two or three weeks and then go off to my uncle Henry's and stay there a while, and then back to Fort Cobb with my father's relatives. We stay down there at Big Man's, and from there we go down to Sidney High's. That's my other grandpa. We go down there. And sometimes we come back to Apache Jay's. And from there we