

we lived in this little two room house--and the girls came over there and were washin' our hair out by the pump, it was in the summer and when our hair got dry, we had little bugs crawling on us. And in our family that was a low-down disgrace, you know, that was terrible. And my mother went to town and she got some stuff called, Red Persippity, I may not be sayin' that exactly right, but it's dead as poison, you know. And she put that on our heads and mixed it with jest plain old hog lard and she put that on our heads and tied our head up in that rag so it'd kill 'em: She told us she said, "I'll wear you out if you ever wash your hair with anybody else." Course, actually we weren't doin' it, you know, they came over there and stuck their heads in and they were bigger than we were, so we couldn't do much about it, see? We were jest three little bitty girls and they were great big kids, you know, 13 or 14 years old, see? They jest come over there and stuck their head in that--

(They didn't have any sewers over there, did they?)

No.

(Jest go out and use the creek, I guess?)

Well, they jest had outhouse, you know, everybody the back of every lot so you can imagine how it was. And then 'course that helped pollute that creek over there when we moved there. When we first came there you know, we came out in the spring of 1914 and it was still pretty cool. I don't remember us kids, we were jest cray to get down there and wade in that water, because my mother hadn't allowed any of the kids to wade in the river, you know, where we lived in western Oklahoma. Oh, the older ones had been allowed to go to the river, but the smaller ones--and so we thought we had it made, you know, great gravel bars sand and gravel bars in there and we thought we had it made to amake you know, wade in this water, but foot it's filthy, you know, they polluted it and then had that big fire and turned that oil in there. Finally, the oil comapnaies jest got where they jest drilled right in the middle of the creek. They didn't care. They turned that salt water loose in there, killed the fish, everything. Oh, it was terrible. You know, they were careless. They were digg'n' out a big line. They was to Chicago--run a big lind, oil