

out of coffee. All right, they'd come to an Indian camp. So the Indians sell them coffee sometimes, but a lot of times the Indians want to conserve their food till the next issue, so the women had a trick. We all planted squaw corn, you know. They parch this squaw corn till it's brown, and they had these hand grinders, and they grind that corn coarse and they re-parch it till it's brown, and they couldn't tell it from coffee. Cowboys bought it for coffee and never knew the difference!

(laughs) And some of the Indians would get hungry for meat, when they couldn't kill a deer or something like that, and they'd go around where the cattle were grazing, especially in the evening. And they'd go out and shoot a young beef or something like that. And they'd skin it and they'd cover that blood and dirt and all that, and carry the meat away in hide and bury the hide somewhere. And the cowboys never knew the difference.

(Did the cowboys mind if they ever found out--?)

Oh, yeah, they had to. They had to--on account of their bosses. I heard one particular story there at Greenfield. Straight east of Greenfield down there at the bridge (or breaks), a couple of young fellow--two brother-in-laws--come up there. They was looking for a young beef. So they found a herd there in the slew grass and the sun was going down. One said, "Here's one fat one." So they shot it. And this fellow was wielding his knife and that horse was standing there panting, you know. You could hear the tingle on their bridle bits. Pretty soon three or four cowboys came on the ridge there. They heard that gunshot. They looked around there and see nobody, so they took out. All this time that Indian was laying there afraid those cowboys was going to see them. And this other one was wielding his knife, he said, "Keep your knife quiet and hold that bridle bit so it won't tingle." And this fellow just kept sharpening his knife. Pretty soon the cowboys left and he shot once in the air, you know, and went on back to the camp over here. And then these Indians went to butchering. So after they butchered, they covered all the blood on the grass, throw the hide up and pack