

and they had a herd. A school herd, they called it, furnished by the government. And all the good merits that they deserved went for some benefit to them. So when the schools were let out, maybe some girl would get a cow and a calf. Maybe her sister would get a cow and a calf. And a boy would get a cow and a calf. So the family would have about five or six head given to them when school was out and they'd drive them home and they'd brand them. And of course they increased. But when the cattlemen took their cattle out (when ordered off the reservation in the 1880's) they took a lot of our cattle. They say Powder Face lost fifty-six head. A cattleman just drove his herd off with him.

(When did they take these cattle out?)

I think it was in the fall of 1889. A lot of Indians lost cattle.

(What about horses?)

Oh, the Indians took strict care of their horses.

(Well, back before they started to select their lands for allotments were any of the Arapahoes doing any kind of farming, or raising anything?)

Oh, yeah, they had farms before they took their allotments. I know my dad used to farm about seven or eight acres--corn, pumpkins and other things. He even had orchards.

(Did he ever sell any of the things that he raised?)

No. They kept them for their own use. Indian corn. They'd shock them up--corn on the stalk yet--and shock them up. And then some days they go out in the wagon and husk the corn from these shocks and put it in the wagon. And then they'd feed the stalks to the horses in the winter time when snow was deep.

(Had they been raising any corn in the years before that--say like