

the crew and we start threshing, if it was warm, dry weather. I enjoyed it.

INDIAN LAND USE: LEASING, ETC.

(The field where you went to thresh--was that already by white people were there Indians--?)

White people on Indian land--leases.

(At that time were any of the Indians turning out crops?)

They raised corn and oats--mostly feed for their stock. They didn't plant no wheat then.

(Did you all ever thresh any oats for Indians?)

Once in a while we did--some of those progressive Indians had small fields of oats, like ten or twelve acres for their stock, mostly--riding horses and teams.

(Do you remember the names of any of these Indians?)

I can remember one--his name was DeForest Antelope. I knew we threshed his grain there one year. Due west of Watonga about four or five miles. He was Cheyenne. And then they had sharecrops--under departmental--government--leases. Indian land leases. They had sharecrop leases. Most of them were on a cash basis, but there were a few crop sharers.

(What do you mean by sharecrop leases?)

A lease was drawn up that the farmer would give the Indian landlord, I think, one-third of the crop. And when it was threshed the Indian got his share at the elevators. And sometimes they'd have a--follow crop--have a little patch of wheat for pasture--under those sharecrop leases. Very few of them still do that.

(Well, instead of sharecrop leasing, could they just lease it for a certain amount of money?)

Yeah, cash rental, that was the standard form of leasing. The land had to be appraised, you know. The Agency at Darlington, Concho, appraised it.