

I guess it must have been about 1903, somewhere along there. Oh, there have been cyclones, I guess, through there, I guess (static interference). There's more people in settlement and more settlement now, you know, and you hear more about it.

(Yeah. That's true. Communications are a lot better now.)

Yeah. Country wasn't settled up then like it is now, and you didn't know about it right away.

COMMUNICATION IN EARLY DAYS

(Well in the early days, they didn't have telephones. How did they get the word around?)

Grapevine. (laughter)

(Grapevine?)

They take it, you know, horseback mostly, or walk. They had newspaper there at Tahlequah, too. Get a lot out of that. "The Cherokee Advocate", that's an old paper.

(Yeah.)

I believe there used to be the old "Cherokee Phoenix", did you ever hear of it?

(Yeah.)

Then the "Cherokee Arrow". There was a fellow there, he wanted to go to town. He said, "I am looking for my Arrow." Well, I was wondering what kind of arrow he had. He had the bow part, you know. The arrow was what he wanted. So he went up there and got his arrow and it was just the paper. (laughter)

...He was a nigger.

(That was Dick Ross?)

Yeah. That was Dick Ross. I was in the back end of a wagon, oh, I guess I was about three years old. He was talking to my dad there. We was close to the store and visiting with that nigger there. He looked back there at me and says, "I se your brother." ((laughter)) I said, "You not either." ((laughter))