

Indians together and selected. He selected--let's see--Cut Finger, Mountain, Lone Man, Long Hair, and myself--five of us Arapahoes. I don't know what they did with the Cheyennes. As specimens, you know,--our features, and all that.

JESS'S WORK AT THE GEARY BANK: LOANS TO INDIANS, GAMBLING, ETC:

(When did you start working in the bank?)

Fall of 1902.

(How did you get that job?)

Well, I had worked at the store, you know, and they had good Indian business here in Geary. John Dillon was the banker. And everytime payments come, when they'd start moving to Darlington, some of them would stop here and borrow money, mortgage a race horse or saddle, or a buggy team. We'd loan ~~sixty~~ or eighty dollars--something like that. Low interest rate, that time. And I'd fix up mortgages and got witnesses and some--laid some by thumb-mark. And then they'd move on to Darlington. Well, a lot of gambling went on--Mexican monte. Maybe a man would borrow sixty dollars and he'd win maybe two or three hundred dollars. I'd be down there at least two days a week. Every time they see me, they come up and pay it and I give them receipt. Then I'd come back on the next train and take the money back. Lay over a day or so, and then I'd go back. That way-- And some of them would go broke and come back and borrow some more. Just back and forth for three or four weeks. They camp there all the time.

(What time of year was that?)

Well, it usually be in October and February and March. They always bought their wood. They'd take a wagon down to El Reno and buy a cord of wood--just as much as a wagon would haul. Either stove wood or cord wood.

(Is stove wood shorter?)

Shorter, yeah. For their tents and camp stoves and tipis. Others would buy supply of cord wood, you know, and split it, chop it up. They used blackjack, mostly.

(What is the cord wood used for?)

Well, you can saw it up for stove wood, or any size. Heater or cook stove. You have to saw it up.

(But the stove wood is already cut up?)