

talk their language. They had to talk like we talk.

(Talk English.)

I know we lived on a farm out there, and one evening there was an Indian man-- I was out down on the, doin' something in the yard or somewhere, and he come up there and he told me good evening, and he didn't say it in our language. And so, when he--he asked me in Cherokee where my father lived. And I said to him, you'll have to talk to me in my language, I can't talk to you. I can tell you where he lives, but I don't understand you. We never spoke Cherokee, and we was raised to never speak it. And when they brought those full-blood Indian children into the Female Seminary down there, why they made them cut that out, they made them talk what we all talked. Unless they'd get mad at you. If they got mad at you, they could sure tell it to you in their own language. (Laughter) I never will forget that. I remember the principal's name of that school, her name was Wilson. After I married and I lived in Chelsea, I, no I lived in Springer, somewhere--and I picked up a paper and read where she had died. I bet you she was almost 100. And she's a great big woman. When she told you to step, she meant you to get busy too. And I was just 14. They said they was goin' to make the 14's--wasn't goin' let 'em come. And I said well, I'll be 15 then, I'm already here. But all I'd ever went to then, was just a little old country school.

(What was your school like down there--you had regular classes to go to--)

We had certain grades, they were graded, and we had certain grades. I know when I went down there the first time, they asked me what grade I was in. Well, you know a country school didn't grade you, you know. You was just in school and that was it. And so they asked me what grade I was in, and I said I don't know what grade I'm in--I guess I'm in about 2nd. So I went in the 2nd grade there, in the room, they had rooms. And when I went in there the teacher told the principal that I didn't belong in there, that I was too far ahead of them. I went up to the 8th grade Had entertainments there, but