

come out there on horseback. Sometimes they'd come out--especially these German people--and these Mennonites--they come out and bring you out, say, apple cider or piece of cake or something like that. Feed you middle--and maybe big old tank of water. Look after you through the day. Then when you eat at noon--turkey, chicken, pork, steak--all those things--pies. Then way after about eight o'clock you eat your supper. Oh, they had you filled up all the time. Of course you didn't have no bed of your own. You sleep out there straw stack under a hay rack or on top a hay rack or stack of oats or something like that.

(These threshing machines--were they drawn by horses?)

They had a steam tractor. Yeah. Steam tractor. Burned wood and coal. Those were good old days, there, but my cowboy life was the best.

(Was your cowboy life before you took this job as Field Farmer?)

Yeah. Way before I went off to school. Yeah. I first went out to Abilene, Texas--no, it was Shamrock, Texas--when I was fifteen. During the summer months, you know--May, June, July and August--I'd go back to school. The next year I'd start out the same thing--go to Abilene and out toward Amarillo. Used to carry my own--oh, I didn't have no suitcase or nothing--just canvas. Good pair of gloves.

(When did you quit farming on Henry's land?)

I didn't farm much there. Just about two or three seasons.

(End of tape.)