



DELANEY, EMMET.

INTERVIEW.

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Jimmie Birdwell, Interviewer  
September 30, 1937

Interview with Emmet Delaney  
Colcord Building, Oklahoma City,

Life of a pioneer Peace Officer.

I was a Peace Officer for twenty-five years at Perry. I think I started about 1905 when a horse or buggy and horse were the only ways we had of getting around.

I usually went on horseback and carried a pair of blankets and a little food with me because when I went to look for a man I did not know how long I would be gone nor where I would go.

Sometimes I would run into some other officer and we would hunt our men together, maybe finding both "holed up" at the same place.

Horse and cattle thieves gave me my worst trouble. Some of the cattle thieves got to be very expert in changing brands. It used to be if a man was looking for a ranch to buy he would sit down and try to figure out whether the brand on the cattle would be easily changed and what it could be changed to.

I was after a man who had stolen a steer and

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he knew that I was after him. I got so close that he shot the steer and cut the brand out and cut the steer's skin with the brand on it into strips with his knife which closed the case for me.

Once I was after two men who had about fifteen stolen horses; I had followed them all day and I got pretty close to them and they began shooting with rifles and shot my horse out from under me and I had to walk thirty-five miles besides losing the horse thieves.