

he wouldn't offer it to me. Once in a while he would buy me a few clothes. Of course, I got my board and room, and washing and such as that.

(But you never did see any money?)

No. All that time I stayed there I only had \$3.50 in cash for money. That's all I ever got.

(Why did he give you that?)

I don't know, he just opened up his heart I guess and decided to give me that much.

(And you left them when you were seventeen?)

Yeah, I was 17 when I left there. The man who was my guardian died. So the old lady was living there with the two boys there. So after the old man died I went ahead and the crop. Of course they sold most of the cattle and things.

(Did he die in the spring or summer?)

Yeah, he died in the spring. Oh you might say along about planting time. I went ahead and made their crop. So after I got everything done I--she called me in and told me, here is ten dollars for your work all of the years.

(For seven years work or from the time you were ten?)

Yeah, from the time I was ten I guess.

(From the time you were seventeen?)

Uh-huh. Here's ten dollars you can take and go anywhere you want to. But I advise you not to go back to your brother, I want you to go to your aunt's. Well, I guess I run my own mind, while ago you said I could go anywhere that I want so and then you're trying to tell me where to go. So I didn't say anything, but I studied about it. But anyway they took me to the railroad and told me to go, so I left.

(Did you work the crop every summer?)

Yes. Every summer.