

WORKED HARD IN EARLY CHILDHOOD - FATHER WORKED HARD

My name is Sam H. Hair. I was born here in Cherokee County of Tahlequah, Oklahoma. I was born in the 24 of April, in 1924. And I was raised here in this area. And I've just moved around and rent house ever since I was raised. At this time I' still renting a home. Now I live in Tahlequah-- in the city. Well, as far as I can remember way back, those--way back in 1930's I was working very hard helping my father make a living. Cutting wood, or maybe working for farmers breaking grounds with teams, hard work, cutting sprouts. Maybe I be cutting saw logs--selling sawlogs, maybe helping a man haul saw--to a saw mill. Maybe I be working around in saw mill, bucking the lumbers, stacking the lumbers, measuring the lumbers, gauging the lumbers and measure it all up and stack it up. Maybe load the trucks to haul it some place in the lumber yard. I worked hard--saw all that. In those days wages were cheap. And places were fifty cents a day. And maybe seventy-five up to a dollar were the highest wages in those days. That's way back in 1930's. The first time a man hired me, I was fourteen years old. Something I never had labored hard, only cut wood. That was my first experience at cutting sprouts for man and his farm. I worked five days a week. And the sixth day I go to town and spend the money what I made during the week. But I wouldn't spend it for anything else, only something to eat. Helping my father making the living. My father was a carpenter. He repaired the houses, the people's houses. And he used to walk to his job. Well, at least five or ten miles up to twenty miles he used to walk. In that distance for fifty cents, seventy-five up to a dollar a day. And that's ju t the way the Cherokee lived during that day. And during that time, sometime my father happened to get on the W.P.A. That was the hardest work than what he did as a farm laborer. He scooped gravel