

of ups and downs, as I say, but I enjoyed it.

(How did your father find the ore?)

Well, in the first place, he camped out over there before he and my mother were married, and he was living at the time in Seneca, but he got interested in the mines and the various outcrops of the country. So he got to looking around and there had been what they called an old Spanish mine over there. Well, he camped there, him and two or three other fellows and they got to checking around and they found this lead. These Spaniards were looking for gold or silver; and they had prospected some in there, but they didn't find anything, see, that is, what they were looking for, and it turned out to be lead. Well, the lead over there was what they called a "pocket lead." It's right shallow, it was some places you could find it, as a fellow said, "You could be a millionaire today and a pauper tomorrow", but the thing of it was, it was high grade ore and they found it at a shallow depth. Well, that's what started it. Well, then he formed a company and the New Jersey Mining Land and Construction Company, they called it. Well, they leased up a lot of land on the outside and done a lot of farm work, that is, had a lot of ground broke up and farmed quite an acreage up here in connection with their mines. Well, they worked in these mines over there and, at one time, Peoria town was quite a burg. And the people just rushed in there from everywhere. Well, you know at that time they hauled that ore, they got that ore and they got eight dollars a ton for it after they hauled it to Galena, Kansas. Eight dollars a ton and still they made money at it, I guess, at least they thought so, anyhow. And they kept it up for quite a while. Finally the company, they wanted to cut down on my father's expenses. That is far as I know he was on