

RIDER GRASS WAS A NEGRO MAIL CARRIER

Mr. Gourd: Dr. Nolan used to be there at Salina.

(Yeah. Dr. Nolan. What was his first name, do you remember?)

I never did know. Did you?

Unidentified Voice: Huh=uh.

He lived there at Salina long time.

(Yeah.)

You know they had a post office there in the superintendent's room.

(Yes.)

Mr. Gourd: I was talking care of the superintendent's daughter's baby and at noon they'd go and eat dinner and I would have to take care of the baby.

(Yeah.)

And there'd be man and that man was picking on the door there. They'd always lock me up in there till they got back.

(Well.)

I guess, so I wouldn't open the door for 'em you know. I believe they call that man Rider Grass.

(Rider Grass. And he was a negro?)

Yes. There used to be lot of people in there then. (Words not clear)

(Well. And make a whole big quilt scrap.

What left over then they trim it off.

(Yeah.)

And it just makes a big square.

(Well that would make a real pretty one.)

Well I don't know where--my daughter from Indiana sent me this, didn't she?

I don't know why she's sending me the quilt tops. She could need them herself.

She's got lot of kids. (Words not clear)

(Let's see, Henry Ross?)

Henry Ross. He had a boy named Joe.