

said, "Well, my friend, I guess we'll go on home. We got to go to Walters." His wife went out first. I didn't know she handed him some bills. And so I followed him to the street to bid him goodby. He left the screen door open and I walked out. "Well, my friend, I guess we'll go." He shook hands with me. I felt something in my hand. I looked and it was bills. "My friend," I said, "I didn't sell you those." He said, "No," just like that. "I give it to you for nothing." It was ninety dollars--for that cap and them furs. Yeah.. That was about 1946.

(Was that after he had got money from his oil wells?)

Oh, yeah. He had that money for ten years before that. Yeah. (He didn't have much money before that oil money came in, did he?)

Oh, no, no. He didn't have any but land, you know. And his wife had land. He was a fine man.

MESCAL BEANS USED AS BEADS IN BANDOLIERS

(Interruption. Conversation resumes on subject of mescal beans worn as bandoliers.)

(You mean you just gather them yourself?)

Yeah. They grow like beans.

(What time of year?)

They get ripe about June. And then you get some at Alientes (?), Old Mexico, and then at Eagle Pass, across the border. You just get some Mexicans to go out there and they help you gather them. But it's hard to make holes in them. You got to have strength--you got to have an expert--you don't use no drills--just have to burn holes through them. That's the only way you can pierce them--burn holes.

(Do they use a wire?)

I have a little thing--I'll show you--(goes and looks for a tool)--here. It's steel. It comes from some part of a car. Yeah, I made it sharp-pointed myself. I tempered it.

(How do you--)?

Just take a gas stove or a wood stove and just stick it in there and you have to have a pair of gloves so it won't slip, you know. Or put a little resin or something like that on your