

LEARNED TO COOK AFTER MOTHER DIED

(How old were you when you started cooking?)

Cooking?

(Uh-hum.)

I guess I was about fifteen, sixteen.

(Oh.)

Papa done most of the cooking when mama died.

(Oh, he did.)

Uh-huh. But he sure was a good man.

(Well.)

Sure was good to us and kept us till we all got grown. My sister married a man. He wasn't much good but she loved him and she stayed with him till he died.

ENJOYED THE DANCES WHICH WERE POPULAR IN THOSE DAYS

(Oh-h-h. Did they have any dances in those days?)

Yeah.

(What kind of dance?)

Stomp dance.

(Oh. Did you go to them?)

Yeah. I went all the time.

(You did?)

Yeah. Papa used to go and Mama was a Christian but she'd go and camp and cook for him.

(Oh, for your daddy?)

Uh-huh. She didn't dance but she went and helped him out.

(Um-hum. Did you dance?)

Yeah. (laughter) I used my shells and everything.

(You did?)

Uh-huh.