

and guide it off.. Then we'd have to bust it up a bit to get it in the truck. They used to have a smelter up there at Vinita. They hauled the lead up to Vinita. And hauled the smelter up to Joplin. And up to Joplin is 50 miles. I don't where they kept some smelter somewhere.

(Well, that industry still , it gave a lot of employment to the Indian folk, through the country here.)

Oh, yeah. But you take most of them old miners. I don't know of any.

I guess you could find them over there. Down at Pitcher and Commerce.

They worked in the mines during World War I.

(Is that pretty hard on a man's health that mine work? )

Yeah, it used to be. When we was mining up here at Dewey. So our mine was, oh, just a little above your head. Just high enough so that you could walk through it. Some of them you had to timber and some of them you didn't. We'd put off a round of shoots and go right in and go right to work. Smoke was so thick you couldn't see your hand that far ahead of you. And I worked in triple mine mill over here. I didn't work in the mill either. I worked out in the crest. They wanted me to work in the mill and I wouldn't do it. That dust in there was so doggone bad you couldn't see three foot. Them boys that was-a working in there lost their life. They died pretty young.

(Yeah, cause that dust will sure eventually get them.)

I had a son-in-law died here several years ago that used to mine. That's what killed him more than anything else.

(Yeah.)

Had two brothers that working in them all the time. They're both dead.

No, I had three brothers that worked in them all the time. But I just worked, well, I never did work them over here in the ground too much.

Just very litte. I'd go over there and see them. I had to see them