

they dug a longer grave)--put boards down there and put casket on it, quilt and then cover it up with dirt.

(How long did they keep 'em before they bury them?)

Well, when a person died, in summertime, they gave them a bath, lay it on porch. They set up with body with a lantern hanging out there. They watch the body and early in the morning they make casket, put body in and bury next evening. They had service and go bury them. Some done it different. Ben? Was spoil and it really smelled. After they put him in casket (Ben), someone open the casket, took the handkerchief off and there was lots of lice on his face. I shouldn't tell that I guess. Did it already take?

(That's all right.)

But it did, it was really spoil.

(They didn't have undertaker in town?)

Eufaula had "Plocks" (Funeral Home), but his folks didn't take him there. He was Joe Deere's daddy. He was Newman Deere's daddy. They had his body in back of the church. They had his service, view the body and put him away.

(Maybe they kept him about three days?)

No, he was real sick for long time. I guess he just spoil.

('Cause he was sick a long time?)

I guess that's what it was. I was young then.

(Now they keep them for days or week.)

Well, now they take them to funeral home.

(Back in those days they didn't keep them that long.)

No. They didn't keep them that long. In summertime, they kept them overnight, and in winter too, they kept body outside too. Sometimes they come to town and bought casket. They use to say, these home-made casket were stronger. Home-made last longer. They made my father's casket. My mother's was bought. She died in 1929 and my father in 1917.