

'cause I would have to stay home by myself. (Laughter) I was just about 4 or 5 years old. I sure was tired when they got me home.

(Was you six when you started? Six years old?)

No, I don't think they started school then. (Laughter) They started anytime they wanted to. I use to see Christy Francis in primer and she was big and grown. I'm going to be 71 in August.

(How old was you when you started?)

I started school 8 years old.

(And you just went four years? Why didn't you go on further?)

I don't know, they told me and my friend to quit school 'cause we fought white kids all time. They bothered us all time and we waited for them after school and broke dead limbs on their heads. (Laughter) They wouldn't believe us when we told them they started first. Even girls (white) they lied on us and they always kept us in after school. That's why we waited for them after school, and beat them up. We use to jump out the window and go home of the evening and wait for them kids. (Laughter) But they made us mad and they threw at us. They tell on us and want us to get spanking. One time or lots of time we'd pick up mountain boomers on the way to school and when school took up, we'd turn them loose and teacher and all them kids would jump on the desk.

(Did you all fight Indian kids too?)

No, just white kids. I guess they got tired of us and want us to quit school.

(Siah Polk is telling why he had to quit school. He's telling where he use to be mischievous. Did you like to go to school?)

Um-huh, yes I did. Just to fight I guess. We use to kick the white girls and run them off. My father was a principal. I'd tell him it wasn't our fault but teachers took up for white kids. If I went on I could have more sense. Some of the kids went to school at Artusse on horse.