

something like that. And my Daddy, he got kinda grumpy. He said, "Let's just go and get a loan." So we started on this loan. And I think we were going to get it through. We were going to try to get about two thousand just to remodel the house. Jack (her husband) was going to do the work. Then we run up against that. They didn't want Jack to do the work.

Jordan: Why not?

Birdie: I don't know. That's what I asked Mr. Carney. He was sitting in his office and he said, "We'll have to get someone that's qualified"--licensed or whatever we have to have to do work like that. I told him Jack did work like that. He's no professional but he can get the job done, and it would have save us money. Because half of that would have been labor. Half of what we was going to borrow would have been labor. He started throwing in this and that, you know. And we didn't want to borrow that much money. We wanted to borrow just enough for Jack to do the work. He said, "I can do it for two thousand, I believe." You know, dig a well, and get a pump, and we could have running water inside. And repair it. And they were against that. So we just kept on going back, you know. I go in there. Go up to Mr. Carney. He was pretty good fellow, Mr. Carney. But we went down to the other end-- you have to go all over down there. When we got there, Mr. Alford--oh, he was mean! I still got written down what he said to Daddy. Daddy told him we wanted a loan and he started talking he was going to give me power of attorney since he was sickly and he said, "I'll give my daughter power of attorney and she can make some of the arrangements and see about this loan and all that." And he said, "The power of attorney that you give your daughter is not worth a damn in this office!" He told my Daddy that. I've got it written down in there. In that book, Daddy came back and he wrote it all down. You know how he does--writes things down (Ray Blackbear for years had been in the habit of keeping notes and records of daily happenings--in little spiral notebooks).