

Irene: All right! Let me tell you something about them. Their mother draws pretty good sized money. And she allots those girls around--from what I hear--a thousand dollars a head--each girl. And out of that thousand, it seems like they could have their wells dug. But they still got on that Sanitation. You take for instance her (referring to Birdie)--she don't draw that kind of money. She has to struggle for what money she and her husband makes. Same way with a lot of these other people--are like that. Well, how did they (The Achilta girls) get it when we can't get it?

Birdie: Cause they were in good with Houston!

Irene: Just like I say, you got to have a certain kind of click, I guess, or whatever it is!

Birdie: Houston pushed it, that's what he done!

IRENE'S PROBLEMS WITH HER HOUSE NEAR BOONE

Irene: And I asked him and he said, "Well, you just wait and we'll just see about it." And I said, "Well, when?" And he just never did give no answer. We had a meeting over there where they always meet at the Agency. I said, "I like to get on that Housing Program." It kinda make me mad. One day my boy said, "Mama, we need a bathroom," he said. I said, "Well, I asked him," I said, "Why don't you try to get on that V.A. (program)?" He said, "Well, I'm going to wait till they give me a hundred percent disabled or something like that. If I know for sure how much money I'm going to draw every month, that way the V.A. could take out so much a month and then give me the balance and then maybe I could build me a home that way." I said, "Well, I'll deed you some land if you do. I bought this five acres to build a home on it, but it don't seem like I'm gonna build one on it," I said. "So why don't you just go ahead and build your own home with the V.A. money?" I said. "That's the only way you'll have a home with a bath and running water." We have running water but we don't have an inside bathroom. We have to go to an outhouse which we build ourselves.