

government officials come over. They got to have an interpreter. And they used me. That was my first work with the government. I know what the government was doing and the Indians would come in there and the Indian Agent, when they want to do business, they call on me and I'm tribal interpreter. Lots of times men come from Washington to have business meetings with the tribes. So I was special interpreter.

(Why did you decide to go for one year over here at Rainy Mountain?)

Well, nothing, only we lived closer to Rainy Mountain. We was over there to Mount Scott.

(So it was sort of close to you?)

Yeah. Close to Saddle Mountain.

(Did you board there, too?)

Yes. And therefore we just went up there. Just nothing extra. I told him maybe they might give me better grades, but they didn't. I didn't notice any difference. They didn't have but the fifth grade. That's the highest the government could have. And I already had that so I just took it over.

(About how many years altogether did you go to Methvin School?)

I think about four or five--something like that. I attended about two years before the opening. About '96--I remember being in school in '97 and '98-- during that world--China War and Spanish War. I remember that well. I was in school there. And after 1900 when the country opened--before the country opened-- they brought the railroads in. We watched them build the railroads in 1900. I was in school. Yeah, and they had a smallpox epidemic that year.

(Did you ever have it?)

No. I never had it, but many Indians died. Hundreds and hundreds of them. They didn't have no doctors. They just had one doctor--Dr. Hume. He vaccinated all of the children there at the school. And I take vaccination. And we sneaked off.