

and he came--miracle in this country. You couldn't get a job. And he'd soldier over there and fought the war, over there and he come over here and couldn't get a job--enlisted back into the army and fought in the American-Spanish War. Then when he come back, he was appointed United States Marshall, Indian territory---And Hank Thomas--and them's about the oldest that I know of--early day. And I was a kid of a boy. Now back to the other side of that, I don't know who was. And I don't think they had any. Because we never had any courts, so sometime, they, Federal government come over here and get 'um. And carry 'um out and take 'em to Fort Smith, Arkansas. Paris, Texas. And if they took 'um to Arkansas, they mostly hunt 'um. If they had him in Paris, Texas, they'd turn 'um loose. Old Judge Parker was judge at that time. And he was known. Mostly all them fellows were old civil war veterans, you know, from the north. And there's still a grudge between the North and South, you know, and they--and so he'd hang everything he could catch.

ABOUT FATHER:

My dad was on the deputy force and I've got his picture here when he was on the law force. And he went to Ft. Smith, Arkansas with a bunch of prisoners--I've got his picture here.

(Is this before he was a preacher?)

Yeah, that's before he went to preachin'. And he dealt in (unintelligible) stock, too.

OPENING LAND:

And they opened country of the '69ers, jest everything poured into this country. And they'd come out of Texas and everywhere going up there to make that run, you know, they had to go as far as the Canadian River, you know, and that was the boundary, you know, and then they'd start from there. And to the North, they'd come in Kansas line, you know, to make the run. Then the next opening was April 19, 1892. That was the Cheyenne and Arapahoe country up here. They run for that. Then the Cherokee Strip was open in 1893. I think September. And the next was the Comanche, Kiowa, and Caddo County. And that was the last run that was lade. I mean they drawed that.