

she didn't see that snake and that snake bit her right over here--inside of the knee. And she took her knife and she cut it. She did. Herself. She cut it. Cut where that snake bit her. I guess she just cut it. (Cut out a piece of her flesh) And she tore--you know they used to have flat sleeves--I guess she tore her sleeve and she went and tie it. And it didn't even swell up. She must have cut that poison out.

(Did she just cut a whole piece of flesh out?)

Yeah. She just held it up like that and I guess she cut it. And they used to all wonder how she didn't poison herself with that. She had a little knife--a pocket knife. It must have been sharp. I guess she was sitting by the fence and after this snake bit her, when she pull her dress up and cut herself, I guess she just look at this snake and I guess it was just going slow, going that way. Well, this white man--his name was Blankenship--I guess he seen her. He said, "I wonder what she done--she might have got cut." I guess he went over there. And I guess she show him. And boy, that Blankenship said that skin was just open real wide. And this man seen that snake, so he killed it. And I guess he brought her to the house and she already had tied it with her own dress.

(What kind of a snake was it?)

I think she said it was a black snake. She said, "I didn't see it, but it sure was shiny black," she said. "Just as I lift my leg up to cross the fence, it got me." She used to tell about it. But after that, the older she got, it used to ache. Her leg used to ache and then she got paralyzed. She had a stroke.

(Have you ever heard of anybody that died from a snake bite?)

Well, you know I told you my little brother died from a snake bite. He was playing around the tent, and I guess he jump on him and hit him. Boy, he was just bloated like a balloon. He died that same afternoon.

(Did they do anything to try to doctor him?)

They couldn't do nothing. They didn't even have time to--they already had doctors over here--1905--they didn't even have time to bring him--he just died. It all come up and when it got to