

to get a pension but I didn't know how to go at it. The reason I got on I could live more independently because when the children has families of their own lot of women they expect so much from them, but I don't. I say when children comes into the family the parents duty is to look after the children. Not me. A old friend of mine, poor old thing, she just coached them into it. And oh she said, I'm afraid of them. I'll get you on this state she said. I'll help you she said.

(Why were you afraid of the Indian Office?)

Because if you go to the Indian Office and if you have money there, they ration you just so much what they think. Often you have to have an item that's billed for everything. So I didn't want to. And so she took me to this county here and state. And I went there three days. They questioned me and questioned me, and I said they want me to sell what holdings I got on my place. I say no. "Well, you have to, sister, if we give it to you at all!" Third day I went and the head lady told me, "Make up your mind" she said. Well this lady comes to the desk and I said, "Lady I don't know you but your married," and she said, "Yes mam. I'm a grandma." "Well, I am too," I said. I said now would you if you were in my place would sell the last home you got. "No," she said, "I wouldn't." Well, what little I can get here I wouldn't do it for nothing in the world. I said I want those little ones to have a roof over their heads. No sir, I said, I won't do that. I don't know what she was doing in there. And I got up and I said, well you just tell her to let it go. I won't come back anymore. My friend didn't go with me that time. 'Cause she would have slapped me that time about saying that,--being so independent. So I came home and I was staying up here with a friend of mine. And so about the third day I got a check. My first check. Oh, that was a wonderful feeling knowing that I could feel as more independent. I stayed with her for a while (referring to friend)--almost a year. And then I rented a house up yonder. Well, I was still going to school and so the boy came and paid a down payment on the rent for me. Soon, as I got home so I could move my stuff. And that's how