

KICKAPOO HOUSES

(Did you live in an Indian type house or what?)

Indian house. We was raised in Indian house like these what I got out here.

(referring to winter house east of her house) We was raised in them, but now I can't stay in them!

(Why?)

I don't know, I just can't! I said, my goodness! It's funny I was raised in this all my life and now I just don't like to sleep in there or sit down. I just can't even get up when I sit flat down!

(Well, when did you stop living in that kind of house?)

Oh, let's see. It ain't been long. It's been--well, anyhow, when my little girl was about as big as him (grandson). So, I don't know how old she is now.

It ain't been long since I quit living--

(Well, when you were little and you lived over here, did you have one of these kind of houses over here?)

No, we didn't have any of these (frame houses). We never did. We just live in 'em. Mother makes them every year. In winter time, that's covered all over. In summer time we live in that bark house. "Summer house" they call 'em. So they fix 'em up every year.

(She didn't make you clean house or anything?)

No, nothin'. No, mother never made us. She even washes our clothes.

DIVISION OF LABOR IN FAMILY

(Well, it sounds like you were playing all the time.)

Yeah. Well mother that's the way she loved us. And daddy, he loved us the way he made us learn how to work. Daddy always say, "You ain't going to see us all the time." He said, "Anywhere you go, they're going to make you work. And even if you don't understand it, they're going to make signs telling you to do this and that. You won't even know how," he says. So--