

establishments--nine o'clock. That's Montana law, I guess. So we had to wait. But the restaurant was open. So we stayed. We got permit from this night watchman. We ran around all over trying to get us some gas. According to the law, he said, he couldn't make it. So we parked certain place right there at the filling station. There's a light there. So we all slept there in the car. And next morning, early, well-we--this night watchman says, "There's a restaurant. You folks can go down there and eat breakfast." Which we did. And we got off. And we seen Oklahoma tag parked out in front. So we parked right by it. And I walked in, and my step-father walked after me. We see bunch of guys setting way back there--they had those tin helmets on. Boy, one of these guys jumped up! He was surprised. "Well, Apache Ben!" One of these white guys. Boy, he run over there and just hug the Old Man--shook his hand. "Come here, boys," he said. "I want you to meet my friend from Hatchetville!" (a community near Boone, Oklahoma) Nobody know where Hatchetville was, you know. When they got through shaking hands, he said, "Boy, you all sit down. Sit down. I want to give you all good breakfast." So we all sit down. Boy, we talk about Hatchetville. He was from Tulsa. But they brought this gusher in over here at Z.N. Smith's--that's the first oil well they brought in here at Hatchetville. And me and the Old Man was always driving up there every evening to watch that fellow drill them wells. And that's where this Old Man got acquainted with this fellow. (The oil field that opened up near Hatchetville, west of Apache, Oklahoma, was rich, and a number of Indians who owned land in that area, including Apache Ben, derived high incomes from it for some time. For additional information on Hatchetville oil strike see T-9.--

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(What was his name?)

I don't know. We forgot it. Boy, I tell you, he was happy. He said, "I been here for six months. I'm lonesome. I got my family there at Tulsa." He said, "I got two more wells here--maybe three--to drill, before I can make it back home. Boy, it's good to see somebody from home!" Boy, he sit there with us, and talked. Bought us all cigars. Ask us if we want