

the country. You know - erosion - up lands. And the ground got old. And you might say our land was 'bout as good as the old Iowa, Nebraska land for corn. They raised good corn. Oh there'd be bins of corn. But after a few years, why, of course the fertility of the soil weakened. Now you can't hardly raise corn. (When did they have the sheep here?)

Well, up until about 1893-1894. I know several sheepmen, scattered here and there. They have good sheep. They sold them. Kids herd them after school hours. They had good sale. They had good business for sheep. And they done our country good because they didn't tear up on land. And they always kept the weeds down. You know. And then after the recent system start, then this here Russian thistle, this tumblin' weed, and all those things come in from seed brought in here. Like cotton and corn and kaffir corn. There's bound to be some of those seed of those weeds. That's when all these weeds started. Before that it be all grass. All we had sure we had sand burrs. But the early days cattlemen brought in all - these cockleburrs be on cattles, you know. They come in and they start spreading - this cockleburr. Well, they were bad enough.

(Well, back in the days when Jesse Chisholm and these other cattle companies were running their cattle, was anybody running sheep on the reservation then?) No, no, no. See, Jesse Chisholm just trail his cattle through Oklahoma. Maybe once a year. Because if they come on back after they get all the cattle placed where they want to ship them to - Dodge City, Wichita, Ft. Worth - then they'd come on back.

#### GRASS MONEY AND RATIONS DURING RESERVATION PERIOD

(Well did the Indians get grass money? From those fellows?)

Oh, yeah. They got seven counties. They were constituted - set up - They got paid 'bout twice a year. They used to call it grass money. They averaged about \$15.00 a head, that money