

wife said, "Well, we're sure glad you-- there's just two of us Indian here--no other Indians--" I said, "I'm going across and then I'm going to come back." "Where are you staying?" "Well, you come over and eat dinner with me," I said. "I'm over here at the Hamilton Hotel--American hotel in Laredo." So she came over. I was out in the yard. A little boy was playing with a little dog and we were all watching them. And then I saw them coming so I went in and got my hat and so I took them to dinner. That's the last I saw of them. They went on and I came on to Oilton. One time I went down there and I had about two hundred and some-odd dollars.

USE OF MEXICAN GOLD COINS FOR MAKING JEWELRY:

And I found a little old coin store there on the American side at Laredo. I got five five-cent pieces--Mexican five cent pieces--they're silver. I wondered if I could get some more. I said, "Where can I get some more?" "Go across the river to the Nueve Laredo side--the Mexican side. Maybe you can get some there." And he said, "We got gold, too." Those . . pesos and two-dollar pesos, Mexican--red gold. I said, "How much are these two-dollar gold?" "Oh," he said, "About two and a half apiece." I said, "How many you got?" He looked around. I said, "They got them in banks." He said, "I got four here, and we got one four-dollar gold." I said, "How much is it?" he said, "Four dollars and a half." I got all four of them. Bought all four of them.

And so I went to the Laredo side and I had these five-cent Mexican pieces--you know they're silver--and when I went across there I found five more of those five-cent pieces. I bought them all, and I got four more of those two-dollar pesos--that Mexican red gold. So I had eight. I wanted two more. Maybe four more. So I kept them, and when I got to San Antonio -- about a week after that -- four days after that -- and stayed overnight there just to go to the curio stores. Sure enough, I found three more of those two-dollar gold pieces. I had eleven of them. I had one four-dollar gold piece-- no -- two four-dollar gold pieces. I had an Indian who lives out here make me shirt buttons out of them. Oh, they were pretty polished up, you know. Gold--red gold. And I had the large ones for my cuff links.

(Do you still have them?)

No, I gave them away. And the next time I went down there I got two four-dollar gold pieces. I paid four or five dollars apiece for them. And I had earrings made