

(Did you stay in farming very long?)

I farmed until I went to the army in Fall of 1917. When I came back, my dad had moved to town here in Carnegie. And I got a job on the water department here. I was superintendent forty years and I've been retired now five years. Haven't done anything. Haven't been able to do anything. But it has grown quite a bit since I came here. When I first started in 1919 on water department, we had eight hundred and fifty customers. And we have a good water department here and plenty of good water.

(What was your dad's name?)

My dad's name was James Madison Nix. He was born in Kansas. He was a Republican. My mother was a Democrat. And I wasn't hardly anything. I, well, I registered as a Democrat. But the Democrats are just about to make a Republican out of me. (Laughter)

(You say your father made the RUN in '89?)

Yeah. Dad made the RUN in '89 in Old Oklahoma, Pottowatomie, County.

(Do you remember any stories he told you about that?)

Oh, yes. But they are so ragged that people wouldn't hardly believe it. I was born in a half dugout on Little River. And Dad, he was a meat cutter and he would ride a pony into Tecumseh. It was the County seat then. And he'd cut meat and he'd come home at night. When my mother died, why there wasn't nobody to take care of my brother and I. I was three years old and my brother was six months old. And there was an old colored folks lived there pretty close to us and used to farm a little for dad; and he was cuttin' meat trying to make a living. And we didn't have no milk, then. But this colored lady, she had a little baby about the size of my brother. So dad paid her. She nursed her baby and my brother too, until we moved to the Chickasaw Nation.