

EARLY EXPERIENCES:

Luther Homer was in the Standing Rock bend, bout 15 miles south of Talequah. And it was bought and it was formerly a camp owned by a fellow named of Barnes. And he was known to deal with the alcoholic spirits. And he would keep these "spirits for Tulsa men. Who went fishing--it was right on the Illinois River. Well, things finally got so bad with him that his wife left him, that's when he sold the camp. He sold the place for the camp to the (--) at Muskogee.

(What was his name?)

Ah--Joe Barnes. Yeah, he retired he's living in California. Some old fellow ran into him out there. But he had his fill of that, but well, he was playing both ends against the middle. And that doesn't work, and the old folks went to Tulsa fishin'. Anyway, we walked to camp and -- Ruble, Leo Edgar Ruble was there for 3 years, he was my predecessor, I came in '37. And some of the--well it was soon after a big killing down there that the fork in the road, some of them had got in. Two rival gangs had got into it anyway. Well, Cockeyed Carlyle had robbed the bank somehow and the law officers were out to get him. But my biggest trouble teachin' school was I had to find out who was on who's side. There were two rival gangs -- facets and I could--

(And this was among the students?)

Yes. Just among the grade school students. And in otherwords, one kid would do something to another one, and they'd just laught about it. Cause they were one the same side. But somebody had crossed paths with them, and it was fightin' talk and until I found out who was on who's side, I had quite a time. In fact, the first three months when I taught school there was hardly a day went by that I didn't paddle somebody. And I had