

happened to lay my eyes on it. Well, a fellow just brought it in. Second-hand man just brought it in and he was unloading his pickup into the store down here and I asked him, I says, "What'll you take for that?" He said, "Oh, I don't know. What'll you gimme?" I says, "I'll give you a dollar for it." "Give it here," he said. He was glad to take a dollar for it. I have an idea that I could get it for a dime.

(Heard people talk about making shingles. How did they--?)

Yeah. I've saw that. They had a froe that the handle was, oh, that big and 'bout that long and hole in the post 'bout that big--comes off 'bout here and 'bout that long. Yeah, it's 'bout that long, I guess. The blade is--

(You mean the blade is about 18 inches long?)

It's 'bout 12 or 14 inches long. And then you take and--they got a wooden mallet that they put that right on to the--after they split the block they'll cut the block the length they want the shingles, you know, with a saw. Then they bust them in blocks. Then they'll go to work and they'll put that froe right down on that just about the thickness of the shingle--clapboard they called it. Then they'll take the mallet--they don't take--chop this--

(They drive the froe down with the mallet?)

Yes. And as they go along they--whichever way it's splittin' out--if it's splittin' out this way and if it's splittin' in--no if it's splittin' in they do this way and if splittin' out they'll do this way and then they hit it.

(What kind of wood did they use to make those clapboard shingles?).

Red oak and water oak. And mostly red oak and water oak. I never saw one take burr oak or post oak or anything like that. I never saw 'em using anything like that. It's always red oak or water oak. Get a straight grain tree. They can always tell when it's a straight grain tree before they cut