

didn't want money, why, give a note of request for something to eat. Give them more than the value of 50 cents a day.

(Well, can you remember when the first banks came into the community?)

No, I can't. Well, I can kinda think too. I believe the Vinita National Bank was the first one in Vinita. I believe it was. Seemed it was--no. It was the Cherokee National Bank. Cherokee National Bank. That's--but I don't know how long it had been there before I kinda realized what a bank was. There's a lot of us country kids didn't know what a bank was until we got old enough. Yeah. I believe the Cherokee National Bank was the first bank there, and I believe old Man Moore was the first man in the bank there. Him and old Doc Frazee. That is to my remembrance. Of course might've been somebody else before that but I never heard of anybody else. Only them two being in the bank 'til they got so old they couldn't manipulate.

(Do you remember when the railroads came through?)

No. They came through when I was just a little tot. There's a history of that when that came through and I saw that not too long ago. And I forget just what year that was. Somebody had written the history of that.

EARLY DAY TOWNS AND KINDS OF BUSINESS PLACES

(Well, in those early day town, what were the main business places?)

General Mercantile. They had everything--soup to nuts. Butcher shop, hardware, groceries of all kinds--that is the kinds of groceries that they would have would be native grown stuff. They didn't know how it was to ship stuff in. And the nearest railroad town where they could buy stuff wholesale was Parsons, Kansas. They'd drive from Vinita to Parsons, Kansas with wagon to get groceries and things. They'd go up there and stock up the store. There's a blind man by name of Valentine, run a store on the east side of the track after I was big enough to remember.