

ANECDOTE: JESS TEASES HIS BROTHER-IN-LAW

--the fangs is what's dangerous--poisonous.

(O.K. Could you go on with the story about this fellow that was out--?)

Well, he never--he never entertained any further about the rattlesnake--

(I think you said he heard the snake but didn't ever see it?)

No, he didn't see it, and the snake never came any closer. But it was probably just a test to scare him or whatever it was. Anyhow he stayed the night. So he got to be a reptile doctor--snake bites--centipedes, and all those. But eventually he joined the church--the Mennonite Church. I think I told you about it once before. Maybe I didn't.

(I don't remember it.)

Anyway, he joined the Mennonite Church and he was interpreter for the Mennonite Church there at Canton for years. As I said, he married my cousin, and he's invited me to come there. And he had a little house there. And I'd go out of town to that church and have dinner with him. And I moved away from there. Well, I didn't go so often. My brother's at Carlton. But he lived by--all my relations all camped--lived together on their allotments there. Him and his wife lived just right west of my brother's place. So, one Fourth of July--a week before the Fourth of July--Pedros (the Pedro family) and us went up there. We had some race horses so he knew we was there and he'd killed a beef and he'd caught some big old snapping turtles down west of his house--there's a slough there. So he had a big dinner for us. So somebody came over and told us, "You're invited over here at Willie Meeks'". So my brother and I and a bunch of us, the Pedros and my other brother, we all went there. Out there on the open. A canvas was spread out. We had a table out there. Sat around and talked. And he was there. So, when dinnertime came--must have been about one-thirty-- He sat close to me. So they said, "Now there's two or three snapping turtles that have a lot of meat on them. All kind of flavor--fish, game, turtle--whatever--the flesh always contained a lot of flavors. Turtle. I always liked turtle. I liked roast turtle. I've never eaten any stewed turtle. And then there was that meat there--all