

you've heard of it and Hadley Mountain, and wild grass grewed up there, two feet high. Oh yeah, just prairie hay. Back where the rockier the place was the better it grows. Yeah, we raised lots of cows, hogs--

(That was all open range in that time?)

Yeah. Then there was a place, we didn't even have to salt them, there was a kind of a little bluff next to a little branch, there was a natural born, natural salt lake there. All they had to do is lick the ground.

(Stock get their salt just by licking the ground?)

Yeah. It was into them rocks someway. And I taste of it, I just wondering what they was doing, to start with. Then I tasted it and heck it was salty, and I said, "Well, I guess that must be it." And I asked somebody and they said, "Yeah, that's a natural salt lake."

(Just like that one they used to have over there by Salina. That was natural salt. You know I've heard a long time ago that the Indians use to come from way off up there and boil that salt down for their winter supply of salt.)

Yeah, I've heard that.

EARLY DAY EXPERIENCES AND CUSTOMS

I know we used to --we used to raise a lot of wheat, corn, we'd go in wagon. Well that Ely, we'd start in morning and we take about two wagons and pretty near a wagon load of wheat and the rest of us go in wagon. We go to Tahlequah and dump that wheat in a mill and then we'd put our teams in the wagon yard and they had a place where you could sleep in there. And we'd stay over night and the next day when we went home, they take toll see, and they'd take flour, shorts and bran, pretty near a wagon load. Long time ago when they bought lard, they didn't buy no little buckets. They use to buy twenty and ten, twenty gallons, they call them stands. You've