

Yeah. They had them in a corral and they'd tie a rag--a yellow rag or blue rag--on a steer, and they give you a piece of yellow rag or blue rag or whatever color it was. And they'd tell these people, "Now, here's your color. Watch that chute. They'll announce whose beef it's gonna be." You're head of the family. When they announce that this steer's gonna be turned loose, you get ready. It's gonna be yours for your family group. Three or four families. All right. They'd get every young man there. And they'd have cowboys there. When this corral was opened and they'd drive that steer out and then they'd chase it. Some of them Indians shoot with bow and arrow. Some with Winchester, and some with pistol. But the cowboys rode right along out there. They had a trick. I watched them. Especially one colored boy by the name of Simpson or Sampson, or something like that. He had a buckskin pony. He ride out, chasing the steer, reach down there and grab it by the hind leg. And it would fall over. And as he was getting up the Indians ride up and shoot him with a bow and arrow or pistol. And they butcher right there. I seen that happen lots of times.

(Then there'd be more than one family to each steer?)

Oh yeah. There's several families to a beef. And the hide--certain man like my father, gets the hide. Next time the next man gets the hide. And there's always hide buyers there. From Little Rock or from Caldwell, Kansas or Wellington, Kansas, to come out and buy hides. They'd sell the hides to these people. They didn't get very much--maybe about three or four dollars or something like that for a hide. Nowadays you can't touch a hide for less than ten dollars.

USE OF BEEF HIDES

(Did the Indians ever want to keep the hide?)

Oh, they kept it--my father kept it most of the time. Most of the time he