

I told her, "Yeah, I'll be out there. I'm going to town first, but I'll be back about seven thirty, and I'll go to my room and then I'll come down." She said, "Well'll be down." So she said, "I'm leaving day after tomorrow for New Mexico, to see my poor old mother. I haven't seen her for four years." So I went out to the ball park, and soon I saw 'em coming out. And the girl that she stayed with had a key, with a little old string or loop in it about that long. So we all sat down on the benches. We were sitting there and I had a (unintelligible because of background noise)-- (In your shirt?)

Yeah, in my tie. It's a ear bob. Men used them-- She sat down. Diamond sparkled. Pretty near a quarter of a karat, I guess. Girl had lost the other earring and they never could find it so she didn't want to wear it and I happened to have it on. So the moon come up and I supposed they were looking at it and she said, "My look at Jesse's --look how it sparkles." So I told them the source of it, what I was wearing. And so this girl had this key ring, joggling them on this blue stem--or rather this Kentucky bluegrass all around us. All at once that old string came loose and later we stayed out the night and the damper the grass got. We just kept crawling and crawling. We finally found 'em about two-thirty in the morning. And that--social meeting that night. They finally found that key. Oh, we thought we never was gonna find that thing, that key. They found it. Then they went to town. I was off that day. She was off that day and we went up town and had a nice lunch in town and then we went to the station--the Santa Fe Station--no, it was the Union Pacific. She was going from Lawrence, Kansas to Denver and then south, somewhere down there. They told her she better go as far as Newton, Kansas and go south into Oklahoma and then take Rock Island west to her destination in New Mexico. Got that all fixed up. So that same evening we all went back in town and saw her off. And that was the last time I seen her. But she was a nice girl. . . .

(But if a girl did stay out all night with one boy, would it hurt her chances of getting married with someone else?)

Oh yeah, if they knew about it. If they knew about it. But them days the parents weremore strict with the girls. I knew girl's part eighteen years old that weren't