

store in Los Angeles and sold out and moved down here." "How did she know you was down here?" "She find out from this Frank Belvin, that preacher in Oklahoma City, that I lived in Geary and was in and out of the City quite a bit of the time, and he told her he thought she'd find me in Geary. Which she did." And then she said, "Mr. Payne, he won't tell you, but I'm going to tell you. He wanted to adopt me for his daughter. He said he was eighteen years older than I was. I told him to just get us a pup tent and a can opener and we'll start our living!" He says, "How's two of you going to fit in that pup tent? Somethings got to take place!" (Jess claps his hands together.) He said, "What's the proposition? What's your answer to that?" "Well, I said, "I guess I'm going to have to go--" "When is it?" "We haven't set no time yet." "Listen," he sayd, "You set the date and let me take care of the rest. And if you want, it could be in Cushing, Oklahoma." "Well, we'll talk about it tonight and we'll call you up tomorrow." He had a radio station in Cushing. He lived right in Cushing, at the edge of town there. So we talked that night. So we decided on May 22, 1953. So she called him. "All right, " he said. I'll get you a preacher and I'll get you a bridal room at the hotel"--what's name of that hotel? At Cushing, yeah? Anyway, she told him the day would be May 22. "Well, you come a day ahead of time." So she said, "All right." So she got ready and I got ready. So we had a car--we had a station wagon Pontiac--she had bought a new one. So we got in a cab and went to the bus station and called him up to meet us there. At Cushing--him and his wife was there, and his boy, and some friends. And they took us out to the radio station. First thing they did, they put us on the program. She spoke and I spoke. You know that same day, that same room, we started getting calls from different tribes in Oklahoma--from Tulsa, Drumright, Pawhuska, Ponca City and different sections of the state where people knew me, you know. Oh, they didn't know we had planned to get married, but just because I was there and spoke on that radio station and a friend of mine. . . also spoke--people got curious. So we had a nice lunch. Meantime they fixed our room up--nice flowers and this and that--second floor of that hotel. I think the name of it was Hotel Cushing. So about two days after that we get married. And this Mrs. Payne--the one that died--he's married