

by it you know. And I'd always get in the shade of that tree. (Laughter)
(Well, the grass was real high here--)

Oh, my! It'd grow as high as your head. Stems up high, you know. Oh, it was plenty high. And then one of them fires come through, start down by-- start down toward Chelsea, you know, and they'd come, go clear on to Big Creek. And it crossed Clear Creek here. And it would widen out soon as it start. But you know, as the fire goes, it widen, and that thing, time it got up here, 12, 15, miles, why it was up pretty wide, the head fire got pretty wide. And it's just as light as day. I know, you can just see everything when one of them fires.

(Wild prairie fire--?)

Yeah, And you had to have your hay burned around, things like that or get burned up, and houses too. But we never did any house burn here in fire, never I knew of--

(And that was before they even had a town here?)

Oh yes.

(About when did this town start?)

It wasn't much here before 1900. It started just a little before 1900, but there wasn't hardly anything, new buildings. The buildings that was first put here was moved in. Ruby down here, 7 or 8 miles. There's several houses moved from Ruby up here. And the first house was built was around 1900, first new house in this town.

(You say the wild cattle and buffalo used to stay around that one old tree?)

The buffalo, I imagine, way back. 'Course there wasn't no buffalo here when we came here. There was one antelope when we built, when the folks moved out. We lived on Grand River, they come out here to build. And there's one old antelope they seen two or three times around over this country. And never did see him after we come. I never did see him. But that's all.