

(Well, you had lots of blackberries in there then too? In those days?)

Yeah. Lots more than we got now. They grow all around here then, you know. And people would come in ere take 'em out in wagon loads.

RAIL FENCES IN EARLY DAYS - PRAIRIE FIRES

(Yeah. Well, you didn't have many fences back in those early days, did you?)

No. First fences was just rail fences, you know.

(Just rail fences.)

Some would get burnt up and wouldn't last long. And big fires would come and you couldn't run to telephone for help. (Not clear).

(Heard they used to have prairie fires--big grass fires go through the country, a long time ago and just burn up everything.)

Oh, yes. And a long time ago, Andy Smith and somebody was working on telephone one time and there was a big prairie of his down there. And on the east side and they looked and saw a fire coming on the west side. And Andy told him, "What in the world we goin' to do? We can't get across this prairie before the fire gets here?" He said, "Well, we can start a fire ahead of that one and that'll burn just big enough for us to get on. We can drive around here and get on it. And then get a back fire to go from us and we make it all right." And that's what they did. They got in between them two fires.

(Well. And that's how they saved themselves?)

Yeah. They saved themselves.

(Well, a long time ago, Mr. Grey, do you remember they had tornadoes in those days like they have now?)

Well, yes. But they didn't get news about 'em like they do now. One can't go through now but what you hear about it by radio or paper.

(Yeah--)

(End of Side B. End of Tape.)