

Nineteen at the time. I went there for one semester and came back and went King Business College where I finished business college. 'Course then the war broke out and of course everything was in a hubbub. These war industries were hollering for people. 'Course my ambition was to get into some kind of government service but which, it never happened. I went to a war plant, an aircraft plant and started working there. 'Course I had to have some training, I took a sheet metal course at Chillico which lasted about six weeks and I was placed in an aircraft plant. Well, I was sent to Seattle, Washington first, Boeing plant there, and I decided I didn't like the place and transferred back to Boeing in Wichita which was near my home and suited me just fine 'cause I had some relatives working in Wichita at the time. But my ambition was to work in the Indian service but the war fouled that up and I never did reach my ambition. I worked in an aircraft plant and after the war when the industries, the war industries closed, why I went to work for an oil company in Illinois and then came back to Oklahoma and took a printing course at Chillico which I finished in two months and then I went to work at the Duncan Banner, in Duncan, Oklahoma and I've been in newspaper work since running a linotype daily for newspapers.

FARMING:

(When you were raised by your grandparents, what did they do for a living?)

They were farmers, my stepdad leased my grandfather's land and they raised a lot of cotton, corn, broom corn; 'course they always raised a large garden which--(interruption) they canned a lot of foods, my grandmother and my mother canned all types of vegetables; Sometimes when they would get beef or pork they would can it. 'Course we always had dried corn, they know how to dry the corn which is a pretty good winter supply there; potatoes, we always had potatoes in the winter, we'd store them away, I remember they stored some water melons and we had watermelon for Thanksgiving which amazed me, I was small at the time. I think they put them in the cellar, a dugout, and they had hay over the watermelon, how they kept them I really don't know, but we had watermelon for Thanksgiving.

(Did the other Indians in the area seem to do as well farming or did your stepfather do particularly well?)

Yeah, he did particularly well at farming. We always had, uh, did well at farming.