

Oh yeah. Just like I was telling you, when they first start--they're short-- they use that sled. It keeps growing, keeps growing till it gets so high.

Then they get the cultivator. Get the cultivator and throw the dirt to your corn and cultivate it.

(Maybe the reason I never have good corn in my garden is because I don't know how to do it. I didn't know you were supposed to throw dirt to it!)

You got to.

(What does that do?)

Well, fertilize it, I guess. You put dirt up to it to make it grow, I guess. Keep the roots from drying, I expect. That's what I figure.

(You know, Fred, when I try to grow corn in my back yard, sometimes I'll have pretty good full ears, and sometimes the ears just never do get full.

Is there any reason for that?)

Well, it's just according to how the grain is. If you have good grain, sometimes they make or fall(?) just like anything else. Sometimes they make pretty good--they turn out pretty good, and sometimes they don't.

(Did you all ever have any problems with insects back then--like worms?)

Oh, there's worms then. They always be on corn. But they make--the corn makes. Oh there's some worms on there, but they don't hurt it much. But these cutworms--when they're small--they don't bother the fields, but they bother your garden. You know that. Cutworms.

(You know, your mother's squaw corn did she have this planted down in the bottom, too, or is it up on the hill?)

Oh, you can plant that anywheres--bottom or on the hill. That's when we was living down in the bottom across the tracks down there.

(Does she have to chop the weeds out of that?)

Oh, yeah.