

system? But anyhow they leased most of their land for farm purposes--for revenue. All those I made them take care of it--good fat hogs and cattle through the winter. And of course milk cows. All them gardens--I had every one of them put out a garden--put up their own--canning, and all that. And orchards and grape vinyards, peaches and apples, and berries, like dewberries, strawberries, and all such as that.

ARAPAHOES FARMING.

(Back in those days, you know--1915 to 1920--were any of the Arapahoes farming their own land?)

A lot of them were. That was way early. The farming operation started way back about 1900. Yeah. That's when I came in the service.

(Were any of the Arapahoes able to make any money in their farming at that time?)

Yeah. They had bank accounts. Old men--sixty and seventy years old--that hadn't never been to school--they plant wheat every year. They had cows.

Oh yeah, they were pretty progressive at that time. And they were independent. Every Saturday, especially, they'd come in and buy their groceries.

They didn't come to town every day and loaf around, no. They stayed and took care of their stuff.

(That was here in Geary they'd come in to buy their groceries?)

Yeah.

(Could you remember the names of any of those people back in those days that were farming their land?)

Well, I know one in particular--one old man--his name was Cut Finger. He was Arapaho. And Bert White Bear, a young man--he lived a mile north of town here. Put out his own wheat. And Dody Lumpmouth, one of my brother-in-laws, he farmed excessively--he had cattle and horses and hogs and chickens and turkeys. He operated his own farm and was independent. And there