

(This homestead you're talking about--is that the one near Greenfield?)

Yes. Where my father farmed. About three miles east of Greenfield.

(Where did he learn how to farm?)

Well, as I told you, he's an orphan when he's a young boy. And his aunts had(gotten) married to Frenchmen up in Montana. They came to Arapaho country in Wyoming, and they brought him down and he married there, and eventually, under the treaties of 1865 and 1867 they came to Oklahoma, and they settled east of El Reno at a place they called Piedmont. They all lived there. He lived with them. He knew how to shod horses, and he know how to temper steel--he know how to use them implements, you know. In fact, he knew how to do lot of carpenter work. So he liked farming. And he's the only man that used to have big horses (draft horses, probably). The other people used to have pretty good sized ponies, but my dad always had big horses. And they bred his own mares, you know. So he was pretty progressive. But he never went to school.

HORSES A SOURCE OF INCOME

(At that time were there some of the Arapahoes that did not care to farm?)

Oh, lot of them didn't care to farm. They had a lot of ponies and cattle. They just lived on their ponies. Lot of outfits come through going to New Mexico or Colorado, and buy horses. But when they find these Arapahoes and Cheyennes have good ponies they'd come out from Missouri and Arkansas, you know, and they buy ponies from here and herd them off in pretty good bunches. Ten dollars apiece was the price was the price of the ponies in them days.

(Was this before 1900?)

Way before, say, 1843-44 and '5, and on up there. And this herding ceased about 1890. They quit shipping horses over the country and herding them, ~~what~~ what they buy out among the Indians. That's what they paid for them. But ever since the white farmers came in of course they start fencing the land.