

them made better pastures, and some of them cut timber. See, we were allotted--part of our lands have to be in timber and grass, and part of it in river bottom where they could have--herd their ponies to the river.

(Back about that time when ~~the~~ white farmers were fencing their land and the Indians were beginning to lease their surplus lands, was the government going anything to teach the Indians how to farm?)

Oh yeah, they got that all the way through.

GOVERNMENT ISSUED WAGONS AND FARM IMPLEMENTS

(What kind of things did they do?)

They had a plan or policy that the implements would be bought by the government. And if an Indian showed that he was progressive and wanted to farm, they'd issue him a cultivator and plow--walking plow and a sod plow--and maybe a corn planter. And maybe a rake and harrow. Rake for hay, you know, and harrow for harrowing the ground. All those things. And they even furnish them these corn shellers, you know--hand shellers to shell their corn.

(Did many of the Indians go for this kind of program?)

They did. They liked it, yeah. Once they see a neighbor doing that, they say, "I'm going to go and get me an outfit." They'd have to learn. And the Indians bought their own wagons and equipment. They used to furnish wagons--those wagons were made at Haskell Institute where I went to school. There were some young boys and men that took that wheel wright (course)-- whatever they call it. They made wagons, you know, and there was a Haskell wagon. They were given to Indians. And after a while the traders started selling wagons--the Molines, Studebaker, Bain--and the Indians, in their farming operations, saved enough money to go and get the wagon and pay for it themselves. And the older ones taught the young ones--even those older ones that never had attended school--but the boys that came out from the school, they taught the young men how to farm--how to raise corn and wheat.