

new ground. Yeah, that was on that seven acres on my father's place.

HAYING OPERATIONS

(Back when you all were making a lot of hay on that land, did you put up the hay yourself or did you have to hire it--?)

Well, just like I told you, he'd always get Indians to come in. He'd have two hay racks, two mowing machines and one team rake and one one-horse rake. And he'd kill a beef and the Indians would camp there and the women get together and cook and the boys would go out there and run them two mowing machines and windrow that hay and then later on they'd go out there and take that hay up and then the two hay racks would go out there and we'd borrow maybe another hay rack and bring this hay to house and put it in two big stacks. And they were having all those nice things to eat--tomatoes, corn, onions, and cucumbers and all those things. And then we'd put up our hay out there in the field. Fifteen, twenty and sometimes thirty stacks out there. And that was money every month for my father.

(When they had the hay in stacks like that, how would they sell it? Would they sell it by the load or--?)

We'd always get the government agent at Watonga, as I told you. He'd come out with a tape-around, height and thickness, and determine how many tons would be in that hay stack--if he wanted to buy the whole stack. Had different size stacks. And then white people, they'd put it (?) right now. Yeah.

(Did it sell by the ton back then?).

By the ton, yeah. It usually sold for about six dollars and a half a ton. That's the way it sold. About eight or ten tons of hay, you know, would make pretty good little money the. But the government always took care of that.

(Did he cut his hay several times during the summer or just once?)

Just once--July.

(Why July?)