

Interview with Harry Obenchain, August 2000, Interviewed by Lily and Gordon Hevern

Drought out west sold them ate them or whatever. Took turnout away. Come back up for bid again. Hill brothers bid on turnout, Harry's was the highest but they gave to them. Harry went and told the Indian agent. Cancelled the whole thing and nobody got it. Wade Crawford was the agent. He was part Indian. Drought caused them to loose the turnouts. Had 1000s of acres from Beatty clear through. Weyco shop used to be called Ben's Flat. Had no horse trailers. Ride to Beatty every other day to see if the cattle were at Ben's Flat and bring them back to Five Mile.

Harry's mother did a lot of cooking. Had a chicken house up next to the creek. Always had a terrific garden. Had raspberries and every kind of vegetable. Irrigated out of the creek. Dad used to bury potatoes, rutabaga, in a pile in the shed, pile over with straw and then dirt. They kept just like they were fresh. Don't need much dirt, straw kept them clean. Used to share with Modoc Henry and Modoc Charlie. Brothers.

Mother used to cook for the hay crew. Dad did a lot of riding, broke horses. Unconscious for 14 days one time, turned over with him. Hauled him in a wheelbarrow. Came too with an old horse doctor whipping him with whips. Had a bump on his head after that. Had bottles of whiskey stashed all over. Cooked for 10-14 men. Sometime she would hire someone to help with the dishes.

The war in Mexico, Dad furnished 100 head of geldings for the army. Calvary horses. Was before Harry was born. Dad was 87 when he died.

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