

their nest was, you checked on it periodically to see if it was okay, whether if a fox or anything had caught her and tore up her nest or whatever. Then when the little ones came along, we put them in pens. We had hundreds of turkeys--this was not a little project.

P: I was going to ask you how many.

W: It was not just a few--it was a lot of turkeys. The young children would drive the turkeys once they got big enough to romp and get around.

P: Herd them.

W: You just drove them right out of the woods. We owned quite a bit of land. Back then there were no fences, and there were very few people that lived around there. Our closest neighbor was maybe two miles away.

P: Yes. Quite a way.

W: So you just herded the turkeys all day long. You watched them and drove them into the woods, and they would eat the acorns. That way you did not have to buy feed for them. Then in the afternoon we would drive them out. The problem was, when you got back to the fence you could hardly get them across it because a turkey is a turkey. But that was one of the main money crops--turkeys. Of course, we had chicken eggs, too, and other things.

P: When did you sell your turkeys?

W: In the fall of the year. There were some guys who would come by. They knew that my mother raised turkeys, so every fall of the year when the turkeys were grown, right before Thanksgiving and at Christmas, they would come by with the trucks to where you had the turkeys penned up. Of course, you checked with two or three buyers to get the best price, and the fellow would come with the truck. Of course, there were no phones and no electricity in this area at the time. It was nothing like it is now.

P: Yes.

W: Before the trucks came, Mother would go to town and tell a store owner or somebody like that when they were going to be ready, and she find out what the prices were.

P: Did you slaughter them, or did they slaughter them? They took them off, just carted them away in a truck.

W: All you did was just catch them and put them in crates, like you see them hauling chickens just down the road now. We had just the big pen, and everybody got in there--the kids and the buyers (they had brought some help with them)--and