

notice him because all the young 'uns were hollering. Nobody thought anything about it, and he jumped up into the back of the wagon. Here he came running screaming "Wait! Wait!" with his mouth open wide. I remember just how he looked. Those things were highly common. That was a way of transportation back then. We had a car, but I guess it was like all cars back in those days.

P: They were not real dependable?

W: No, they were not real dependable.

P: So people took an annual trek up to the town of Suwannee. Is that where you went?

W: Oh, no, we just went down the river about two miles below our house.

P: Near Rock Bluff?

W: Yes, we went down near Rock Bluff for a weekend or maybe overnight. I do not even remember if it was a weekend or overnight or what. I do remember we spent the night. It was common for people in those days to get in a mule and wagon or horse and wagon and go to Cedar Key or wherever they wanted to go. I would say that in Gilchrist County at that time probably 5 percent of the people had automobiles in the early 1930s. Automobiles was very undependable then, so they still depended on their mule and wagon or horse and wagon or carriage or whatever. Now, when they really wanted to go sporting, like go to Bell to the store to buy groceries and carry their eggs and whatever on a Saturday afternoon, then, of course, they would use the car. But other times they would use the horse and wagon.

P: Going back to the mullet, after you got home, did you salt it to keep it all year?

W: Yes, we put it in salt barrels and kept it all year. Salt mullet was good, and it is still good to this day. I still like salt mullet.

P: Did you soak it overnight before you cooked it, after it had been salted?

W: Yes, right. It was soaked it overnight or at least three or four hours, mainly to get the salt out. You have to change the water regularly, too. You might say it was cooked before you ever put it in the fry pan, because the salt cooked it. But you would go through the process of frying it. Salt meat, salt bacon, salt cabbage, salt mullet, it is the same thing, the same procedure.

P: Is that what you would eat together?