



Norman Smith talks about the early days (01:43)

N. Smith: It was in Eastwood, in Eastwood.

C. Mack: Mmm hmm.

N. Smith: And I was seventeen years old when I started making the pottery.

C. Mack: What, when were you born sir?

N. Smith: 1904.

C. Mack: 1904, and you were seventeen when you started?

N. Smith: Yes, and I'm seventy-seven now.

C. Mack: Right.

N. Smith: Back to starting old. My dad was all we talked about, being in the pottery business. I wasn't about ten year old at the time and then my mother died in 1918. So my daddy-in-law, my grandpop, and my step-granddad had worked around the pottery and got stalking to him again and got one of the old kick wheels that was six inches or two high but he finally went and got that and put it up and learned how to make them.

C. Mack: What was your father's name?

N. Smith: E.B. Smith, the elder.

C. Mack: E.B. Smith, the elder.

N. Smith: Yeah, it was for his brother but they always could get in with the girls and talk to them. So on Sunday, when I wasn't in the field, I just stayed on the wheel and I told a lot of them that I didn't do nothing except play on the wheel and drink whiskey.

Oscar Smith speculates on a successor (01:11):

C. Mack: Were you, did you manage to train your sons at all in turning; did they have any interest in it?

Oscar Smith: Well he, my son, worked at it off and on, I kept him in school.

C. Mack: And what's his name?

O. Smith: Putter Smith.

C. Mack: Putter?

O. Smith: Putter. He's the manager of a Goodyear store in Clarendon.

C. Mack: I see.

O. Smith: He made rabbit feeders when he was a little boy; he wasn't more than ten-years- old. I gave him all that he made out of it. He saved his money and got through college. I didn't want him to work at it because the work was so hard when he had other work to do. But he says when he gets his time worked out; I think a year or two more time, get his pensions worked out at Goodyear. As soon as he gets it worked out he's going to start up again.

C. Mack: Good.