

NOAH COOK
I [only]
September 6, 1960

Also present: Richard B. Allen,
Marjorie T. Zander

(Recorded at 2527 Lincoln Court, New Orleans)

"John's Old Mule" came out about 1890; he reads the words, which he had typed out [see word sheet]; NC says Billy Kersands sang the song in old [Pile's Hall?], and the local kids kept singing it. NC says Bert Willians took "The Preacher and the Bear" from Kersands'; NC says h̄. heard him [Kersands?] sing it. RBA mentions Bert Williams's tune, "I Picked A Lemon In The Garden of Love."

Long talk about the Phillipine insurrection [around 1900].

"There'll Be A Hot Time In The Old Town Tonight" was the song sung in Cuba by the Americans during the Spanish-American War; NC wasn't in Cuba. RBA mentions "Over The Garden Wall," "Yankee Dewey," and Mrs. Lorena Diggs (who is in the Spanish-American Auxillary); NC doesn't know about any of them.

The man buried standing up, at Holt [Cemetery] was named Nephus Honor [sp]?,

The first time NC went to Chalmette [National Cemetery] was in 1928; the crowds then were larger than the ones now; there were vperhaps 300 persons; [New Orleans] Public Service [, Inc.] used to rem special buses there.

NC says societies [that he belonged to?] were not using bands when he came to the city in 1913; the Knights of Pythias never used a band; the Masons used bands; the Tabernacle didn't ; it was a womans society, although there were men in it, and a man was always presiding officer. The Inseperable Friends used music years ago, but not any more; the group was organized a couple of years before NC was born. The Knights of Order of the World didn't have bands; it only lasted three or four months, anyway.

There was only one band in Baton Rouge, the Old Southern

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Brass Band, which played for the OddFellows and for balls; all the Odd Fellow funerals there used the band. Price Mitchell, who "played for the Civil War," would play fife and drum for the funerals of old soldiers. NC thinks the whites had no band, as the Old Southern Band played for them, too.

The Inseperable Friends had about 90 members when NC joined, about twenty-five years ago; now it had only twenty-eight due to the competition from insurance companies. NC had veen president for the past seven years, but he thinks he will retire.

RBA ~~men~~entions names, including "Toots" Johnson; NC mentions Avery Brayhill [sp?], who led a band and was a clarinet player, and [Harry? Hailey?] Williams, who played baritone [horn].

The Army barracks where NC was stationed later in his career was at Watertown [New York].

Custom of preaching a funeral a year after death is mentioned again.

End of Reel I