

Merle Haggard

"Narration 3"

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Jimmie Rodgers had a great affection for the railroads
and the men who
ran them and during the years he worked on the roads
He spent most of
the time with the New Orleans and Northeastern lines
which ran between
his home town of Meridian Mississippi and New
Orleans.

And Jimmie became able to talk in the language of the
railroaders

Like such expressions as hog-head and hot-box quil
ball in the jack skinner
always filled his conversation and he wrote songs
about these men and
their language.

The mule skinner was usually a man with a mule who
hired himself

And his mule out by the day to do whatever had to be
done

He might drag ties and rails or he might just move
freshly cut timber from
the right of way the mule skinner was the subject of
one of Jimmie

Rodgers's most popular blue yodles...

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