

the Absentees are the Eastern Shawnees, they give a feast. And ah the Eastern Shawnees usually cooked, I mean the Absentee Shawnees cooked outside, of course, the first did too. They give a supper after one is deceased. And ah, the Eastern Shawnees have a chart and the chart represents all of our lives, by-laws and we ah have meetings every year annually, but we don't have election only every two years.

(Were the Absentee Shawnee and Eastern Shawnee originally together?)

Oh yea, they were. And there are, I think there are about 800 members of the Eastern Shawnee tribe. And ah, let's see.

(Did they come to Oklahoma together?)

No. The absentees drew away from the Eastern Shawnees. They came down first, and that's the reason, if they weren't back there in a certain time, ten years, they would loose all of their rights at that time.

(Back in Kansas?)

uh-huh, that's where, ah, so they didn't come back. Well, I had a whole lot. . . .

(What do you think of the Layol Shawnees?)

The Layol Shawnees, now they were the Cherokee Shawnees, called the Cherokee Shawnee now because they are down there at the Cherokee Nation and they allotted gave them land so they were called the Cherokee Shawnee, and ah, (And where are most of them now?)

Whiteoak, I believe. The Absentee Shawnee are at Shawnee, Oklahoma, Pottawatomie County. And we had, the Eastern Shawnees had one dance, of course they didn't do the singing now they ah, the Cherokee Shawnee came up and sang at that time and that was all the dancing I think the Eastern Shawnee had. 'Cause they aren't too many of 'em that can sing, I guess, they just don't have it, these dances you know.