CHOCTAW LANGUAGE IS SLOWLY BEING LOST

Yes, uh-huh. Yeah they had schools and churches. Well, I tell you about the Choctaws, they are more religious people than they are anything else.

(Churches are still pretty strong.)

Yes. Uh-huh.

(Always have been haven't they?)

Yes, always have been. We always had churches. And they are modernized more than there were churches in my time.

(Are there very many white people that go to Indian Mission Churches?)

Yes.

(Do you let white people go to your churches?)

Yes. Yeah lot of white people.

(Most of your ministers, Indian?)

Yes, uh-huh most of them, Indian.

(Any of them preach in Choctaw?)

Yeah, some of them can preach in Choctaw.

(Sing Choctaw song, sing songs in Choctaw?)

Yes. In our churches we sing in Choctaw, sing and then he preaches in Choctaw. Yeah, we still have preachers that preach in Choctaw.

(Is that meeting some sort of an unusual situation for young people that don't know how to speak Choctaw?)

Yeah, uh-huh. Yeah, that's the reason I say that's not going to last too long. The Choctaw language isn't going to last too long because the way it is like me now, if I die my children will be talking English you see. Whenever I'm dead that will be gone. And they have advanced too far ahead in the white people's way.

(We've got a little time left. Why don't you just for history purpose say something like--whatever you want to say about the Choctaw language--say it in Choctaw and then tell me what you said in English.)