

--Chief John Ross lived in Washington, D.C. He didn't live in Cherokee Nation because he knew if there was any way possible, a Ridge or a Boudinot or Watie's was going to kill him. So he spend practically 3/4 of his time in Washington, D.C.--so called negotiating treaties at this particular time period. And when he came from the river steamer and got off at Fort Gibson which he very seldom did because of Arbuckle--he'd get off at some other point. He was met by two to three hundred armed light horsemen whicy they call their policemen. He was escorted to his home and never was John Ross with less than one company of men, ever. But every bit of the country in here was occupied by Ross people, but he constantly feared Stand Watie who vowed to kill him, if he could. So this was the sitting at the time. Parties? My, heavens, they could match anything in the deep South. I read one report about where they would have the Negro slaves hold up the torches, and you could see the Rose Cottage from miles around and see the line of little pickaninnies holding up the torches--lighting the way for the beautiful magnificent carriages imported carriages, by the way, French carriages--coming up to the big Ross party at night. And they wore their red caps and red britches and their white britches and they went hunting the foxes over here too. Because it was a very elite society. Where did the--where did the Ross kids go to school? The Missions around--oh, no, no, no, the Ross kids went up North--the finest finishing schools you can find. Stand Watie sends his kids into Arkansas 'cause he also was of the class that he could afford to send them to a better school. They studied at, uh, school up there which I can't call the name of it--few miles from where I live now. They also studied some at Cane Hill (?) and those and at an Academy there at Federal, that's where the mixed-breed children went to school.

Alright. What happened in regards to slaves. Well, the Creeks--if you're Creek, don't take offense to it because of all the Indians that inner breed with the Negroes was the Seminoles first and the Creeks second. Only one time in early history was there a Cherokee that intermarried. His wife died--I can't recall his name--and he married--they didn't marry his slave--he begat children by his slave. And he had two and so the