

CHURCH ACTIVITIES - BEN SMITH

(No, I meant that Delaware Indian church.)

Oh!

(It's up there between Jay and Grove. They used to have quite a lot of meetings up there.)

I don't know, but--you know, talkin' about this Ben Smith, Ben was a pretty prominent Indian, a full-blood. He used to work as an interpreter for the government. And he was sheriff at one time. And he used to live in that community over there at one time. So, Ben, two years before he died, he wrote me a letter and told me to come over. Going to have a big squirrel dinner. So, we went over there. I never saw the like--well, I saw a lot of white people there too and a lot of Indians. And they had squirrel fixed every way you could think of. Awful big dinner and everybody had the best time, visiting and everything. Then, it wasn't long after that, Ben died. I went to his funeral. And they had a man speak there in English, one in Cherokee, you know. Ben was quite a character.

JOHN STEELEY KILLED TOM CRIDER

(Where was he buried?)

He was buried over there at Steeley; they call it, that community called Steeley. There used to be a store in there. Old Tom Crider, an old timer, lived up there on Oak Prairie--had a store there, I believe. And he had a stepdaughter named Amana Steeley. She was half Indian and she was a good looking gal. So, old John Steeley, I believe his name was, married this girl. Well, I don't know, I think Tom--of course, she was his stepdaughter. I think Tom Crider was messin' around with