T-601
OTIS RUSSELL, OSAGE
INTERVIEWED BY: LEONARD MAKER
INTERVIEW DATE: MAY 14, 1969
TRANSCRIBED BY: VICKI DAVIS
TRANSCRIPTION CHECKED BY: NONA KERR

GENERAL SUBJECT: OSAGE CLANS AND MEANING; MISCELLANEOUS STORIES AND SUBJECTS; SOME LIFE HISTORY MATERIALS; WEDDING CEREMONIES

TOPICS DISCUSSED:

INFORMATION CONCERNING CLANS - THERE ARE MANY
ORIGINAL OSAGES - SKEPTICAL
MORE ABOUT CLANS - LEADERS
CLAN LAWS - MARRIAGE CEREMONIES
MANY CLANS - DIFFERENT LAWS FOR EACH
ONE OSAGE LEADER OVER ALL CLANS - CHIEF
OSAGES CAME TO OKLAHOMA FROM KANSAS AND MISSOURI
MR. BLACKBIRD SERVED IN UNION ARMY
KIOWAS AND COMANCHES HAD A BATTLE NEAR HOBART
MANY BUFFALO IN DAYS BEFORE SURVEYORS CAME
SEVERAL INDIAN TRIBES CAME TO OKLAHOMA ABOUT THE SAME TIME
CONCERNING LANGUAGE - DANCE CEREMONIES
OSAGE DANCES ARE SACRED
SEVERAL STORIES HANDED DOWN FROM GENERATION TO GENERATION
BURIAL CUSTOMS IN EARLY DAYS
NO DOCTORS IN EARLY DAYS - HOME REMEDIES
MORE ABOUT CLANS - FAMILY TREE - MARRIAGES

BACKGROUND OF INFORMANT:

Otis Russell is in his late 80's. He lives in the Enterprise District between Fairfax and Hominy, Oklahoma on his original allotment. His first wife was Angela Peace, a full blood Osage from Fairfax. They had two daughters both of whom are deceased. He is a veteran of World War I and served overseas. He is now married to a Cherokee woman. Mr. Russell is the oldest living full blood Osage. He is very willing to talk about his past history and that of his people, their customs and ceremonies, but is difficult to understand due to his age and also a slight speech impedement.