

T-209

Informant: Tom Cookson, Cherokee

Interviewed by: J. W. Tyner

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BRIEF INTRODUCTION

(--in the home of Tom Cookson, 86 year old Cherokee in Cookson Bend Country, Cherokee County, Oklahoma. Mr. Cookson has spent most of his life in the Indian Nation. He will relate some events and experiences of his early days. This interview begins with his recall of medical facilities while a student in the Cherokee National Seminary.)

DOCTORS AND MEDICAL TREATMENT FOR STUDENTS AT THE SEMINARY

(What did you do for doctors at the Seminary when boys got sick?)

We had doctors from town come out. We had a nurse there. She was just a practical nurse, I guess. Don't even know her name. We just call her "Aunt Tollie." (Laughter) She give us pills and things, something like that, linament maybe. As I remember, we didn't have any bad sick cases. We didn't have any diseases of any kind. Once in a while, they'd bring a doctor out there.

(Who were some of the doctors, do you remember?)

Oh, no. Doctor Thompson--but I think he was a preacher. He lived in Muskogee. They called him Doctor. Guess he was a--he wouldn't be a medical doctor, of course, he he--

(But he did help take care of the boys there?)

Yeah. In the late years, I don't know--I remember Doctor Duckworth. He was one of the late-comers. They had--he came out once in a while. And Doctor Peterson--he had a mission school in town. He was a M.D., I guess. I think maybe he came out once in a while. Those only two I remember about. Didn't have many doctors in those days. I don't remember of having any