

(That was an injustice I believe. They should have encouraged you to learn both languages and learn them well.)

That's what they told me. When I come home and I worked in a store, in a creamery and a lot of Indians would bring cream to see you know, and they'd mumble off something and I wouldn't know what they was talking about and this man, I was working for a white man, he told me he said, well what a pity that you can't talk Cherokee and interpret what these people say. Said "you could get you a job interpreting for these people, or something like that." And said, "now you can't even talk Cherokee in your own language." And --but they make us quit and that's how come I just completely forgot Cherokee. And that's all I talked when I went in there.

(Several Indians have told me that same thing has happened to them. And they regret it.)

Well, I hate it--I just, I go up to Tulsa to visit around with my son and daughter and maybe somebody would come along and say something in Cherokee--I shake my head and tell and I say I can't talk. And they'll just laugh. And they'll say "can't you talk a bit of English--Cherokee." I said no I can't, I can't even understand it. There's a few little things that I understand when they're talking about cow or horses or something like that, well I know what they're talking about. And outside of that I don't know what they're saying. It was disturbing to me because I forgot it and so on.

SCHOOLS AND FAMILY RELATIONS

(Well, did you go to Sequoyah or Salina when you went to--)

No, I went to Sequoyah, it's Sequoyah now but when I went to it it was Cherokee Orphan Training School. See they changed it now.