

T-282

Informant: Ocie Grey, Cherokee

Interviewed by: J. W. Tynes, June 18, 1968

Transcribed by: Nona Kerr

BRIEF INTRODUCTION

(This is June 18, 1968. We are visiting with Ocie Grey, an 88 year old full blood Cherokee of Grey's Prairie Community in Delaware County, Oklahoma. Mr. Grey has spent all of his life in this community and relates many experiences that he has had. He begins this interview by telling of his education in the Cherokee Male Seminary beginning about 1900.

(First several sentences are not clear--too much interference, music, etc.)

NOT ALL STUDENTS AT THE MALE SEMINARY WERE FULL BLOOD CHEROKEES

(It was in 1900 when you went to Male seminary in Tahlequah? What all did they do down there?)

Oh, just like any other common school. You go in there and they give you your books and (not clear)--

(Did they have pretty good teachers?)

Yeah. Good teachers.

(Who were some of the teachers down there? Was Clark Thompson one of 'em?)

Belvin, was the principal, and Logan, and then Thompson and Ben Grove and then Gregg--he was a teacher too, and Ewbanks, and I guess Horn--old Man Horn. He was French. And when he first came there, he taught Latin.

(How many Indian boys did they have down there?)

Oh, I never know how many they have, couldn't tell. They was all Indians but they wasn't all full bloods. But some of them, not all of them, not white folks you know.

(Yeah.)

There was one feller come down there and he wanted to be accepted, and you know, they accepted him. And these boys was goin' to (not clear). And there