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CHEROKEE NATIONAL HOLIDAY
HELD ON SEPTEMBER 7, 1968
RECORDED BY: J. W. TYNER
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PROOFREAD BY: NONA KERR

(September 7, 1968. A Cherokee National Holiday at Tahlequah, Oklahoma.

This is a recording of some of the program commemorating the establishment of the Cherokee Nation, 129 years ago. At this time the Cedar Tree Chorus is singing in Cherokee.)

(singing)

(Invocation in Cherokee)

BRIEF INTRODUCTION OF CHIEF KEELER

I believe the most successful introduction that I could use to present the next speaker is to simply say that I know you share with me the high esteem that we all hold for the chief W. W. Keeler. He's been here on almost every occasion for this event and I have watched him over the years and the warmth that you always extend to him by your reception indicates to me the affection you have for him, so let me simply say to you that it's indeed a pleasure for me to ask your Chief, Honorable W. W. Keeler to come forward and address you at this time. Chief Keeler. (applause)

ADDRESS BY CHIEF W. W. KEELER

(That was the introduction of Leonard Rainwater to our chief.)

Fellow Cherokees, ladies and gentlemen. You know in the past, I have never missed an opportunity to try and plug something that I really believe in. And today I want to say a little bit and tell you that I see the true Indian, the completion of many many programs that you folks have been involved in. The Cherokee tribe has been involved in, the Cherokee National Historical Society has been involved in, and the Cherokee Foundation has been involved in. I am very grateful for