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Interview with George Scott  
Nettie Cain--Interviewer  
October 15, 1937.  
Holdenville, Oklahoma.

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George Scott, Seminole Indian, was born January 1, 1850.

The place of his birth is unknown.

His parents were both born in Florida near the Everglades. His father was Tallah Marshall Yahola and his mother was Saphacee.

The Seminole Indians left their homes in Florida in 1834. Their leaders or chiefs were Billy Bowlegs, John Chupco, and John Chumper. These three men led their tribes to the Indian Territory. They settled near High Springs an Indian settlement or community now called Hitchita Town.

The Seminole Indians did not live so close together. Some lived north of Wewoka, which then was no town.

The Seminoles made a treaty with the Creeks in 1830 and lived near Chattanooga, Tennessee. Soon after the war broke out between the Creeks and the whites in

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~~Alabama and this forced the Indians out of their~~  
~~homes. About this time, the Seminoles returned to~~  
 Florida and in 1836, the Creeks known as the Mus-  
 kogees left for the Indian Territory.

During the war in Florida between the Seminoles  
 and whites, many of the Seminoles were killed. The  
 Seminole leaders were Osceola, Billy Bowlegs and  
 Black Clay, Osceola was a fighter. They refused  
 to give up their country and the whites killed  
 Osceola and many white people were killed as well as  
 the Indians.

After the war was over, they left for the Indian  
 Territory. When the Seminole Indians started on their  
 journey they packed all they could and they were carried  
 by ponies; some walked and lead the ponies. They were  
 going to new country, many not knowing where.

On their journey food was very scarce; on the way,  
 they would stop sometimes to fish; sometimes to hunt  
 as there were all kinds of wild game.

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It took the Seminoles about two years to make the trip.

There were great disappointments among the Seminoles when they reached the Indian Territory. They arrived and camped along the river near Asher which is near Purcell. They thought the land was theirs and they experienced many hardships.

The Government had sold them land for thirty cents per acre and had paid \$100,000.00 to John Chumper, one of their tribal leaders and after they were located in Pottawatomie County, the delegates Billy Bowlegs and John Chupco went to Fort Gibson to inquire for their land which the Seminole expected.

The Government officials told John Chupco that they did sell them their land for thirty cents per acre and that by this time it was fifty cents per acre and there was no money left.

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there at Fort Gibson Billy Bowlegs died and was buried near Fort Gibson.

About this time the Civil War broke out and John Chupco did not purchase the land but returned to his tribe.

John Chupco was one of the chiefs who led his people into Northern Kansas. There were several hundred Seminole Indians.

George Scott's father Tallah Marshall Yahola joined the Northern army in Kansas and in Kansas there was a heavy battle fought with many killed and injured.

About the close of the war the Government promised to feed and clothe the Seminole Indians. They were starving, as the Government had neglected to carry out their promise. Then the Indians and northern army captured a southern supply wagon and took the food and clothes.

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One night, Tallah Marshall Yahola an Indian soldier killed one of the Government cows and the next morning the cows were all gone. They had been killed for food.

During the Civil War, John Chupco, one of their leaders went South into Texas, when the war was over the Seminoles with their leaders returned to the Indian Territory to live.

The chiefs, John Chupco, Robert Johnson, John Chumper and other delegates went to Fort Gibson to ask for land from the Government. The Seminoles had a council to send delegates to purchase land for the Seminoles' settlement. They decided whichever chiefs arrived at Fort Gibson first was to ask for the land, so chief John Chumper arrived first. The Government wanted fifty cents per acre <sup>for</sup> this land the Government gave orders to return to Florida to bring back more than two hundred Seminole Indians. So, John Chumper left for Florida to bring back these two hundred Seminole Indians.

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The Government paid John Chumper \$100,000.00.

He being the first man there had the authority to purchase land for the Seminoles. He bought the land with that payment of \$100,000.00 which the Government paid from the Seminole funds. The land is known as the Seminole Nation.

There were forty-seven Seminole towns and settlements and each town had a chief.

Mr. Scott, with his parents, settled near High Springs which is near Konawa and Sasakwa. At Wewoka there was only one store. Chief John Chumper was sent to Washington D. C. from Fort Gibson to see the officials about the Government payment and about purchasing the land.

After the Seminole Chief leaders got all the land and payments and a treaty was made with the Indians, the Seminoles had a great reunion and families were reunited with each other and all were happy again.