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INDEX CARDS

Fords--Cimarron river

Cattle--freil driving

Trading posts--Sac and Fox
hunting

Field Worker: Lenna M. Rushing
March 22, 1937

1126 101

BIOGRAPHY OF: Mr. David Boyd
Route #2, Stroud, Okla.

BORN: May 18, 1890, in central
Oklahoma

I was born and reared in the central part of Oklahoma. Most of my early boyhood was spent around Wild Horse. When I was quite young I started to work as a cowhand. My first employer was a man by the name of Berry. He did quite a lot of selling and buying cattle, and as a result, we were on the move most of the time. It was our habit to round up the cattle and start out across the country, not using a regular cattle trail, except at the fords. It was always safer to ford the cattle across a place that was known to be all right than at a place that had never been crossed before.

One of the fords I remember was on the Cimarron River just a few miles east of Ripley. Here the sand was solid and had no quick-sand around near. We had to crowd the cattle at the fords, or they wouldn't cross but would scatter up and down the bank. After one got started there was never any more trouble; the rest would usually follow.

At night we bedded the cattle by riding in a circle round and round the herd until one lay down, then they all layed down, and in ten or fifteen minutes all was quiet.

Another fellow I worked for was connected with the

Mulhall Knach. We also did a lot of riding for him. Many times we came to the Indian trading post at the old Sac and Fox Agency for supplies. We made a pack train with five or six horses by stringing them. That is, we tied the halter of one horse to the tail of the one in front of him, and so on up the line, thus making a "string".

It was after I quit working for him that I moved near the Agency (Sac and Fox). I remember a man who was a storekeeper at that time. He lived over across the road from the schoolhouse under some cedar trees, where I am living now.

For nearly twenty years now I have lived in and around Stroud and Yale, and have known many Indians during that time.

THE END