

KIKLER, V. L. (MRS.)

INTERVIEW.

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Nettie Cain,
Interviewer.
July 3, 1937.

An Interview with Mrs. V. L. Kikler,
Seminole Indian of Wewoka, Okla.

Mrs. V. L. Kikler, Seminole Indian of Wewoka, was born in the Seminole Nation and is the daughter of George R. Davis and Alice B. Davis. Her father was born in the state of Indiana and he first settled at Coffeyville, Kansas, later locating at Park Hill near Tahlequah, Indian Territory. He married Alice B. Brown, the daughter of John F. Brown who was a doctor for the Indians in the early days and was paid by the United States Government. He was also the father of John F. Brown Governor of the Seminole Nation. Dr. Brown was born in Scotland.

George Davis served as peace officer in the Territory days, taking his prisoners to Muskogee for trial. These were mostly white men and they were bootleggers bringing whiskey from Texas to the Indian Territory to the Indians.

Mrs. Alice B. Davis served for many years in handling the pension checks for the Civil War veterans and widows. Mrs. Kikler has a few of the cards yet and one in particular was that of Yar-bet-Ka, who belonged to

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Company A-1 Regt. H. G. (home guard) Indian Territory and for whom the town Arbeka was named.

When Mrs. Kikler was small there were no schools so they had to have private schools. The parents who were interested in the future education of their children go together and hired Miss Fannie Bryson to teach. She had from ten to fifteen pupils. Then later Mrs. Kikler attended school at the Enehawa Mission for eight years.

The Seminoles had first choice in selecting their land and were criticized very much on their selection as the land was very hilly and had many streams which made it not so good for farming. This land was noted for wild game, and in later years it has proven its worth as it has become one of the largest oil developments in the world. So the Seminole land turned out best after all.