

CHADDICK, O. W.

INTERVIEW

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Warren D. Morse, Interviewer
July 13, 1937.

Interview with O. W. Chaddick,
Born 1879
Duncan, Oklahoma.

I left home at the age of sixteen years; came over to Marietta. I had some barber tools in my pocket. I went into a shop to get my hair cut. The shop was so crowded that the barber hired me to help him. I worked for him about two weeks, then went to Ardmore. I found a job in a hotel as night clerk. In here I met a man, Arnold, who got me to help him with the Mississippi Choctaws. We were to put them in a hotel there until they could be straightened out and papers made on them. The morning they were to come I thought they would run a special passenger train to Ardmore. I went to Arnold's office and asked him when the train was due. He looked at his watch and told me it would be in any minute. I got in my buggy and drove to the station. Soon a freight train came in and it was loaded with Indians. They

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had them in the box cars just like cattle. When they were unloaded, they were worse than cattle because you could drive cattle and those Indians went everywhere. I couldn't do anything with them. I went to Arnold and told him I needed more help. It took a number of us to straighten them out. We had to put locks on the doors to keep them in rooms. Every time one spied an open doorway he would make a dive for it just like a rabbit.

When the Kiowa and Comanche country was opened in 1901, I went to Lawton. It was a tough town, all tents and many of them. I worked for Billey Keys, selling whiskey and beer. There were many money grabbers. They would snatch the money out of your hand if you didn't watch them.