

CHARLSON, R. C.

INTERVIEW

10285

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BIOGRAPHY FORM
WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
Indian-Pioneer History Project for Oklahoma

#10285

CHARLSON, R. C. INTERVIEW.

Field Worker's name Jasper H. Mead

This report made on (date) March 22, 1938

1. Name R. C. Charlson

2. Post Office Address Ninnekah, Oklahoma.

3. Residence address (or location) Southwest of Chickasha

4. DATE OF BIRTH: Month August Day 12 Year 1893

5. Place of birth Iowa.

6. Name of Father Tom Charlson Place of birth Norway

Other information about father Age 78 - still living

7. Name of Mother Annie Johnson Place of birth Iowa

Other information about mother Died at the age of forty-eight

Notes or complete narrative by the field worker dealing with the life and story of the person interviewed. Refer to Manual for suggested subjects and questions. Continue on blank sheets if necessary and attach firmly to this form. Number of sheets attached _____.

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An Interview with R. C. Charlson, Ninnekah, Oklahoma.

By - Jasper H. Mead, Investigator.

March 22, 1938.

I was born August 12, 1893, in Iowa, forty-five years ago. I came to the Indian Territory in 1905 and the first place I landed was at Allie, which place is now called Norge. When I first landed at Allie it was a very small place with one store and post office combined and a cotton gin.

The country around Allie was rough and hilly with some prairies. Not far from the town are the Keechi Hills.

There were plenty of deer, antelope and prairie chickens around Allie. I have seen as high as fifteen deer in one bunch and several antelope and prairie chickens were as thick as hair on a dog's back. At that time most of the country around Allie was open country and there were no roads, just trails. I could come to Chickasha just across the country and never see a fence. Much of this land was ranch land with lots of cattle and Mustang ponies on it. Ranch work in those days around Allie paid \$25.00 per month with board and room.

The main water supply around Allie came from deep dug wells and most of the water was so gypsy you couldn't use it.

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There were not many Indians around there; they were to be found at Anadarko and further west. The Frisco Railroad was built through Allie in 1902, it runs southwest to Quanah, Texas.

There was very little farming around there when I first landed - fifteen to twenty acres was considered a big field and was usually planted to cotton.

I have lived around Chickasha for thirty-one years and farming is my trade.