T-426-4
NANCY KING ROGERS, CHEROKEE

This central Delaware County community is perhaps better known as Mose Ridge Community. The school, community building, and cemetery are named for Mose Ridge, an early Cherokee settler on the plateau of these Spavinaw Hills.

Jess Rogers and Nancy King both were born and raised on upper Saline Creek, and came to Chloeta when they were married to live on Mr. Rogers place. Before his time, Mr. Rogers's folks had lived here for a while, moving to Saline Creek, then back upon the hill. On this rainy afternoon, Mr. Rogers and I went far back in the woods to visit the Rogers family burial place. In a little clearing in the woods, there are sixteen graves all without identifying markers. Mr. Rogers pointed out the different graves that he was familiar with. The burial place is not fenced, but it is kept clean. Mr. and Mrs. Rogers are the only ones left to maintain the graveyard, and it would appear that with their passing, the identity of the little cemetery will quickly fade away and be lost forever.

Mr. Rogers will speak English when no third party is around; but in company with Mrs. Rogers, he speaks only Cherokee, but prefers to listen, and remain silent. His father, Wilson Rogers, was also one who followed the Indian way of life and preferred to speak only Cherokee.

Nancy Rogers is from the Jim King family. Jim King still lives on Spring Creek and is a fairly well-to-do farmer and stockman, with his two sons, living with him and sharing mutual interests.

Mrs. Rogers speaks again of Mose Ridge who lived on his place in the hollow just north of Chloeta. He lived to be a very old man and was the mentor of his people of this community. He was buried at old Eucha Cemetery. When the city of Tulsa built the dam that formed Lake Eucha, many little