

T-566

OTIS RUSSELL, OSAGE

INTERVIEWED BY LEONARD MAKER

INTERVIEW DATE: MAY 5, 1970

TRANSCRIBED BY: FLORA QUINATA

TRANSCRIPTION CHECKED BY: NONA KERR

GENERAL SUBJECT: VIEWS ON FORTHCOMING ELECTION; EVENTS IN OSAGE HISTORY

TOPICS DISCUSSED:

OLDSMOBILE

OPINION CONCERNING ELECTION OF CHIEF

CONCERNING FURTHER OIL DRILLING

RELATES MUCH CONCERNING OIL DRILLING IN ALASKA

WHO CONTROLS THE HOMINY DRUM

CONCERNING DANCE FOR CLARENCE TINKER

JOHN HUNTER, JOHN AND GEORGE MILES, AND OTHERS

FATHER WAS A DANCER - WHITE PEOPLE STEAL HOGS AND CATTLE

STORY ABOUT DEATH OF GRANDFATHER

STORY ABOUT THE IRON KETTLE

DEATH CEREMONIES - MOURNERS - DANCING

IT IS DANGEROUS TO LOST THE OLD CEREMONIAL SONGS

DIFFERENT TRIBES HAVE NO RIGHT TO SING OLD OSAGE SONGS

MORE ABOUT OSAGE SONGS - HUN KAH DANCE

PIPE DANCE - MUCH ABOUT PROCEDURE

CONCERNING GRASS FIRES

MEDICINE FOR RACE HORSE

OTHER RACE TRACKS - OTHER RACE HORSES

GIVE AWAY DANCES

GOVERNMENT REQUESTED CHILDREN TO ATTEND SCHOOLS OR FORFEIT

MONEY PAYMENTS

MORE ABOUT SCHOOLS

REGRETS ALLOTMENT OF OSAGE LANDS - REASON

MORE ABOUT ATTENDING SCHOOLS

COFFEE, PIE, AND EGG SANDWICHES - FRIENDS

BECOMES A MEMBER OF METHODIST CHURCH

ACQUAINTED WITH MEMBERS OF OTHER TRIBES

JESSE ROWDODGE

BACKGROUND OF INFORMANT:

Otis Russell is in his late eighties. He lives in the Enterprise District between Fairfax and Hominy on his original allotment. His first wife was Angela Peace, a full-blood Osage from Fairfax. They had two daughters, both of whom are deceased. He is a veteran of World War I and served overseas. Mr. Russell's second wife is Cherokee. He is very willing to talk about his past history and the history of his people, their customs and ceremonies. He is the oldest known living full-blood Osage.