

and pray to old gods. We have it in a secret way though. Last few years ago a camera man came from some television station in Oklahoma City and wanted to take pictures of our ceremonies. We said he couldn't do it. Told him to go away if that's the way he is. We don't want publized. No pictures, nothing. But people should know about Inian history. I'm glad you're interested in Indian ways. But white man cheat the Indians a lot. I been learning English so I could get along, but I look at past to see future. I have my land taken away by the Lake and I don't even know what they were doing. I thought they wanted to borrow it. That's the way it sound when they told me, but now I never get it back unless I want to swim down to the bottom of the lake and see it sometimes. But that's no good.

It's like when white man first came to this country. We are the real Americans so they have to deal with Indians. They told those Indians that they didn't want much land, just as much as could fit inside of the hide of a cow. The Indians were happy with that because a cow hide is small, you know. They said, "Good, that's good." But they got cheated. The white man took that cow hide he showed the Indians and make it into the fine thread and stretched it all around all the at United States and the Indian agreed with it before he knew how the white man was going to trick him. Now you look at map of country and it in shape of cow. Head up the northeast and feet down south and tail way in southwest part. White man always take land from Shawnee. We start out way in Mississippi. Then they push us into Missouri, then they push us into Kansas. They they push us into Oklahoma Territory now they flooding us out with that Lake.

Big Jim Band was the original bunch of Shawnees. When they pushed from Kansas down here, big Jim took them all the way to Mexico. He was down there around some Kickapoo but he saw they had it band too so he brought them back up here. We have bad land now, but I don't know where the white man going to push us next. A lot of these old peoples think that white man is trying to kill all the Shawnee out real slow so nobody will notice it. And this Absentee bunch, nobody knows about us. All the things happen out here to us. That's why a history of us peoples might give us a boast up. But I got to check with all the people. It ain't no