

(We are now going to talk to Mrs. Mary Red Eagle, member of the Quapaw tribe. She's considered a historian of the tribe and is one of the few who speak the language. Mrs. Red Eagle is going to give us some Quapaw words. Mary, now what is the word for God?)

Wah-kon-tah. The word for God is Wah-kon-tah, and the meaning would be that He is the highest being and knows all.

(What is the word for corn?)

The word for corn is wah-tu-zah (?).

(Do you think of some other words or some sentences you could say for me?)

Well, the word for bird is wah-zhinga (?). And well, the word for moon is meum-bah.

(Do you have a word for stars?)

And the word for start is me-gu-a (?).

(Do you remember the clans of the Quapaw? The clans?)

No, I don't. They're--course we have the clans the same as other tribes, but I don't really remember. As for myself I--I believe that I have forgotten the clan that I belong to.

(I believe you are a member of the Beaver clan if I-- (Irrelevant words).

Do you want me to say my name first--Mary Lane? My name is Mary Lane, and

I was born on Spring River and--'course that's Quapaw reservation. And the

Spring River--I was born where the old village blacksmith shop is--was--

well it's still known as that name. And I love to go down there as it is

beautiful around there--foliage, trees are just beautiful. And of course it

makes me quite lonesome to see my old home place.

(Some of your folks are buried there, I believe Mary?)

Yes. Nearly all of my people are buried there. And there were only two

children of us, my brother and I. And of course he'd buried there with my

father and my mother and my relatives. But there are quite a few graves