

ALLOTMENT:

(Do you remember anything about the allotment period and when the government allotted land in this area?)

It was in 1901, ain't it. I went to school in 1900. And in 1900 Sally had to come home because they allotted and old man _____ was already dead and she had to come to see about it. I think it was 1901, and 19__? Two times that I know of. 1922, ain't it?

(Ethel is talking to her friend in this instance.) It's somewhere along in there.

I might be badly mistaken about that second period. But in 1901 is the first.

They got 160 acres but the others in the last periods got just 60 acres, no...120.

Ain't it a 120? (Friend replies: I think so.) Yeah, a 120.

(Well did they choose the land they wanted?)

Oh no, they draw. But we didn't run a race like the white people raced with the opening.

(How did you draw for this land?)

We go to the office and they got certain numbers down, certain allotments and number of this place ah..the location they got it there. And they have envelopes and they have racks, and you just go and draw. And whatever you draw why there's it's down at the office and you can't get the beat or you can't exchange it.

(And a while back you said that the government issued cattle to the farmers. How was this done?)

They just give it to 'em. Like...you know they just can't turn 'em loose. Now like this locality, they used to ration. They give them flour, sugar, soap, salt, baking powder. Then they give us beef. And this tall square top house you see up there, on the hill east of town, well down in the valley, there they have big corrals built. And they put this bunch of cattle there, and ah...the councilmen or the subchief, you might call him, of each community...like the Fletcher, Little Washita people, there's a community over to 'Pache, Lawton, and Cache, and Walter----. Well, they all have their headman you know and they gather here and they call this headman. And all these boys that belong to that community, will go for that cow, when they let it out, out of that corral. They give it a wild chase in those days. Boy, they chase him all over this place, and kill them. They butcher them and they cut so much beef