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ED BURNS, CHEYENNE

INTERVIEWED BY: JULIA A. JORDAN

TRANSCRIBED BY: JULIA A. JORDAN

DATE OF INTERVIEW: 10-24-67

GENERAL SUBJECT:

EDUCATION FOR INDIANS, AGENCY HISTORY, FAMILY HISTORY

PARTICULAR TOPICS DISCUSSED:

ED'S FATHER'S EDUCATION, EARLY SCHOOLS AND AGENCY HISTORY

ED'S OWN EDUCATION AND AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

INDIAN FARMING, INDIAN AFFAIRS, AND INDIAN EDUCATION

INDIAN HOSPITALS AND HEALTH CARE

INDIANS THAT FARMED, AND INDIANS HELPING EACH OTHER

BEGINNING OF PRESENT DISTRICTS

CLAIMS MONEY: HOW TO BE USED AND ENROLLMENT REGULATIONS

INTERMARRIAGE WITH OTHER RACES TODAY

PROBLEM DRINKING

INDIANS IN CLINTON SCHOOLS

DISCRIMINATION AGAINST INDIANS IN SELLING REAL ESTATE

FIRST CHEYENNE FARMERS IN CLINTON DISTRICT

HOW LAND WHICH SHOULD HAVE BEEN INHERITED BY BIRDIE'S FAMILY PASSED TO STRANGERS

BACKGROUND OF INFORMANT:

Ed Burns was born about 1900 and was raised in the vicinity of the Agency near Darlington. On his mother's side he is descended from Charles Bent, one of the founders of Bent's Fort and the first Territorial Governor of New Mexico. His father, Robert Burns, was one of the first Cheyenne young men to be educated in the east, finishing school at Ft. Wayne, Indiana, and thereafter working for the Indian Service at the Agency at Darlington. Ed is well educated. He finished high school in Nebraska and attended Haskell Institute and the University of Kansas. He was in government service in the Clinton area for many years before he retired about 1964. He has served on the Cheyenne-Arapaho Tribal Council and has been Council Chairman. He is especially interested in advancing educational opportunities for Indians, and in business enterprises which provide employment for Indians. He and his wife, Birdie, have two children, a son and a daughter.

NOTE: Ed's wife, Birdie, was present during this interview and occasionally makes some comments, and she does most of the talking the last few minutes.

ED'S FATHER'S EDUCATION, EARLY SCHOOLS AND AGENCY HISTORY

When the missionaries first came out here there were no schools.

There was a group of missionaries known as the Congregationalist