

of this country to the other, I think the time is here now when the Oklahoma people, our neighbors, our kinfolks and our friends, solemnly agree and in face, have become determined that if the Cherokee people were given half a chance they'd do something to restore into eastern Oklahoma that great star of hope for our children, accomplishment, happiness, and prosperity. You can do it. And you will do it through these children here. And that's why I like to come to this sacred ground. Several years ago, I made my first visit here and I'm no stranger to this family. I'm known intimately and well to many members of this family for more than 40 years. I was so pleased though, when two years ago I came upon these grounds at dark, or near dark and I saw so many happy children. I saw no drunks, I heard no boisterousness, everybody was happy and peaceful. And that's the way it is here, and that's the way has been ever since this organization was founded back in the dim mist of time.

ADMIRE THE EFFORTS OF CROSSLIN SMITH AND STOKE SMITH

Chief Keeler and the executive committee of the nation are justly proud, are justly proud that Stoke Smith and William Lee Smith and Crosslin Smith are leading and doing a--what I know they are doing--furnishing that type of leadership that a religious organization such as the Keetoowahs so justly deserves and has all along been honored with. William Lee, I thank you for this opportunity to come here and in my closing let me invite you on the first Saturday in September that's closest to September the sixth, you youngsters remember this, there will be a celebration south of Tahlequah on your property that I just described. The buildings there and the grounds will be rededicated to the service and to the hopes and aspirations of the Cherokee people and on that day we want to honor those men whose hands have put those buildings together; the full-blood Cherokee whose work will stand there, we hope, for centuries to come, which teaches every tourist every Oklahoman and every young Cherokee