

months. I've lived in Seminole county since 1912. Prior to that time, I'd lived in the south part of Hughes county for - from 1905 until 1912.

BEGAN TEACHING SCHOOL AT THE AGE OF EIGHTEEN

I began teaching school when I was barely 18 years old. I was teaching at a little place called Cabiness, about 6 miles from Stuart on the highway - from Stuart to McAlester. During the time that I was teaching school at Cabiness, I got acquainted with a good many Indians. That was Choctaw country. It seems to me that all the grown Indian boys were good ball players because I was associated with - so many of them - that did play ball regularly in the summer time. One morning - while - on the way from where I was boarding, to the school, I met an Indian by the name of Waddie Nelson. Waddie was a big fat Indian, probably weighed 280 or 300 pounds. But he was a catcher for the Arpelar Indian Baseball Team. Waddie was a good catcher but he couldn't run. He was too fat. So he wanted me to be - be - manager of this Indian ball team, because I could help him catch - in the first place - and schedule games, since none of them talked good English. I've always wondered why I didn't learn the Choctaw language because I had so many of them, but I wouldn't try. And never did. Then in 1912, after I'd taught four years at this little Cabiness town, I came to Seminole county, to Butner, as a principal of the Butner school. At that time there was only - as I recall - only three high schools in this county, Wewoka, Seminole, - Konawa. We'd have - one of the most interesting things that would happen in the school system of that day was the track meets, track and field meets, every spring. I recall that while I was teaching at Sam's school house, just north of Wewoka, and I had three or four Indian boys in school who were good athletes.