

EARLY DAYS IN AND AROUND THIS COMMUNITY

(July 24th, 1968. Today I'm visiting with Sam Sloan, and 80-year old Cherokee of Big Cabin, Oklahoma. Mr. Sloan has spent all of his life in this community. And tells of many observations and experiences.)

I really don't think that it oughta been this a way. And, I think that people love each other better when they didn't have so damn plentiful.

(That's right...and they were more neighborly too. They were better neighbors. Why yes! They depended on each other.)

I'm under medical care! I'm an old age pensioner. I can mash that damn finger there, and that there fingernail turn blue. I can't go up there and get that doctor to treat this finger and let me come on home like they used to do. That darn human will admit me to that hospital, keep me there two weeks and charge me \$40 or \$50 a day. Wouldn't cost me nothin'. They fix it so that them people can graft on the thing.

Awfullest thing you ever saw. Well, I've taken them through this country when there wasn't no fences horseback, led them through to take them to a place that they couldn't make it. They done just as well. They saved just as many lives.

(That's right.)

Old Dr. Parton. And they old doctors before then. Old Dr. Oliver back then (not clear) Rode out to all the old (not clear) He was considered.. he was a new doctor. But they wasn't new doctors, they was old doctors. And they kept on getting newer and newer and newer all the time.

(Well, you've seen a lot of changes in your time now.)

Oh, shoot I've heard it.

(You can remember when they used to have big harvests here, raise all kinds of grain, now you don't see it.)