

west, the government had, and the people of the United States and they had always ceded their land without any trouble. So he said, "If we move west again why we will not have to move again." He said "Down here in this country I have been to look at for us," he said, "It's rocky, there's lots of game, there's trees, streams and if we get down there, why nobody can come down there and plow that up, so we may not have to move anymore." So they listened to his words that he reported to them and they signed the papers to accept this county and bought with money from the land that they had sold in Kansas. They purchased Osage County from the government which had belonged to the Cherokee Indians before, but the government had gained control over it some way or the other through a trade with the Cherokees. And then the Osages bought it from the government, paid cash for it--and they had several hundred thousand dollars left over. And they put this money that they had left over into trust funds. I don't know just how much money this amounted to, but this probably, or anyway, each two thousand two hundred and twenty nine head-rights received \$3800.00 each in trust funds when they made the allotment act in 1906. This \$3800.00 went to trust funds and drew 5% which was real good interest. They, then, in the year of 1906 after much preparation, allotted Osage County to each 2,229 Osages. I think about 900 of them were full bloods at the time and the rest were mixed blood they call it. Each member received 640 acres in land, plus one Osage head-right which drew oil money, which at the beginning was not very much.

ESTABLISHMENT OF OSAGE NATION

One thing the Osages did do when they made this allotment act, they held in trust the entire Osage County--Osage Nation they called it at that time--they held the mineral rights and nobody knowing that the mineral rights were worth anything. I don't know if the Osage did and if they did I don't know how they knew it and I don't know if the government did but anyway they granted the Osages these mineral rights, the whole county, to share alike in these