

December 9, 1968

T-354

Index side B, first part, 22 minutes.

Informant: Randle Carpenter, 80-year-old Shawnee, of Shawnee Hill area, northern Rogers County, Oklahoma.

Subject: The Shawnee Hills was Mr. Carpenter's home place, and this was Indian land all of his life. He has raised cattle and farmed some of his small cleared acreages.

He begins this interview by telling of his early days at his first school, at Chilocco Indian School. It is between about 1907 until 1911. He was originally born and partly raised by his aunt, Rose Daugherty. Miss Daugherty was a full-blood Shawnee, and was a boys' matron at Chilocco when he was attending school there. She retired sometime after 1930 from the government service and lived to be 97 years old.

Staying with Mr. Carpenter at this time is his nephew, James Nichols, also a full blood Shawnee. He was always known at Chilocco during the late 1920s as "Gut" Nichols. Get contributions to this interview also.

They reminisce about the days over 40 and 50 years ago at that Indian school. They say they were always hungry, as that questionable hash and hardtack was just not filling for poor hungry Indians. Randle says it would have been too bad for a bull to walk across the campus in his days, as it would have been eaten up before it got half way across. In spite of this, he says the sweetest smell he remembers is walking into the dining hall during his days there. But rememberers... small boys' supervisor, Dr. Wilson, tall wooden toe, was... if you took a bite in the nose at one end... last time, he didn't eat special corn and burn up it. He told us, "You all boys eat it up more corn tene-ho-s. Now legs hungry." But corn burning at night up and now walk around and a continuation. Little boy had his own corn kernel, a salt cracker, from a tin can, to a piece of rockin' in tail, to an old shovel. Chilocco Indian School was large because for poor corn crops; no tells of weathering misfortune or money to buy food, and trying to paradise a march from on Sunday, so the white folks from Arkansas City could see them. The large boys carried and drilled with the old 1090раг rifles. When they broke rules within their company, they had to run the "beet line" for punishment. Randle says back in his day there were few boys under the age of 14. Many of the boys were orphans, roughnecks, and "outlaws" as he termed them. Boys from many different tribes thrown together created some problems. After Mr. Carpenter had been at Chilocco for a while he worked in the power house. At that time they made their own electricity on D.C. current. Then all water, electric, and steam lines went