

JACKSON, SOLEY

INTERVIEW

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Jefferson Berryhill
Interviewer
July 27, 1937

Interview with
Sonny Jackson
Okmulgee, Oklahoma.

THE CHEROKEE STRIP

The Cherokee Strip was leased for five years at the rate of \$100,000.00 a year from the Cherokees by its Chief by a corporation with nine directors chartered under the Kansas Law, this being about six million acres and good pastures.

The corporation made money by renting the pastures to firms, individuals and other corporations. It would charge sometimes \$1.00 a head for cattle or 75c a head according to age.

They wintered the cattle there till Spring, then the cattle being fatten they shipped them. Sometimes from \$1.00 to \$5.00 a head was charged; having plenty of corn they charged as they pleased.

Many people who had plenty of money went to Texas and bought a herd of cattle and winter^{ed} them at the Cherokee Strip. In the spring when the cattle had become fatten^{ed} they were ship to market places to sell the fattened

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herd for higher prices than they had paid for them.

These herds of cattle were driven to shipping points on the trails as they had no railroads then.

Note: Mr. Berryhill, a full blood Creek, expresses his thoughts and interviews in true Indian dialect. No change to better English is attempted. Ed.