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BIOGRAPHY FORM  
WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
Indian-Pioneer History Project for Oklahoma

ALEXANDER, O. E. (DR.)

INTERVIEW

13789

Field Worker's name Johnson H. Hampton,

This report made on (date) April 28th, 1938

1. Name Dr. O. E. Alexander, A Pioneer,

2. Post Office Address Antlers, Oklahoma.

3. Residence address (or location) \_\_\_\_\_

4. DATE OF BIRTH: Month August Day 26th Year 1879

5. Place of birth Richland, Missouri

6. Name of Father \_\_\_\_\_ Place of birth Missouri

Other information about father \_\_\_\_\_

7. Name of Mother \_\_\_\_\_ Place of birth Missouri

Other information about mother \_\_\_\_\_

Notes or complete narrative by the field worker dealing with the life and story of the person interviewed. Refer to Manual for suggested subjects and questions. Continue on blank sheets if necessary and attach firmly to this form. Number of sheets attached 5.

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Johnson H. Hampton,  
Journalist,  
April 28th, 1938.

AN Interview with Dr. O.E. Alexander,  
A Pioneer,  
Antlers, Oklahoma.

I was born August 26th, 1879 in Richland, Missouri. I came to the Indian Territory, Choctaw Nation in 1901. I was about twenty-two years old at the time I came to the Indian country. I was a single man at that time when I came here. The reason of my coming to this country was that when I was at home I wanted to try out a new country and for that reason I came here. I then left home and came here and when I landed here I went to work on a railroad section boarding at the section house at a little switch called Wadner on the Frisco road. I worked there for a while. I then quit working there and moved to Antlers and I lived in Antlers for a while, I then left and went to Kosoma, Indian Territory which is just north of Antlers, about twelve miles on the same railroad where I taught school for one term. I then went back to Missouri, stayed there for about eight months and finished my schooling as a dentist. I then came back to Antlers, where I practiced

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my profession. I then moved to Wister in 1904 where I worked at my profession for a while; I then moved back to Antlers in 1910. I stayed there for a while after which I moved to Tulsa, where I put up an office and one at Skiatook. I worked there in 1911 and 1912 when I sold out my office equipment and went to Albion, living there for eleven years. I was employed to teach school at Kosoma by Mike Mamy and J. W. Amend who were the most noted men in that little village at that time but after teaching that term I went back to my profession. I went in partnership with a man of the name of Dr. I. T. Peet who was from Lebanon, Missouri and we worked along the 'Frisco railroad in the little villages together. After we dissolved our partnership, he went somewhere else while I still lived in Antlers and did dental work. I was living at Kosoma when Statehood came in in 1907. I was appointed Chairman of the Democratic Precinct Committeemen, later being appointed inspector for the first election held in the state. My friend, J. W. Amend, ran for the first Treasurer of Pushmataha County and was elected to that office. I was appointed delegate to the Democratic State Convention held at Oklahoma City several times.

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I was a delegate to the conventions that nominated J.B.A. Robertson and also Henry Johnston for Governors. I was elected Mayor of the City of Albion and held that office for eleven years and at the same time I was one of the School Board members for eight years. At the time I was on the School Board we organized a consolidated school and built a fine schoolhouse in this district which is now one of the leading consolidated schools in the north end of the county.

At that time there were not many white people to be seen out in the country, they were mostly in towns and villages; there were a good many Choctaw Indians then but they are not so many now. They have all died out and the white people have taken the country where the Fullbloods used to live and in a few years there won't be any Fullbloods, I think.

While I was living in Albion, I put eleven million small fish in the Kiamichi River. The small fish were furnished by the State Game and Fish Warden, Ben Watts, who was the State Game and Fish warden at that time for the state.

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I have never attended any of the Choctaw Indian camp meetings nor any of their cries; they still have the camp meetings but they discontinued the cries after the white people settled the country as the Choctaws say that the whites used to make fun of them so they just quit having their cries. My experience with the Choctaw Indian people has been good; I have done lots of dental work among them while I have been living here among them and I find them to be honest and law-abiding people. I have never lost anything for the work I have done for them. I have raised my children among them. They attended school with the Choctaws and have associated with them but they never had any kind of trouble with any one of them and I have never had any trouble with any of them. One of my boys is teaching school out in the mountains and has several Choctaw Indians going to school under him, and he says that they do not give him any trouble at all whatever. The only trouble that he has with them is that they do not speak English and it is very hard for them to learn but they are doing fine and after they can speak a little English they go right on with their work just the same as the white

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children. They surely have a hard time in learning how to speak the English language as most of them are full bloods who were raised back in the mountains and hardly ever get out to see any white people very much so they are very backwards to get started in their books but they do not give my son any trouble in the least. They try to do just what he tells them to do and they get along just fine. Father and Mother both died back at the old home in Missouri and are both buried there; my first wife died here in Antlers and is buried in the Antlers cemetery. My second wife is a Cherokee Indian and we are living here in Antlers, where I am still practicing my profession as a dentist.