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Chauncey O. Moore, Supervisor
Indian-Pioneer History, 3-149

March 10th, 1937

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E. F. Dodson
Field Worker

Interview: Clem Beaver

EARLY LIFE OF CHEROKEES IN ADAIR COUNTY

Clem Beaver is sixty-one years old, a full blood Cherokee. He was born in the Cherokee Nation, Indian Territory, in 1876, near what is now Lyons. He has been kept informed as to the happenings in the country about where he lives and remembers what he has been told by the old Cherokee people.

He says he knows about the game in early days, that there was plenty of deer, wild turkey and small game and that there was sometimes seen a panther. He says fish were abundant in all the streams. There were plenty of wild game in the woods, also many wild hogs for meat. He says that grass was plentiful and that the cows, horses and other stock stayed fat all through warm weather and that they would live all through the winter without being fed.

Mr. Beaver says they raised some corn, oats, wheat and vegetables. That with their stock and game from the forest and fish from the streams, furnished a supply of food. He says that they sold stock and fur, etc. for money to buy the things they did not produce.

Mr. Beaver says that there is a place about two miles south of Bunch in Adair County where in early days, the Cherokee people met and camped for the hunt, a pleasant camp ground with a good spring of water.

He also tells us that he has an old Winchester that belonged to his grandfather. Also he has a double barreled muzzle loading shot gun that belonged to his grandfather, both of which were used in the hunting trips above mentioned.

Mr. Beaver attended school at Round Springs School which was located on what is now the Charles Bradshaw place near Bunch, Oklahoma.