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BEAN, J. E.

INTERVIEW

#4221

161

BIOGRAPHY FORM
WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
Indian Pioneer History Project for Oklahoma

162

BEAN, J. E.

INTERVIEW.

4221

Field Worker's name Jimmie Birdwell

This report made on (date) May 28, 1937

1. Name J. E. Bean

2. Post Office Address 3908 South Hudson.

3. Residence address (or location) Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

4. DATE OF BIRTH: Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

5. Place of birth _____

6. Name of Father _____ Place of birth _____

Other information about father _____

7. Name of Mother _____ Place of birth _____

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 _____.

An Interview with Mr. J. E. Bean, Oklahoma City.

By - Jimmie Birdwell - Field Worker.

May 28, 1937.

The only crossings on the South Canadian River when Mr. Bean moved into the Creek Nation was a ferryboat two miles north of Indianola and five miles northwest of Canadian.

When the river was down settlers would ford the river on their horses but this was risky because of quicksand. A man who had a ferryboat got a charter on the river three miles up stream and three miles down stream. This would protect a man who had invested his money in a ferry. Ferryboat men would not put anyone across the river after it got dark.

INDIAN CHURCH MISSIONARY BAPTIST.

The Creeks would build a large church and hold a two weeks camp meeting. Indians would come for miles around to the church. White people were welcome to the church and all kinds of food would be cooked and a good cook was always hired.

Men and boys would sit on one side of the church and women and girls on the other side. An interpreter

was used so the whites could understand the preacher.

Large brush shades were made to eat under and to hold services under. This church was four miles north of Indianola.

INDIAN FOOD.

The Indians planted corn that had a blue grain and they would boil up a big pot of corn and drop strips of dough into it. The dough was made of water and flour and when this mixture was done it would be a blue color and was called "Blue Dumplings".

Another dish was made by boiling corn and beef cut into small pieces. Usually enough was cooked up to last for three or four weeks. After a few days it would begin to smell badly but it was considered one of the best dishes the Indians made.