



INDEX CARDS

Newspapers--Atoka
Smiser, Butler S.

Mrs. Etta D. Mason
Field Worker
Indian-Pioneer History
May 3, 1937

Interview with Lee Folsom as
given to Etta D. Mason, field
worker of the Indian-Pioneer
History Project.

Lee Folsom, fullblood Choctaw citizen, was born
where the little village of Lane is now situated, his
parents being David Folsom and Dixie Mayson Folsom,
Choctaw fullbloods.

He was reared in and near Atoka and was educated
in the Atoka Indian Baptist school and at Bacone College,
Muskogee.

He learned newspaper work at Bacone and when Mr.
& Mrs. B. S. Smizer of Atoka began editing the first
newspaper in Atoka, The Indian Citizen Democrat, Folsom
was employed by them. He lived at the Smizer home and
did the "Chores" for his board. He received ^(\$1.00?) \$6.00 per
week for his work at the office.

Folsom has been in newspaper work continually since
he left college, most of the time in Atoka.

He is a linotype operator and combination printer
for the Indian Citizen Democrat in Atoka at the present
time.

2

He has been a great help to his people. He attended their councils as interpreter and translated forms and laws from English to the Choctaw language.

. He became a rancher and prospered, but he kept up his newspaper work.

He describes the fullblood Choctaw Indians of 50 years ago as being happy, contented ranchmen and farmers.