

GOINS, C. C.

INTERVIEW

9749

356

Investigator, Robert H. Boatman,  
January 17, 1938.

Interview with C. C. Goins,  
Washington.

---

I was born near Alex in the Chickasaw Nation, June 25, 1880. My father was Chickasaw and my mother was a white woman. According to custom we always lived with the Chickasaw tribe, so my boyhood was like that of any young Indian. I was taught to hunt, shoot and ride and later on became almost a professional at riding cattle and broncho busting.

At this time all the land between Washington and Dibble was open range. In places the grass was as high as a horse's back. Rabbits were plentiful and it was one of my chief delights to slip through the tall grass and capture some unlucky cottontail, unaware. One who has never lived in the open country cannot appreciate its many joys or see its advantages.

Father was considered to be moderately well-off. He owned anywhere from a hundred and fifty to two hundred head of horses. The horses were sold, traded,

-2-

or used for sport purposes.

Purcell was our trading post. It was a very small place, located on top of a hill and at the brink of the Canadian River.

The Choctaws and Chickasaws were very friendly toward each other. Often they united forces against the hostile tribes, usually against the Comanches, Apaches, and Arapahoes. I can't remember our special squad actually declaring war against any one tribe or group of people. An incident that occurred in my tribe was that two of the young braves killed a cowboy when he tried to prevent their killing a cow for beef. The Agency convicted the two Indians and they were sentenced to be hanged. The braves managed to get back to the squad only to find their own tribe willing to turn them back to the Agency. Perhaps an hour later, they saw Government officials coming after them and made a dash for freedom. They were shot down with the arrows from their own tribesmen.

I was enrolled at Calvin as a Chickasaw by the Dawes Commission and received an allotment of two

-3-

hundred and ten acres, some three or four miles west  
of Purcell. I now live at Washington.