

TIGER, SAMPSON INTERVIEW.

#6811

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SOME SUBJECTS OF THE TRIBAL TOWNS
IN THE MUSKOGEE-CREEK REGION

An interview of Sampson Tiger, age 68,
Kialagee Town (tulwa), Henryetta, Okla.

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Indian-Pioneer History
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Every tribal town (tulwa) in the Muskogee-Creek
region has its chief, hehena, and its hehena ee.

The chief of a tribal town, during a ceremonial
dance, tells to the hehena what he wishes told to the
members of the town (tulwa). It is then the duty of
the hehena to talk for the chief to all tribes. The
members of the tribe of the tribal medicine are to con-
duct themselves with the high regard of the medicine
used, such as refraining from the use of intoxicating
drinks, they are not to touch women or talk to one
another during the ceremonial period.

Another tribal town (tulwa) wishing to extend an
invitation to other towns, gives a short stick to the
chief of the town where the dance is held giving
all the information about the invitation thus extended,
and then it is the duty of this chief to request his
hehena to make the announcement to all that are present.

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giving the date of the ceremonies to be conducted so that anyone wishing may attend.

There is the ceremony often called the Green Corn Dance that is held every summer in the tribal towns of the Muscogee-Creek Nation. This ceremony is held just before any of the members have eaten any medicinal herbs, but if any of the medicine has been taken there is a strong medicine to be taken before entering into the festival. The purpose of this ceremony is to take the medicine and cleanse the whole body, internally and externally. It is the belief that if corn is eaten before this rite or before any medicine is taken, that head fevers and other sickness will result.

The day before the medicine is to be taken, the people all sleep within the boundary of the ceremonial grounds in their respective places. The next day being Medicine Day, the men fast and use the medicine, still inside the boundary. Sometimes this fasting and taking of medicine lasts all day long. Some towns fast until noon or until the middle of the afternoon, each town being governed by the chief. The women and children use the medicine also, but do not fast nor do they

staying inside of the ceremonial ground... The women on the first day spend their time in preparing a fire for the men.

At some time during the day... medicine is taken by the children... traditional... The role...

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... (Tulwa) decided to move to
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