

WARRIL, CLARENCE O.

IN TESTIMONY

INTERVIEW with
Clarence O. Warren,
Tulsa, Oklahoma.

W. T. Holland, Field worker.

COOK BROTHERS AND CHEROKEE BILL

and something else about the Cook Bros. and Cherokee Bill. They of necessity had to have some ammunition, a lot of it, guns and snells, some times they had money and some times they didn't, but they had a way of getting the ammunition which worked if they were out of funds. As I said, my uncle Jim Egan, had a stor at Sapulpa. The manager of this store was another uncle of mine, Bert Gray. He it was who had sold ammunition to these outlaws. They would come in usually when my uncle was alone, present their six guns, muzzles toward my uncle and tell him what they wanted and how much. So, of course, they got it, and on short order, for he was anxious to get rid of them as soon as possible. But they always asked how much the bill was, and for my uncle to keep account of it for they would return later and pay it; an the unusual thing about it, they always slipped in when they had money and paid their bill.

Well, later, I think it was after the capture of Cherokee Bill, and during his trial at Fort Smith, that the question of where and how they got their guns and ammunition came up. This led to an investigation and it was found that they bought it at Sapulpa, and at the

Egan store. So, Bert Gray, being manager of the store was summoned to appear at Fort Smith, by Judge Farker, the Federal Judge of that district, as a witness, and to tell just what he knew about the matter. Well, he related to the court the story as told here and wound up by saying, "Judge, when fellows like that come in and put their six shooters on you, that makes their credit mighty good with me". This created quite a lot of laughing and seemed to be a good explanation as to how and why the Egan store sold them ammunition. It seemed anybody, especially the Jook Brothers and Cherokee Bill, could open an account with six shooters.