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Interview with John Chupko, Henryetta, Okla.
By Henry Day, Field Worker.

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June 3rd, 1937.

I am a Creek Indian, and was born in 1866, six miles south of Henryetta, Oklahoma, in Okmulgee County on Salt Creek. I am 71 years years old. My fathers name was Mikko Apucka, born in Indian Territory. Date of birth and death unknown to me. He was a Creek Indian. Mother's name was Jennie. She was an Indian. I do not know when and where she died.

In those days, there were no fine houses. Once in a while, some of the half breeds had a little money and they built a pine lumber house. I don't know where they got lumber from. The rest of us built log huts, covered the roof with clapboards and sometimes the back of hickory trees. Church houses were the same way.

They held church every four weeks. The Creeks were mostly Baptists. When I was a boy all the Creeks were Baptist, but today, some belong to the Methodist and some to the Presbyterian.

Game was plentiful, such as deer, turkey, squirrels, coon, opossum, skunk, rabbit, mink, and plenty of fish in the streams. There were also a few bears and panthers. Today you may find panthers in the Kiamichi Mountains in the Choctaw Nation.

There weren't many rifle guns. Some had #44 Winchesters

and some old Masket or breech loading guns. Old Indians didn't care about guns. They used bow and arrow. With these they could kill a deer, if the distance was something like seventy-five or one hundred yards. Indians liked to hunt and fish.

I used to go many a night to shoot a turkey after they roost. Moon shiny nights are good nights to kill them.

We used to go to school in log church house. Our teacher's name was Ellen Perryman, an Indian. Someone says she is still living at Eufaula, Oklahoma. She taught English and Creek both. Another teacher was Aunt Lucy Scott, who lives at Weleetka, Oklahoma.