

1. Mr. C. J. ...

Civ 1 Mr--Creek Station
Medicine Men--Cree

INTERVIEW WITH NEWT EVANS

FIELD WORKER REUBEN PARTRIDGE.

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AN ESCAPE FROM A PIT.

Newt Evens, husband of Mary Fuswa Evens, who lives one and one-half miles west of Sand Springs, tells of the escape made by his grandfather, an old Creek medicine man, and other Creek Indians, from a pit in which they were imprisoned when they were captured by the confederates, near the end of the Civil war.

Their meals were served to them in this pit by a man named McIntosh who used a step ladder as a means of getting down and back up again. One day when McIntosh brought their noon meal, he told these prisoners that he had heard it said that they were to be killed at 10 A. M., the next day. Upon hearing this, the old medicine man abstained from all food and after the boys had eaten their dinner, he told them that they must start to fast, so they did not eat any supper.

That night the medicine man began to make his medicine, keeping it up until about 2:30 in the morning, when he discovered a buffalo rib sticking out of the ground. He told the boys to take this bone and start digging, in an angling way, a two foot hole up toward the surface.

Before daylight, the hole was completed, and the boys

crawled out to safety. The medicine man directed them to leave two by two, because the country was too dangerous at that time for one person to travel alone, on account of big wolves.

The last words of the medicine man to the other prisoners were: "You all go ahead, and my nephew and I will take the last steps".

From the pit to the timber was a distance of seven miles, and while they were traversing this distance, the medicine man and his nephew stopped to listen, and heard the 4:30 bugle blowing, after which they traveled on and reached their people safely. A few months later, the medicine man and his nephew became sick with small-pox, and both died.