

T-481

IDA ADAIR, CHEROKEE

INTERVIEWED BY: FAYE DELPH

INTERVIEW DATE: APRIL 16, 1969

TRANSCRIBED BY: DARLENE FIELDS

GENERAL SUBJECT: INDIAN HISTORY AND INDIAN MEDICINE

TOPICS DISCUSSED:

EARLY LIFE HISTORY

LIVED ON FARM - PRESERVED FRUITS, VEGETABLES AND MEAT

SWEETS SCARCE - MAKING POPCORN BALLS

SASSAFRAS - USEFUL

MOTHER DIED WHEN IDA WAS SIX YEARS OLD

FATHER SENT IDA AND YOUNGER SISTER TO SEQUOYAH SCHOOL

IDA THINKS KINDLY OF TREATMENT AT SCHOOL

SPEAKS ENGLISH AND CHEROKEE IN SCHOOL

TAUGHT FATHER TO SPEAK ENGLISH

DETAIL REPORT ON FAMILY OF 12 CHILDREN

INDIANS AND WHITE CHILDREN IN SCHOOL - COMMUNICATION

DISCUSSION CONCERNING DIFFERENCE BETWEEN INDIANS AND WHITES

IDA HAS GOOD OUTLOOK FOR FUTURE OF INDIANS

MRS. ADAIR ATTENDED A SEMINAR IN NORMAN IN 1968

IDA THINKS THE HOME SHOULD BE FIRST TRAINING

HERB MEDICINE - BLACK SUMAC

LEAVES OF ELDERBERRY BUSH FOR SORES

WHITE RABBIT TOBACCO FOR COLDS AND SINUS

BLACK ROOT WEED - DIZZINESS

MULBERRY ROOT - DIABETES

WHITE DOCTORS RIDICULE INDIAN MEDICINE

CERTAIN TREE LIKE REDBUD TREE - BARK TEA HELPS TB PATIENT

CERTAIN HERB AND VINE HELPFUL FOR FEMALE AILMENT

MAKING CHEWING GUM FROM BARK OF TREE

USE OF SASSAFRAS TEA - HICKORY AND WILD CHERRY BARK FOR COUGHS

INDIANS ALWAYS GET BARK OR ROOTS FROM EAST SIDE OF TREE

NEITHER SAP OF TREES OR MOON CONSIDERED IN CHOOSING MEDICINE MATERIAL

FLUID FROM GRAPEVINE USED ON HAIR AND SCALP

FLUID FROM BABY LOCUST USED TO DELAY GRAY FROM HAIR

TEA FROM PINE NEEDLES FOR TOOTHACHE

MASSAGE WITH DRY MUSTARD FOR RHEUMATISM

ASHES FROM ELDERBERRY AND GRAPEVINE FOR DROPSY

IDA HAS LONG DEPENDED ON INDIAN REMEDIES AND MEDICINE

MULLEN USED FOR SWEAT BATH

SHRUB CALLED "ICE PLANT"

THERE IS CERTAIN PLANT USED DURING MENOPAUSE

POKE ROOT USED FOR ANIMALS AND NOT PEOPLE

WILD MINT TEA FOR HEADACHE

NUMBER SEVEN IMPORTANT TO INDIANS

MILK WEED - POISON IVY

MANY MEDICINE PLANTS GROW ALONG ILLINOIS RIVER

BACKGROUND OF INFORMANT:

Ida Adair is around 55 years old. She was born and raised near Stilwell, Oklahoma. She graduated from high school at Sequoyah Indian school and speaks both Cherokee and English fluently. Ida married at the age of 19 and is the mother of ten children. Her husband died several years ago and she and her children now live in Hulbert, Oklahoma.