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INDEX CARDS

Pawnees

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Gertie Goodfox, research field worker makes this explanation of the manuscript which follows.

I have copied off a letter of interesting facts told by Mrs. William Bishop, the wife of the late William Bishop, Mrs. Ben Lehw wrote to Mrs. Bishop, asking her for some information. She wrote out the questions just as I have copied from the letter; also, the answers that Mrs. Bishop answered. These questions and answers tell the story of Pawnee's early settlement. Of course, more can be gotten from my tribe (the Pawnees) but the only drawback is the actual dates, the years, months that the Indians cannot supply, as they did not have the education the later generation has.

In the letter, Maggie Gillingham, the white school girl mentioned, was adopted into the Pawnee tribe. She was put on the Pawnee Indian roll and drew her Annuity, just as if she were a Pawnee Indian, she was also allotted, and in the records that I looked over, at the Pawnee Indian Agency, no place is mentioned of her maiden name. It is also stated in the letter that she and David did not have any children. They had a daughter, Erma, born January 7, 1897 who died June 15, 1897.

The Indian woman that married a white, was first married to Rousseau Pappan, she was Addie Pappan. Her maiden name

is not given as she was married before the allotment, and had been allotted by her husband's name, Pappan. Her husband, Rousseau died and the records show she was married to Will O. Wright eight months after Rousseau Pappan's death. Mr. Wright was a white man. There is no written record of them (Mr. & Mrs. Wright) in the office of their marriage.

MR. & MRS. W. D. BISHOP

1. Where were Mr. & Mrs. Bishop born and married?

Mr. William Davidson Bishop was born in New Jersey, August 6, 1840. Mrs. Ellen Aspenwall Bishop was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, September 25, 1842. They first met at Mr. Bishop's sister's home in Camden, New Jersey, where Miss Aspenwall was boarding. Mr. Bishop moved out to Genoa, Nebraska, in 1873. Mr. Bishop met Miss Aspenwall in Omaha and they were directly married on May 22, 1874, in Columbus, Nebraska.

2. What was the date of Mrs. Bishop's going to Nebraska?

1874.

3. What was the name of the place where the Indians lived there?

The Indians lived in Genoa, Nebraska.

4. What the name of the trader Mr. Bishop clerked for

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there and that he came to Pawnee with?

The name of the trader for whom Mr. Bishop clerked was Mr. Stacey Matlock, Genoa, Nebraska. Mr. Matlock bought out a trader at Genoa and sent for Mr. Bishop to clerk for him. Later they both moved to Pawnee, Indian Territory, with the Indians in the fall of 1875. (Mr. Bishop's son, Stacey, was the first white child in the Indian Agency at Pawnee--October 18, 1875. He was born in a log house by the "Round Hole" swimming pool.)

5. Who was the first agent who brought the Pawnees down?

Major Burgess was the agent and his clerk was George Howell.

6. What was the date of that removal?

They came to Pawnee in the fall of 1875.

7. Was not Mr. Bishop the trader afterwards and later the agent?

Later Mr. Bishop with Stacey Matlock as a silent partner bought up the trading post of Dick Knight and Baldwin about 1892 at Pawnee. Mr. Bishop was never an agent. Mr. Bishop was a very efficient man in his place as he could speak the Pawnee language better than any other white man. The Indians could not say "William" so they called him "Widdiam" and some called "Ah-ti-put" meaning grandfather because he had lots of patience with them and was kind and helpful. Also, he wore a long white beard.

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8. What was the date of Mr. Bishop's death and the place? What year did Mr. & Mrs. Bishop build the house at Ingalls? Mr. Bishop died July 25, 1910, at Arkansas City, Kansas. He was buried there (two years previous to this time he had retired). The house at Ingalls was built in the summer of 1896.

9. What year did David Gillingham bring the white bride to Pawnee? Did he meet her while with Pawnee Bill's show or was it some other wild west show?

David Gillingham, a fullblood Pawnee Indian (belonging to the Skidi band) traveled with Dr. Biglow's show. He sold medicine for him and was the attraction of their street entertainment. In Boston, he met and married a white school girl by the name of Maggie. She had no children. No, Gillingham was never with a wild west show.

10. Do you remember an Indian woman who married a Wright? I well remember Ada Pappan, an Indian who married a Rausso. She was Mrs. Wright when I last knew her. She was married only twice as far as I know. Yes, she moved down with the Indians from Nebraska. Many were sick and died of chills and fever ~~malaria~~ in the early days in Pawnee. The breaking of the new soil and having only springs for the water supply were probably responsible.

Under question 7 I might add that with the change of administration, Mr. Bishop was let out. As he went with a Republican administration, when the Democrats went in they replaced him. He went to Arkansas City and stayed until he was licensed again and then returned. He was changed twice in this way. Once he got back in as a farmer in ~~name~~ only but worked and lived in house built for Indians.

One time Mr. Bishop was a clerk and collector for Fletcher and Rambo. He got the collections without making the Indians cross and by his kindly manner collected many bills which other people were not able to collect. Mr. Lebew clerked for them at the same time. Mr. Lebew then bought Fletcher and Rambo out. One time when Mr. Bishop returned to Kansas City, he clerked in a store for Stacey Matlock who sold to the whites there.

One or two other interesting notes might be added. When the Indians came down to Pawnee, they made their own mud lodges. Some lived in tepees. They had many dogs and plenty of fleas at Pawnee in the early days. There were no railroads and all goods had to be brought down from Arkansas City. People came in the stage coach. The Indians moved down from Nebraska on their own ponies.

Mrs. Bishop related that some of the Indians would

steal Stacey, their baby, and take him away in a blanket. After she hunted for him for quite a while, some one would bring him home and want to collect 25 cents for finding him, and bringing him home." Sometimes she would have to "de-louse" him.

One year the agents sank a barrel into the spring in order to collect for the drinking water. Often the agents found the Indian mothers dipping their papooses in them, and when ordered not to do this, they would say that they were just giving their babies a wash.

The chief diet of the Indians was beans and meat. Some times they had buffalo and venison, and later when the cattle ranges were established, they had beef. When Mr. Bishop later had the trading post under management, the cowboys came down and sold him meat. He often had four or five venison hanging in the butcher shop at one time.