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259

INDEX CARDS

No Man's Land
Kenton
Living Conditions
Vigilance Committee
Opening-Cherokee Strip
Cheyenne Indians

BIOGRAPHY FORM
WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
Indian-Pioneer History Project for OklahomaField Worker's name Alson J. ChaseThis report made on (date) June 15, 19371. Name William W. Cullar2. Post Office Address Woodward, Oklahoma3. Residence address (or location) 1331 First Street.4. DATE OF BIRTH: Month June Day 3 Year 18585. Place of birth Pennsylvania.6. Name of Father Michiel Cullar Place of birth PennsylvaniaOther information about father --7. Name of Mother -- Place of birth --Other information about mother --

Notes or complete narrative by the field worker dealing with the life and story of the person interviewed. Refer to Manual for suggested subjects and questions. Continue on blank sheets if necessary and attach firmly to this form. Number of sheets attached 4.

I was born in Pennsylvania in 1858, later moved to Medicine Lodge, Kansas, and lived there until the spring of 1887, when I loaded my family in a covered wagon and started to Colorado. On the way I met a cattleman, and he talked us into going to No Man's Land; so we did and located about sixteen miles east of the town of Kenton, in Cimarron County.

We had a little ranch there and usually had about one hundred head of cattle. We would sell them when they were ready for market to the other ranchers. The cattle rustlers were very bad, also the horse thieves. The horse thieves stole seventeen head of horses from me one night, and I got only one of them back, and it was a locoed horse that came back of its own will.

Here I built a two-room stone house. We had but very little furniture. We used cow chips and some wood for fuel. Our nearest trading post was Trinidad, Colorado, and it took us two days to make the trip one way. Our only child was born in No Man's Land. We raised Indian corn and cane for our feed supply for our stock. I worked on farms and cattle ranches for ten dollars a month to help make a living. There were no schools or churches. The country was ruled by Vigilance Committees.

Because there was so many cattle and horse thieves, and no laws we decided to leave; so in 1893 I made the race from the south line of the Cherokee Strip on horseback. I staked a claim and filed on a 160 acres about four miles northwest of the present town of Mutual, Oklahoma. This was in Woodward County. I located on Persimmon Creek because I wanted water and grass for stock raising. I made us a one-room house, part dug-out and part cedar logs. I hauled the logs about twenty miles. Our trading post and postoffice was at Persimmon, about one-half mile from our house. We used wood from along the creek for fuel. Our crops were corn, cane, and kaffir corn, and lots of watermelons. We had a well of water that was extra good; lots of people would haul it for miles for their house use.

We lived on the main road about half way between Woodward and Taloga, and we were prepared to feed and care for people hauling freight between the two places. Officers coming through with criminals would stay overnight and the officer would shackle the criminal to himself, so he could not get away. Temple Houston would often stay overnight with us, and every time he came he would always come carrying a chicken to the house with him, saying his horse had killed it. He would ask us to cook the chicken, which we did, and he would pay for the chicken as well as his meal.

and night's lodging.

In 1894 a one-room log school house was built. In the summer we would hold our Sunday School in a tent or under some trees. The first church built in this community was in 1895.

Twice every year the Cheyenne Indians would pass our place. It would take them all day to pass. Most of them would stop long enough to get a drink and fill up their water jugs. They never gave us any trouble.

In the fall of 1895 we built a one-room addition to our house with wood floors, to both rooms. On Sunday night we would have church, on Tuesday night literary, and on Friday night a dance. It was the only two-room house in the country with wood floors that they could dance on. The floors were made of native lumber, which was sawed by a local sawmill.

In 1900 I moved to Woodward with my family, and I am still living here at this time.