

Field Worker: Jennie Selfridge  
April 13, 1937

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BIOGRAPHY OF Mr. William R. Ingram  
One and one-half miles, south and west of  
Dundee school  
Healdton, Oklahoma  
P. O. Box 988

BORN March 7, 1860  
Florence, Alabama

PARENTS Father, Tom Ingram, South Carolina  
Captain in Civil war.  
Mother, Martha Rose, Florence, Alabama

I was born in Florence, Alabama, March 7, 1860.

My father, Tom Ingram, was a Confederate Captain in the Civil war, and was killed in a small skirmish near his home just at the close of the war. He was only thirty one years old at the time of his death. The site of this skirmish was just a little ways from our home, and one of our negroes went there and picked up a cannon ball. My mother told him to take it away from the house, and thought he did. Several days later he got the ball again, and was sitting in the yard looking at it, when it exploded, killing the negro, and injuring my brother.

I attended school at a log school house in Alabama. We had split log desks and studied History, Mathematics, Geography, Reading and Spelling. I attended the State Normal School of Alabama for two years. Here I met one of the Chisholms, a son of John Chisholm, founder of the Chisholm Trail. I was only fifteen years old at the time; my mother had married again, and I was dissatisfied at home. The Chisholm boy insisted that I go with him to Texas so I went.

Worthington's Ferry, on Red river in what is now Love County

was my first stop in the Indian Territory. Here I worked for Doctor Northington. One day Governor Overton, came by with a man in his buggy; as they passed the house I heard Overton tell the man they intended to kill him when they got him to his house. This man was a cousin of Overton's and was named Love. Overton carried him on up to his house and killed him. Hardwick was sheriff in that vicinity at the time; he investigated the killing, but never arrested Overton, because he claimed that Love had shot into his house a night or two before, trying to kill him.

In 1879, I came to Indian Territory and settled at Pauls Valley. Green and Miller were operating a store there at the time. I began work for Calvin Grant, who had established a store there. A little later I began driving a stage coach for Mr. Souls, of Seymour, Texas. Their stage line ran from Caddo, to Boggy Depot, Mill Creek, Arin Springs, Blakely, and Fort Sill. I drove from Pauls Valley to Fort Sill. We used two teams to each coach and made four changes between Pauls Valley and Fort Sill. The most of our passengers were soldiers; we also carried the mail. We had some trouble with the Comanche and Kiowa Indians. They would meet us at different stops and I would give them tobacco. Pat Moore, another driver on the line was robbed one night. A stage driver on the east end of the line froze to death one night during a severe cold spell, and the horses came into Pauls Valley, with the mail.

My wife's father C. Hobart Heald, lived at old Mill Creek, about two miles west and three fourths north of the present town of Mill Creek. Her mother was a sister of Governor Guy, and Jim Guy.

Charlie Carter's mother was also a Guy.

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The old Governor Harris home at old Mill Creek was destroyed by cyclones three times and before my wife and I married a cyclone blew their home away, and my wife was blown into the top of a tree. Jim Guy was killed by the Lee boys, and Jack Jones killed the Lee boys a few days later. We located the place where the store was crumpled one half mile in high grass, in order to get close enough to fire at them.

I moved to Healdton forty seven years ago. The town of Dalton was never after the ar-in-low, and he was lost after when I moved there.

Forty four years ago, I moved to Dover, and began collecting for Westheimer and Laute. I was paid \$45.00 a month. When I first went to work I also helped fill orders for farmers. They would come on the afternoon before to buy their goods, and so that they be loaded out the next morning. I have one hour every morning and I kicked the hogs out of the yard or that I caught that into the store to fill an order. There was one place living over about where the Courthouse is now located who owned over a hundred head of hogs. These hogs spent most of their time on the street.

Lill Dalton was killed after I moved to Healdton the second time. Another out-law, Sam Case, stole horses out of my pasture. He was killed at Round Rock, Texas, while assisting the Dalton boys in a bank robbery. At the time he was killed he had some horses which he had stolen from a neighbor of mine by the name of Carrings.

Lill Washington owned a large ranch west of Kingling. Jess Robinson, was located near Loco, and Joe Lurney had a ranch near Burneyville.

I have operated a ranch at Graham for the last forty years. I sold my cattle a few years ago, and now devote all of my time to the raising of horses. I have two race horses which I intend to run next year.

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