

INGRAM, ALLIE

INTERVIEW

7742

348

INDEX CARDS:

Choctaw Nation
Stringtown
Kiowa
Camp Meetings

INGRAM, ALLIE

INTERVIEW .

7742

Charline M. Culbertson.

Interviewer.

September 27, 1937.

Interview with Allie Ingram,
McAlester, Oklahoma.

born 1876

Father-L. H. Culbertson

Mother-Helen H. Culbertson

I was born at Stringtown, Choctaw Nation, in 1876.

My father and mother were L. H. and Helen H. Culbertson.

In 1868 my parents, and seven other brothers and sisters came to the Choctaw Nation and located at Sulphur Springs which was later known as Stringtown. Father had moved from Texas in an ox wagon, driving a small bunch of cattle.

Our house was an ordinary frame house. The thing which I remember was the way the honey suckle vines covered the front of the house. Our home was located near the springs. This was the first frame house built in Stringtown and is still standing today.

The first stores at Stringtown were general merchandise stores and were operated by two old confederate captains, Captain Bismakes and Captain Watkins. They bought and sold lots of cattle, paying for them in merchandise.

INGHAM, ALLIE

L. I. VIEW.

7742

- 2 -

Father built the first church and school up near the springs.

We moved to Iowa when I was five years of age. Our old home still stands today. It is located one block from the depot.

Here Father built the first church where the cemetery is today. My half sister, Caroline, was the first one buried in this cemetery.

There was one store and post office in Iowa at this time. Nath Hamilton was the first postmaster. These buildings were just west of the railroad track where the main street is today. Robinson had the first store.

The first school was built by my father. I do not remember where it was located. My brother William also taught school there.

Our Methodist minister was the Reverend Mr. J. N. Moore. We also had our Quarterly Choctaw meetings at Medicine Spring. J. H. Walker was pastor and he had an interpreter. We would go to these meetings and

INGRAM, ALLIE

INTERVIEW.

7742

- 3 -

camp from Friday evening till Monday and then we had our summer camp meetings at which time we would stay for two or three weeks.

Later, we moved on a farm west of Kiowa. Here Father farmed and had a blacksmith shop as he had always followed this trade. Here, our little house was built of logs. The school was a frame room with a box room adjoining. There were two teachers named Scudder and Jervie Gill. It was near View Springs west of Loggy or what is now called Harpers Valley.

I am in possession of a solid walnut chest of drawers that is some sixty years old and also a chair that was my father's. It is similar to the cane bottom chairs but instead of a cane seat it has a rope seat.