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BIOGRAPHY OF Mr. W. F. McKnight
Healdton, Oklahoma

BORN March 30, 1867
Indiana

Father: John McKnight Mother: Ollie

Fifty years ago this April, W. F. McKnight came to Healdton, and entered the drug business; a profession he has been engaged in ever since. When he came Orme's store was the only business in town. This store also housed the post office. All mail came from Mill Creek, Oklahoma, then on to Spanish Fort, Texas. If the creeks were up the settlers would sometimes go for four or five weeks without receiving mail. All freight was hauled from Gainsville by wagon. Sometimes when a wagon load of flour would arrive from Gainsville, Mr. Orme would never put it in the store, but would sell it to his customers before he had time to unload it from the wagon. The wagon road ran due south out of Healdton.

Dr. McKnight taught school at Saint Joe and Nocona, Texas. He taught as high as sixty pupils at one time. Subjects taught were Arithmetic A.B.C.'s, and Blue Back [&] Speller.

The greatest attraction for McKnight at this time was Dr. Gordon's daughter, Jennie. He would dismiss school sometime for as much as a week at a time in order to pay a visit to Healdton.

After his marriage in April, 1887, he established his first drug business at Healdton in a log cabin twelve foot square. An old post office cabinet the first ever used in Healdton is still in his possession.

Dr. Gordon bought the first Miller buggy ever used in Healdton. The first automobile was called a "White Steamer" and was owned by the

mail carrier from Ardmore. People came from miles around to see it. If the weather was favorable it managed to get the mail to Healdton ever other day.

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