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Openings--Old Oklahoma  
Oklahoma City

Field Worker: L. A. Nelson  
March 26, 1937

BIOGRAPHY OF Mr. Swan J. Johnson (White)  
by Mrs. Swan J. Johnson (wife)  
1130 Northeast 12th Street  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

BIRTH Sweden  
October 22, 1861

PARENTS Father, J. J. Johnson, Sweden  
Mother, Clare Johnson, Iowa  
Mother's maiden name was Johnson

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My husband came to Oklahoma in 1889 for the purpose of securing a homestead. All he managed to get were two lots on Frisco Street and one of these was in the street.

My husband, Mr. S. J. Johnson was from Iowa. He had immigrated from Sweden at the age of seventeen, his parents settling in Des Moines.

As he was a contractor, as soon as he secured his lots he put a house upon them and then returned to Des Moines.

While he was gone, squatters came along. They put a shack on the corner of the lot. My husband had a friend Mr. Chinn. Mr. Chinn took a team of horses and with the help of some men, pulled the shack off the corner.

A friend of my husband, Mr. Olsen also secured a claim. He sold it soon after. This was on what is now known as the Cowden oil pool.

We were married in 1894. My name was Johnson too. Then we came to Oklahoma. I was born in 1866, August 23.

My husband's parents were pioneers in Iowa. They had a farm there which is now operated by a brother and sister. I came from Chicago. Mr. Johnson was 71 when he died. He carried on his work as a contractor and builder here for many years.

We have six sons, all of whom graduated from Central High School. I had to get special permission from Clasen for one of the boys. Nearly all of the boys were prominent in High school athletics and four especially. One of the boys was famous in a Kansas University Athletics.

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