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BRUIN, J. E.

INTERVIEW

#5974

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5974.

Dawes Fife, Interviewer.  
May 27, 1937.

Interview with J. E. Bruin, age 72 years,  
525 N. 12th St., Sapulpa,  
Born August 17, 1865.

J. E. Bruin was born in Camdon County, Missouri, August 17th, 1865. He came to Vinita September 1st, 1884, and went to work for a man by the name of Bill Davis.

The following year he worked for Jim Ketchum, a Delaware Indian. He worked there for four years, and then worked for the William Halsell Ranch, the Mashed O brand, in 1887; he worked there for two years.

He went back to Missouri in 1889, staying there two years, then, returning to Big Cabin near Vinita, farming there.

He made the Sac and Fox run and staked a claim two miles north of Davenport; when he filed his claim he made a mistake in the location of the land and received land that he did not want. He left

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this land and started working for Colonel Patrick at the Sac and Fox Agency where he worked in the Commissary. He worked there six years.

He worked for Mr. McIntosh, who had the mail route contract, caring for the horses that were used to carry mail between Sapulpa and the Sac and Fox Agency. He was located on Sand Creek which was called Flat Rock then. While working at Sand Creek, he kept a few provisions for people near him who were in need of supplies. He worked for Mr. McIntosh a year and a half.

After McIntosh's contract for the mail route expired, Mr. Bruin worked on Heck Beavers' farm north of Bristow for two years. He cleared and farmed Ella Allen's allotment north of Jess Allen's ranch. He worked there for five years.

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He moved to Bristow and built a blacksmith shop; while there he helped start the first school.

While operating the blacksmith shop Mr. Bruin was appointed Chief of Police. He was the first police chief in Bristow; he served two years.

He sold his blacksmith shop and was appointed postmaster; he was the second postmaster in Bristow. The post office in Bristow was in the fourth class when Mr. Bruin became postmaster. He worked there nine years and when he left the post office was in the second class.

In 1912, Mr. Bruin ran for County Treasurer and was elected and the second term he was reelected.

On July 1st, 1917, he was appointed deputy United States Marshal under Henry Beard.

He also worked for Doc Livingston, High Sheriff in the Drumright District.

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He later moved to Sapulpa where he built a home. He has been living in Sapulpa since then.

He ran for County Assessor in 1936 and was defeated.

During the time he farmed, he raised corn and cotton. He sold his corn and cotton at the Sac and Fox Agency, where they had a cotton gin and corn mill.