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An example of a proper citation:

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Index Cards

Greer County-1890
Home-Dugout
School-Prairie Hill
Prairie Fires
Living Conditions

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4 2 7

BIOGRAPHY FORM
WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
Indian-Pioneer History Project for Oklahoma

Worker's name Ethel Pfeiffer

Report made on (date) May 31 1937

Name Mary Florence Bullard

Post Office Address Duke, Oklahoma

Residence address (or location) Route 1

DATE OF BIRTH: Month February Day 6 Year 1886

Place of birth Cassville, Barry County, Illinois.

Name of Father Lewis Henry Smith Place of birth Ohio

Other information about father A farmer

Name of Mother Elvira Jane Dug Place of birth Illinois

Other information about mother Mother of 9 children.

For complete narrative by the field worker dealing with the life and story of person interviewed. Refer to Manual for suggested subjects and questions. Use on blank sheets if necessary and attach firmly to this form. Number of sheets attached 6.

I came from Illinois to Texas with my parents in 1890. We lived in Texas for ten years, then moved to Oklahoma. My parents came to get a home. They settled some seven miles southeast from Duke, Jackson County, Oklahoma, and reared a family of nine children. My father was engaged in farming and stock raising until his death, in February, 1937. My mother died in 1920.

OUR HOME

For two years our first home in Oklahoma was a half dugout, then we built a two-room boxed house with a lean-to, or side room. We got our water from a well. It was hard gyp water and we had to break or soften it with lye before we could use soap in it, or wash clothes or dishes. This was one of the hardest things that the mother had to contend with in keeping house and rearing a family; the time she had in trying to keep her children clean with "Gyp" water, after burning coal, and having a dirt floor.

Our fuel was coal, when we could get it, other times we burned cow chips or prairie coal. We had always been used to plenty of wood to burn for fuel when we lived in Texas, and had never used coal until we came to Oklahoma, and although we had to use it, we never got used to the

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soot and hard work it caused. We had a "four eyed" bachelor stove and burned kerosene lamps when we could get kerosene. Sometimes we would run out, and then we would make a tallow candle by twisting strings together and putting one end in tallow.

OUR SCHOOL

We lived one mile from the school, known as Prairie Hill. It was a one-room school and is still in existence. Three or four months of real study was an average term. The first teacher of our school was Mrs. J. E. Taylor, now of Oklahoma City, and the second teacher was Mr. W. T. Hallowell. He was especially known and remembered for his promptness at school in being on time as he walked nine miles to school, and nine miles back home again after four o'clock. He was teacher and janitor and he always had a good fire in the large coal stove.

PRAIRIE FIRE

One incident that certainly stands out in my memory, and one that aroused fear in the entire school, was a great cloud of black smoke rising in the southeast, caused from prairie grass being on fire. It almost caused a panic, as we envisioned our parents being burned in a prairie

fire. Several boys mounted horses that had been ridden to school and hurried to the fire in search of home and parents. The fire spread rapidly but was finally extinguished by the help of neighbors, without the loss of life.

One farmer was digging a well with the aid of a young man whom he was paying fifty cents a day. They had struck a gyp rock, which made it necessary to use a blast of dynamite. This young man, my future husband, let the farmer down on this rock so he could bore a hole for the blast, while he rode to town-or to A. L. Perry's General Mercantile Store-to purchase the dynamite for the blast. As he rode back he noticed the black smoke rising near home and hurried quickly to the fire to help fight, never thinking of the farmer he had left waiting 36 feet in the well, only about a mile from the fire and excitement, but perfectly unaware of the incident.

OUR MARRIAGE

I met my husband, H. L. Bullard, on our way home from church in 1900. We married four years later, in 1904. During our engagement, my parents moved to Coleman County, Texas, where our marriage took place at Glen Cove, Texas. The second year of our marriage we returned to Oklahoma to make our home.

THE CHILDREN

We reared a family of eight children, six girls and two boys, three of whom are now married, while the rest are at home in Jackson County, Oklahoma.

CLOTHING

My mother made practically all our clothing, even the men's suits and socks. Once or twice a year my father and mother made a trip to town to buy shoes, etc., for us children. A stick was used to measure our feet, and then placed inside the shoe. We seldom missed a good fit.

FOODS

We fixed lots of dried foods at home, peaches, pumpkins, corn, okra, etc., never canning anything. We cured both pork and beef by hanging it out to dry. We made lots of preserves, jellies, and jams. We put up pickles in salt brine, stored in barrels. When pickles were needed they were taken from the brine, put in fresh water over night, and then placed in vinegar made from apple peels; sorghum was made from cane by the barrel full.

MISCELLANEOUS

I remember one time on our journey from Illinois, we started across the Canadian River which is very quicky.

One of the horses balked in the middle of the stream and our wagon began to go down in the quick sand, making it necessary to quickly unload the wagon. All its contents were carried out on horseback.

PARENTS

My parents were buried in the McKnight Cemetery five miles north of Hollis, Harmon County, Oklahoma, both having lived past three score and ten years.