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W. T. Hollam,
Investigator,
March 22, 1938.

Interview With Edward Mann,
541 South Columbia Avenue,
Tulsa, Oklahoma.

My father, W. F. Mann, was born near Hannibal, Missouri, in 1850, and while too young to enter the army during the Civil War, did make some contacts with Union soldiers. He was sent to a grist mill one day to get some corn ground and, the day being cold and his clothes not too warm, he was given a long coat, formerly worn by an army official. I don't know whether Federal or Confederates. Anyhow, on the way he met some "Yankee" soldiers who stopped him and questioned him about conditions and, seeing his officers coat, told him they would ^{have} to change it a little as he wasn't supposed to wear such a coat, so they cut all the buttons off and let him go. He recalled the battle of Lexington, Missouri.

After the war, Father went to Tennessee, in 1867, where he worked as a carpenter. It was during the reconstruction period the South went through and during the other activities of the K. K. K. After seeing three dead bodies

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on three different occasions, Father decided he would leave that state so he went to Illinois where he later was married to Lucinda McCullum and there I was born, July 23rd, 1873.

About 1892 my father went to west Texas looking for a location and, hearing of the Strip Opening in the Territory came in 1893 to Purcell. He didn't make the run, decided he would look around afterward and buy a claim as he knew some would be for sale and, by paying he could select a location and get something worth while. So after a while he located a quarter in Pawnee County near the townsite of Jennings, where he got a relinquishment through the court and got a title to one hundred and sixty acres, paying \$500. for the claim, and court costs. In April, 1894, Father returned to Illinois and shipped all his household goods and livestock to our new home and we lived there until 1908. Father had built a two-room house of native rough lumber prior to our coming to this country and we lived there and farmed, raising corn, cotton and kaffir corn. We were near the Bland Ranch (Dr. J. W. C) and that of McElroy and Miller Brothers and I remember well the day "Dutch John" was killed.

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JENNINGS.

Jennings was our post office, the mail came to Jennings from Pawnee on a spring wagon. J. L. Bishop and A.M. McCain owned a store in which the post office was located. Jennings at first was a tent town, Van Emmons opened a store and sold hardware and farm implements in a tent and had the distinction of being the first man to sue the President of the United States; he sued for loss to him through the lowering of the tariff rate. Of course, nothing came of it. George Hall and D. Kennedy were other pioneer merchants then. Bowles and Evans established the "Jennings" News", the town's first paper, R. L. Stewart was its first editor and now owns and publishes this same paper which he has been with over forty years.

FIRST COTTON GIN.

Sam Treese put in the first cotton gin in the town; the press was a single bale box press operated by hand. I've helped bale many a bale on that hand press. Treese also had a sawmill near town on the creek and a set of "rocks" on which he ground corn. However, J. M. Brown put in the first gristmill in Jennings.

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SCHOOLS.

In the early days our first school buildings were one room log houses which were established around through the various districts as the needs became evident. I helped put up several of these, which, on Sunday, were used to hold religious services. Jennings had a frame school house which was also used as a church on Sunday. A. M. Adams who lived on a farm near town was active in church and the school affairs of the Jennings community. Roscoe Adams, Tulsa banker, and "Curt" Adams of Adams Motor Company of Tulsa are sons of this Mr. Adams.

SOCIAL LIFE.

Young people had box suppers, play parties and dances. We would go for miles to a dance and I've attended dances even in "dugouts". We were fortunate, I suppose, as we had a buggy, Father had it shipped in with our other goods. However, soon there were lots of buggies and surreys. The roads usually followed creeks, in and out and across; this was done, I suppose, to preserve the farm land from being out up. We attended Sunday ^{School} and Preaching at Jennings; that is where we saw so much of Mr. Adams.

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CATTLEMEN.

Uncle Bill Blair, an old Texas cattleman, was the most widely known cattleman about Jennings. In those early days during the years he operated and shipped thousands of Texas cattle in and grazed them in Creek County. I used to see him often and always stopped to talk to him for he was of a social nature and liked to talk. He never married, and, after retiring, he lived here in Tulsa boarding at the Hotel Tulsa. I saw him often here in Tulsa, he was a unique character, ^atypical early day cattleman.

I knew Charley Colcord, although not intimately, when he settled near Perry. He traded a spring wagon and team for one hundred and sixty acres of land near Perry and it was reported that he said before he died that he was going to have a \$1,000.00 for every acre in that farm. He later engaged in the real estate business at Oklahoma City and there erected an office building, the Colcord Building costing, I guess, more than \$160,000.00.

I saw some of the "seamier" side of early life; however, I never experienced any direct contact with it. Jennings

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would have its visits from the cowboys who had their fun but did little damage. It was hard to tell outlaws and officers apart as both always were heavily armed.

AT PAWNEE.

Cris Bolton owned and operated a hotel and saloon. Freedman was also a saloon keeper. Shepherd and Gordon were merchants as were Menthner Brothers all in Pawnee. Tom Craig was one of the first county clerks, if not the first. W. L. Eggleston was Judge, George Feaster was the sheriff, Lake was a sheriff, too.

I've been in Tulsa since 1921, am a carpenter and in the early days used to make ox yokes, for quite a few farmers used oxen on their farm. They were better than horses for turning the tough turf of the prairie and plowing newly cleared ground.