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LEGEND & STORY FORM  
 WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
 Indian-Pioneer History Project for Oklahoma .

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5626

Field worker's name Mary D. DorwardThis report made on (date) May 4 and May 5 1937

1. This legend was  
 secured from (name) (Mrs.) Ida May Collins Goodale

Address Hudson Hotel, Tulsa, Oklahoma.This person is (~~male or female~~) ~~white or black~~ Indian,If Indian, give tribe Cherokee-Delaware

2. Origin and history of legend or story Unknown, but originated

among the Cherokees. It has a kind of philosophical backgroundin that it represents the Indian's idea that the thing upon whichone fixes his mind will come to pass, or, "As a man thinketh so is he."

3. Write out the legend or story as completely as possible. Use blank  
 sheets and attach firmly to this form. Number of sheets  
 attached 0

A group of women were gathered together performing some task,  
 when a great spirit in the shape of a rooster flew across the skies.  
 Each woman looked up at it, while one remarked, "When you return  
 next year I won't be here." True to her prophecy, when the spirit  
 did return the following year she was gone.

LEGEND & STORY FORM  
 WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
 Indian-Pioneer History Project for Oklahoma

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5628

Field worker's name Mary D. DorwardThis report made on (date) May 4 and May 5 1957

1. This legend was  
 secured from (name) Ida May Collins Goodale

Address Hudson Hotel, Tulsa, Oklahoma.This person is (~~male~~ female) ~~XXXXXX~~, Indian,If Indian, give tribe Cherokee-Delaware

2. Origin and history of legend or story Origin unknown--told to

Mrs. Goodale as a child by her grandfather, a Cherokee. Thelegend concerns the origin of the constellation known as thePleiades.

3. Write out the legend or story as completely as possible. Use blank sheets and attach firmly to this form. Number of sheets attached 0

The seven stars represent seven Indian braves who danced, as Indians used to dance, until their physical bodies were completely worn out. As they dropped to the ground one by one, utterly spent, the spirit of each ascended to the skies one by one, forming the group of seven stars, where they have remained.

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Field Worker: Mary D. Dorward  
May 4-5, 1937

Interview with Mrs. Ida May Collins Goodale  
Hudson Hotel  
Tulsa, Oklahoma

Born in 1870  
In Kansas

Parents: Father, George Collins (Cherokee)  
Kansas  
Mother, Lucinda Elliott Collins  
Kansas (Her mother, Mrs. Goodale's  
grandmother, was of French-Delaware extraction,  
married to James Elliott, white man from Ohio.)

PRE STATEHOOD DAYS IN INDIAN TERRITORY.

I was brought to Indian Territory by my parents when I was just a baby, about 1871 or '72. Previously I had lived with my parents, George Collins and Lucinda Elliott Collins, in Kansas where I was born. My father, a farmer, settled in the Oo@wa-la (Blue Creek) district, about nine miles north of Claremore, not far from the home of the late Will Rogers. My first schooling was at Chelsea, where, because the teacher was a friend of my mother, I was sent to board with a family named Tickeater, full-blood Cherokees. The school building at Chelsea was a log cabin equipped with rude benches without backs. Later I was sent to school at Lightning Creek, now known as Alluwe. The old McGuffey readers were used there.

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After Lightning Creek I attended the Cherokee Female Seminary at Park Hill and was there at the time the building burned. The fire was caused in rather an unusual way. It happened on one Sunday when a man who was a religious fanatic had stopped at the school and asked the principal if he might take the girls off to a place nearby in the woods and preach to them. She, of course, refused but invited the man to remain to dinner. I remember so well that during the course of the meal a great bowl of beans was passed. When it reached him he simply appropriated the whole thing and ate all the beans. We girls giggled at this as girls will do. After dinner while we had prayers he sat on the porch and smoked his pipe and as he smoked he would reach down and knock the ashes off under the porch. From this the porch caught fire and since there was no water with which to fight it the fire soon swept the building. I well remember seeing the great bell fall from the belfry. No lives were lost and we girls saved most of our personal possessions, but a silk dress of mine which I prized was lost. Because I did value it so highly one of my teachers had permitted me to hang it in her wardrobe, but unfortunately on the afternoon of the fire she had gone to the Boys'

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Seminary to play for their services and of course was not at our dormitory to rescue her belongings.

We were taken to the Boys' Seminary for that night and for a few days after, but the presence of so many girls on their campus and in their halls proved so demoralizing to the boys that we were soon removed to Tahlequah where we stayed until our parents could come or send for us. I never returned there to school. I began soon after to teach school in Bartlesville and continued teaching until I married.

#### INCIDENTS OF PIONEER LIFE.

I remember seeing my grandmother pound Indian corn in a mortar which was simply the stump of a tree slightly hollowed out with a rounded bottom. If she wanted hominy she would pound until the hull came off, while if she wanted meal for bread she would pound until she had a meal that was quite fine.

All families in our neighborhood, which included the C. V. Rogers', Major D. W. Lipe, Charles McClellan, Taylor Foreman, and ourselves, lived in two-story houses. Ours had a great veranda across the front and it was on this veranda that my wedding took place.

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My father had died within a few years after we left Kansas. My step-father was a physician, Dr. A. J. Lane, who, I recall, frequently came to Tulsa to care for victims of smallpox epidemic which broke out when the Frisco was built through. I myself once had a very light case of smallpox. I was away from home teaching at the time and the doctor (not my step father) whom I consulted, after diagnosing my ailment as smallpox, told me to go on to school and pay no attention to it. I followed his instructions and strange as it may seem no one contracted the disease from me.

#### REMINISCENCES OF WILL ROGERS.

Will Rogers was frequently a visitor in our home in those early days. Will's mother had died when Will was a little fellow and he, the youngest of the family, was much petted and spoiled. A few years after the death of Mrs. Rogers, Will's father moved to Claremore, leaving the farm in the care of a tenant, with Will staying to look after the cattle. Will became lonesome and, not caring for the farm anyhow, would for days at a time visit among the nearby families, and especially at our house because I had several brothers. (He was always roping everything

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in sight.) He would ride up, put his horse in the barn, give it corn and hay, then come whistling around the house. Mother would look up and say, "Why, hello, Willie," while he would reply, "Hello, Aunt Lou, got any navy beans?"

His father became so disgusted with him because he would not stay on the farm that he finally told Will he had to stay there with the cattle or starve. Will looked up and said, "All right, fawver," but it wasn't long after that he had sold all the stock and gone to Texas, and from there to Australia. By that time he had joined up with a show, and that was the beginning of his career.

It was long before I could believe Will would ever amount to anything. He seemed to be entirely without ambition and would not stick to anything, but when I married he was best man at the wedding, his gift to me being a cut glass berry bowl of the very best quality, which I still have in my possession.

Mary D. Derward, Field Worker  
Indian-Pioneer History S-149  
May 20, 1937

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EARLY CLUB ACTIVITIES IN OKLAHOMA  
Second Interview with Ida May Collins Goodale  
Hudson Hotel, Tulsa, Oklahoma

As early as 1899 Mrs. Goodale gathered together a group of girls in the old Blue Mound (Co-wa-lah) district organizing them into a social group which called itself the Pesahentas club, of which Mrs. Goodale was first president.

Her marriage in 1906 took her to reside in Collinsville where she soon organized the Comedy of Errors club again being chosen first president. During her administration the Ridge Lawn Cemetery Association was organized within the club and sponsored much-needed improvements in the Collinsville cemetery. Mrs. Goodale helped organize chapter X, P.E.O., in Collinsville, serving as vice-president and secretary. She was also a member of the Collinsville board of education.

Moving to Tulsa in 1917, during war times, she was soon placed in charge of the Red Cross knitting unit of the east side. From 1922 to 1925 she was president of the first district of Federated Women's Clubs of Oklahoma. During her administration the district was reorgan-

ised and enlarged to include nine counties.

Mrs. Goodale perfected the organization of the Federated Women's Clubs of Tulsa and served as president for two years, 1927-28. In 1928 the Tulsa Federation entertained the first district Federation, each of which organizations owed its existence in large measure to Mrs. Goodale. In February, 1930, Mrs. Goodale organized the Indian Women's club of Tulsa and was made its first President.

In February, 1931, in recognition of her services to women's organizations in the state, the Federated Clubs of the first district planted an elm tree in the park at Claremore. This tree failing to live, it was replaced April 11, 1937, with a chinese elm planted in the grounds of the Will Rogers Memorial library in Claremore. On the same date a chinese elm was planted in memory of the late Will Rogers, these two old time friends and neighbors, whose mothers and fathers had pioneered together, being honored in the same way and on the same day.