

WILSON, RAPHAEL L.

INTERVIEW

12076

236

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12976

Hazel B. Greene,  
Journalist,  
February 18, 1938.

An Interview with Mr. Raphael L. Wilson,  
Hugo, Oklahoma.

History of the Wilson family, as written by R. F. Wilson, of Valliant, a good long while before his death in 1925. Possibly it was written in 1915. It was written in long hand and has never been published. It is in the possession of his son, "Young Rafe", or Raphael L. Wilson of Hugo. He prizes this manuscript so highly that he would not permit it out of his possession. It was copied in the office of the United States Indian Service Field Clerk, where Mr. Wilson works. "Young Rafe" Wilson was born in 1901, and is very much Choctaw, probably one half. Mrs. Ada Billingslea-Wilson, widow of J. L. Wilson, lives in Paris, Texas. Marion Locke, Field Clerk in the Indian Agents office in Hugo, said today, February 17, 1938; that he was positive that his grandmother, Jane James Wilson, was Chickasaw Indian. Mr. Locke says too, that the water mill was a grist mill and a gin. The three children of Willie Wilson and his wife Nannie,

WILSON, RAPHAEL L.

INTERVIEW

12976

- 2 -

Rufus, Cleopatra and Oscar, are all dead. Willie, Ed, Johnnie, and Rafe Wilson are all dead now.

In the year 1835, John Wilson, a boy of ten years, moved with the Choctaws from Mississippi to the eastern portion of the Indian Territory into what was known as the Choctaw Nation, where all the Choctaws settled and established their own form of government. After residing on the new hunting ground about ten years, John was married to Jane James, a daughter of Dace James, a Choctaw Indian who, with his daughter Jane, emigrated to the Indian Territory at the same time the Wilsons came. They all settled near Wheelock, a mission established by the Presbyterian church. From this union were born at the Wilson home a quarter of a mile east of Wheelock, Nannie E., Hattie, William, Louis, George and John. When the Civil War broke out John, Sr., went into the war and served for four years, or until the close of the war, leaving his wife in care of the home and small children, with no one to help her but one negro slave, named Ben, who was a blacksmith.

After the close of the war the family moved ten miles

WILSON, RAPHAEL L.

INTERVIEW

12976

- 3 -

west to what is now known as Oak Hill, here they resided about three years and while residing here two more children were born to them, Edward H. and Raphael F. In the year 1870 they moved two miles southwest to Clear Creek, where the water mill now stands, and here John engaged in the mill business, together with light farming and stock raising, which pursuits he followed until his death in 1892..

During the last twenty years of his life John Wilson took an active part in Indian politics and served his people as County Judge for many terms. He was a member of the Masonic Lodge for a quarter of a century, but was never united with the church. His wife, Jane, led the quiet but busy life of a farmer's wife. She united with the Presbyterian church early in life and later transferred her membership to the Methodist Church to which she remained loyal to the last. During the war she was compelled to weave cloth on a loom and make clothes for her small children. After the death of her husband she lived at the old

WILSON, RAPHAEL L.

INTERVIEW

12976

- 4 -

home with the youngest son, until his moving in 1896, after which date she spent most of the time with visiting her children and grandchildren. The last few years of her life she was almost an invalid and <sup>she</sup> died May 2, 1909.

Nannie E. was the oldest child; she was educated in Nashville, Tennessee, and married at the age of twenty to Frank Byrd, a Chickasaw Indian, on February 17, 1871. From this union was born one child, Nannie Byrd. She resided with her husband at what is now Stonewall. She died at the age of twenty-one in July 11, 1872. Harriet, the next oldest child was educated at home and at the age of twenty years was married to Frank Locke, a white man, June 1, 1875. They lived on the old Wilson homestead at what is now known as Oak Hill, for several years, then moved on Clear Creek near the Wilson home. There, Locke was a doctor, but this country being so thinly settled he had to resort to stock raising and farming for a livelihood. They had three children, all living now, Wilson, Marian and Mary. The Locke family moved to Goodland near the present site of Hugo. Here he engaged in

WILLIAM W. WILSON ... 1917

William Wilson ...  
1894 ...

William Wilson ...  
at home ...  
was married to ...  
24, 1875. She lived ...  
After her death, William ...  
parents for several years ...  
Nannie Hornoy, another ...  
North of the Wilson home on Clear Creek, at what is now  
known as the Wylie Subdivision ...

built a house during the lifetime of his first wife. William  
followed stock raising and finally went into the merchandising  
business with his next oldest brothers at Clear Creek, the  
Wilson home, and continued for several years then went ex-  
clusively into the stock business at which business he proved  
to be a success and from which he amassed a small fortune.  
They moved from their home on Clear Creek to old Donkaville  
on a farm, where they lived until the death of Nannie in  
1908 after which time William lived on the farm and carried

the stock business.

After the Frisco Railroad built its line from Hope to Ardmore and new towns sprang up all along the road, the need of banks at those new towns appealed to him and Mr. Wilson helped to organize banks at Hugo, then at Idabel, Fort Towson, Valliant and Soper. On November 6, 1906, Mr. Wilson was again married, to Miss Ollie Biard, a white woman, and they moved to Fort Towson, where he took an active part in the management of the Farmer's Exchange Bank, now the First National Bank. Early in the history of Fort Towson, William engaged in the merchandise business with his brothers, John and Ed. He also took quite an active part in Indian politics and at one time represented his county in the legislature and was elected to the office of National Auditor and later National Treasurer. After Statehood he took his allotment of the Indian lands near Fort Towson. He united with the Christian Church and he and family are faithful Christians. William Ward Jr. took a very active part in the building of Fort Towson and built many of the best buildings there.

WILSON, RAPHAEL L.

INTERVIEW

12976

- 7 -

Louis L. is the next oldest and he, too, was educated at home and attended school at old Spencer Academy. He was married to Miss Josephine Williams, an Indian girl in 1893. They lived near the old Wilson home on Clear Creek, where Louis engaged in stock raising, farming and merchandise. They had two children, George and Louis Jr. Louis died November 3, 1885.

John D., the next oldest, was born February 1864. He received his education at home and at Harley Institute, a school in the Chickasaw Nation. He engaged in the merchandise and livestock business in early life; was married to Miss Belle Turnbull, Choctaw girl, in the year 1891. John, Eugene, Hattie, Bessie, Curtis, Richard and Vivian are the children from this union. After this marriage, John moved onto his farm south of what is now Swink, where he engaged in the cattle business in which business, like his brother W. W., he proved to be a success and for miles around his beautiful home could be seen herds of fat steers in the "Rafter J." brand. He took quite an interest in Indian politics and served his people as representative of his county in the





with the following information:

His name is [unclear]

date of birth [unclear]

tendency of [unclear]

Secretary of the [unclear]

greater interest in [unclear]

to Miss Emma [unclear]

the distinction of [unclear]

county. He also [unclear]

family of the [unclear]

Bill Roy, [unclear]

children and never [unclear]

moved onto his farm [unclear]

his marriage and has lived there [unclear]

ception of the time he was at [unclear]

operated at one time a [unclear]

has made a specialty of [unclear]

extensive land holdings near his beautiful home [unclear]

Red River, about ten miles southeast of Wallfort. In [unclear]

years he has become interested in the banking business

[unclear]

[unclear]

[unclear]

[unclear]

[unclear]

[unclear]

[unclear]

[unclear]

[unclear]

[unclear]

[unclear]

[unclear]

[unclear]

[unclear]

[unclear]

[unclear]

[unclear]

[unclear]

[unclear]

[unclear]

WITNESS, [Name]

and [Name]

WITNESS, [Name]

Witness [Name]

Witness [Name]

Witness [Name]

Witness [Name]

Witness [Name]

Witness [Name]

Witness [Name]

Witness [Name]

H. P. [Name]

June 9, 1870. Educated at home and at New York

and the usual human imagination first appeared

is away from home, and he spent ten years in the

first went west and worked on the [Name] ranch for

years, and returned with fortune, which consisted of one

black brand cow pony, named "band" in honor of the man for

whom he had been at work.

After coming back he spent several years at work for

his brothers on their stock farms and raising a few cattle

WILLIAM B. BAKER

and his wife

January 12, 1880

of Wheelock, Iowa

settled on the

G. Town, Iowa

their children

old

R. B. has been teaching in the

served the same position for many years

Then he was a member of the Legislature

Sheriff four years and was elected to the

Statehood. One of the first

Raskell was to organize the

Agriculture, which position he held for

years. He has held office in various

ed. In 1910 he sold out his entire farm lands and moved to

Oklahoma City, where he lived for

becoming weary of the busy life of the city, he returned

to Valliant in 1911, and has been engaged in the banking and

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