

WIMBERLEY, M. A. (MRS.)

INTERVIEW

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8738.

Virgil Coursey,
Interviewer,
Sept. 30, 1937.

Interview with Mrs. M. A. Wimberley,
218 East Elm Street, Adairs, Oklahoma.

My husband and I and our four children came to Oklahoma from Emis, Texas, in 1911. We came to Vernon, Texas, by train and from there by wagon to Duke.

Our farm was west of Duke a few miles. We had a one room dugout, 10 x 10, in which we slept, cooked and ate. Not only were we crowded for space but we often had to share our quarter with rattlesnakes and centipedes. It was not uncommon to find a rattlesnake, a centipede on the steps leading out of the dugout.

I was very lonely, for Mr. Wimberley made trips to Texas to buy cattle and was often gone for thirty days at a time. One time when Mr. Wimberley was gone a severe storm came. We had by this time built a one room shack and I was thankful that I was not in a dugout. The snow drifted across fences until one could scarcely tell where a fence should be. The wind swept across the prairie with merciless fury.

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A large drove of cattle stampeded and headed for my house. They got on the south side where they were protected to some extent from the cold wind. But there were so many of them pushing and shoving that they threatened to wreck the house.

I was panicky. There I was a long way from my nearest neighbor. My children were small and I was afraid to brave the blizzard for it had become quite dark and then too, there was the danger of being trampled to death by the cattle. On the other hand I saw that the house would soon be wrecked. I happened to notice a pan of boiling water on the stove. I raised a window and began throwing this water on the cattle. They soon realized that things were getting too hot for them and left.

However, my troubles were not over. ~~The storm lasted~~ until I finally found myself out of food. I had no idea when Mr. Wimberley would be able to return. I knew something must be done. So I wrapped up as best as I could and struck out for my nearest neighbor's house. I told my neighbors my story and soon the men folks were carrying some groceries over to my house. They gave me flour, meal, milk,

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butter in a dressed young turkey. The flour provided
 I got along all right until the flour was gone.
 I had to live on corn. The corn was so hard to
 work with that I had to use a mill. I had
 converted it into a mill. I had to use a mill
 to grind the corn into flour.

The children, those of the family were
 first furnished. Then the children were
 Russell and the children were. I had a
 doctor here.

The living conditions were such that
 water from the well was the only source of water.

Two wells furnished water for practically everyone in town.

necessary. I had the children carried for them.

I remember that all were a proper place here.
 He lived in the back of the house. The place was
 located where the First National Bank building now stands.
 There was a little locust tree beside the little frame
 building, and I suppose it was the only tree in Altus.

When one has seen the hardships that I have seen one

Chardine Bell
Tribal Chamber
School Teacher
Winton
Willie Hatcher
Will Ross
Afton

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INDIAN INDEPENDENCE

INDIAN INDEPENDENCE

By name of the ...

near ...

Indian, Indian

by the ... of the ...

street, ...

by father's name ...

by mother's name ...

by grandfathers ...

as married ...

as a small child ...

the ...

the ...

the ...

the ...

schools in ...

schools in ...

The ... was the other teacher ...

taught six years in the ... school, during which