

INDEX CARDS:

Texas County  
Guymon  
Lawyer

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

Field Worker's name Carl H. Mayfield

This report made on (date) June 10, 1937

1. Name N. Hiner Dale, District Judge

2. Post Office Address Guymon, Oklahoma

3. Residence address (or location) \_\_\_\_\_

4. DATE OF BIRTH: Month June Day 2 Year 1881

5. Place of birth Elk Creek, Kentucky

6. Name of Father \_\_\_\_\_ Place of birth \_\_\_\_\_

Other information about father \_\_\_\_\_

7. Name of Mother \_\_\_\_\_ Place of birth \_\_\_\_\_

Other information about mother \_\_\_\_\_

Notes or complete narrative by the field worker dealing with the life and story of the person interviewed. Refer to Manual for suggested subjects and questions. Continue on blank sheets if necessary and attach firmly to this form. Number of sheets attached 4.

N. Hiner Dale, now district judge of the First Judicial District of Oklahoma, was born June 2, 1881, at Elk Creek, Kentucky. At the age of three and one-half years he removed with his parents to Milo, Missouri, where he grew up. He attended the Central State Normal School at Warrensburg, Missouri, from 1899 to 1901 and graduated from the "C" course of that school. In 1901 he came to Oklahoma and taught school for one year at Marshall, returning to Missouri in the spring of 1902. He entered Missouri State University in the fall of 1902 and graduated from the law school in 1906, with a degree of LL.B. He began his practice at Muskogee, Oklahoma, in June, 1906, removing to Guymon August 1, 1906.

Upon removing to Guymon, he bought a building known as the Dale Building, in which he has carried on the practice of his profession except when he has held public office. In 1915 he was elected county attorney of Texas County, Oklahoma, and he was twice re-elected, retiring from office in January, 1921. During the time he was county attorney, Judge Hiner

2

Dale won an enviable reputation as a prosecutor; the first two years he was in office he did not lose a single case. In his first murder case he addressed a jury two hours. Upon retiring the jury all voted on the first ballot "Guilty" and "Life Imprisonment" on the second ballot, returning a verdict within a few minutes.

It has been said of Judge Dale that while he was county attorney he could scent a bootlegger across a township. His life was threatened many times. It was his custom to accompany the sheriff when making an arrest. On such excursions he always went armed, and was a member of every sheriff's posse that started after their man.

In 1921 he re-entered his law practice in the Dale Building and continued until April 1927, when he was appointed as district judge by the Governor. He was not even aware that he was being considered for the office. He has twice been re-elected district judge.

## 3

Judge Dale is a strong advocate and practitioner of suspended sentences for youths, and rarely is he called upon to revoke a suspended sentence.

The judge has many outside activities. He is a lover of wild life, he has twice served as vice-president of the Izaak Walton League, and has worked for thirty years to get a good-sized lake for western Oklahoma. His dreams now seem about to be realized in the Optima Dam, which has been approved by Government engineers and will cover six thousand acres.

His family consists of his wife and six children. His oldest son, Bill Dale works in the state laboratory of the highway commission, at the capitol.