

INTERVIEW WITH TOM J. HARTMAN

FIELD WORKER LAWRENCE D. HIBBS.

MAY 11, 1937

My father, W. A. Hartman, was born in Hagerstown, Maryland, in 1849, leaving there with his parents when just a small boy and coming to Bedford County, Pennsylvania, where he grew to manhood. He met and married my mother while in Pennsylvania, Her maiden name was Mary Ann Kagarise.

He moved from Bedford County Pennsylvania, settling in Kansas, then Missouri, and again in Kansas, until in 1898 he moved to Oklahoma and settled on a claim seven miles west of Stillwater where he lived for about five years when he sold this farm and moved to Perkins, buying another farm. He lived here until he retired in 1927 at which time he moved to Broken Arrow, in order that they (father and mother) might be closer to my sister and myself. They lived in Broken Arrow until they died, father in 1929 at the age of 80 and my mother in 1926 at the age of 84.

My father in his younger days was a stone cutter and mason, but gave this up to become a farmer. He was considered

in his day a very successful farmer.

I was born in Bearing Springs, Pennsylvania, and came through to this State with my parents. Just shortly after we settled on our claim west of Stillwater, we children felt that we should help father with the burden of the living, so being informed that the Government was establishing an Agricultural and Mechanical College at Stillwater, I decided that my opportunity had come to get an education, so I left home and established myself in a Bachelor quarters near the College grounds. I helped erect the first building and to dig sewer and water lines, helped conduct Government experiments. Finally I was placed in charge of the Government Dairy Herd, thus I worked my way through College without outside help. The Institution was in the making and the course, at that time, was not what it boasts of today for the student body has increased to more than four thousand.

I graduated in 1898 with a Bachelor of Science Degree. Soon after graduation I entered the Banking business and was appointed a member of the Board of

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Regents and Treasurer of the College and served in this capacity under three Governors. I continued in the banking business until 1930 at which time I retired, having spent more than thirty years in that business. I served as President of the Oklahoma Bankers Association, and was for many years on the Executive Council of the American Bankers Association and served as a member of the State Banking Board during the term of one Governor.

I married for my first wife, Annie Virginia Jarrell, of Stillwater in 1898 and she died in 1901 while we were living at Deer Creek, Oklahoma. Two years later I married her sister, Mary Jarrell, and she was very active in helping me to organize and run my different banks. We lived at Deer Creek for seven years and then sold our bank and moved to Sulphur where we organized another bank and ran it for seven years, selling this bank in 1912 and coming to Tulsa, at which time I organized the Producers National Bank and continued to operate it until 1930, at which time I sold out and retired from active business.

My mother was born in Pennsylvania in 1852.

I have been Secretary of the Past President Club for the past twenty three years.