THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA

HISTORY OF GARVIN COUNTY

A THESIS

SUBMITTED TO THE GRADUATE FACULTY

IN CANDIDACY FOR THE DEGREE OF

MASTER OF ARTS

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

BY

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NORMAN, OKLAHOMA

1932

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I wish to express my thanks to the following persons for their information and assistance: Dr. E. E. Dale, Head of the History Department, University of Oklahoma, Norman, Oklahoma; Mr. and Mrs. Jack Florence, pioneer citizens of Garvin County; Mr. W. M. Erwin, Editor of the Pauls Valley Enterprise, Pauls Valley, Oklahoma; Mr. J. R. Bell, Mayor of Pauls Valley, Pauls Valley, Oklahoma; Mrs Lewis Lindsay, pioneer citizen of Erin Springs, Lindsay, Oklahoma; Mr. J. L. Avey, Editor of the Lindsay News, Lindsay, Oklahoma.

Many others have rendered service for which I wish to express my sincere appreciation.

Esther Bellows

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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

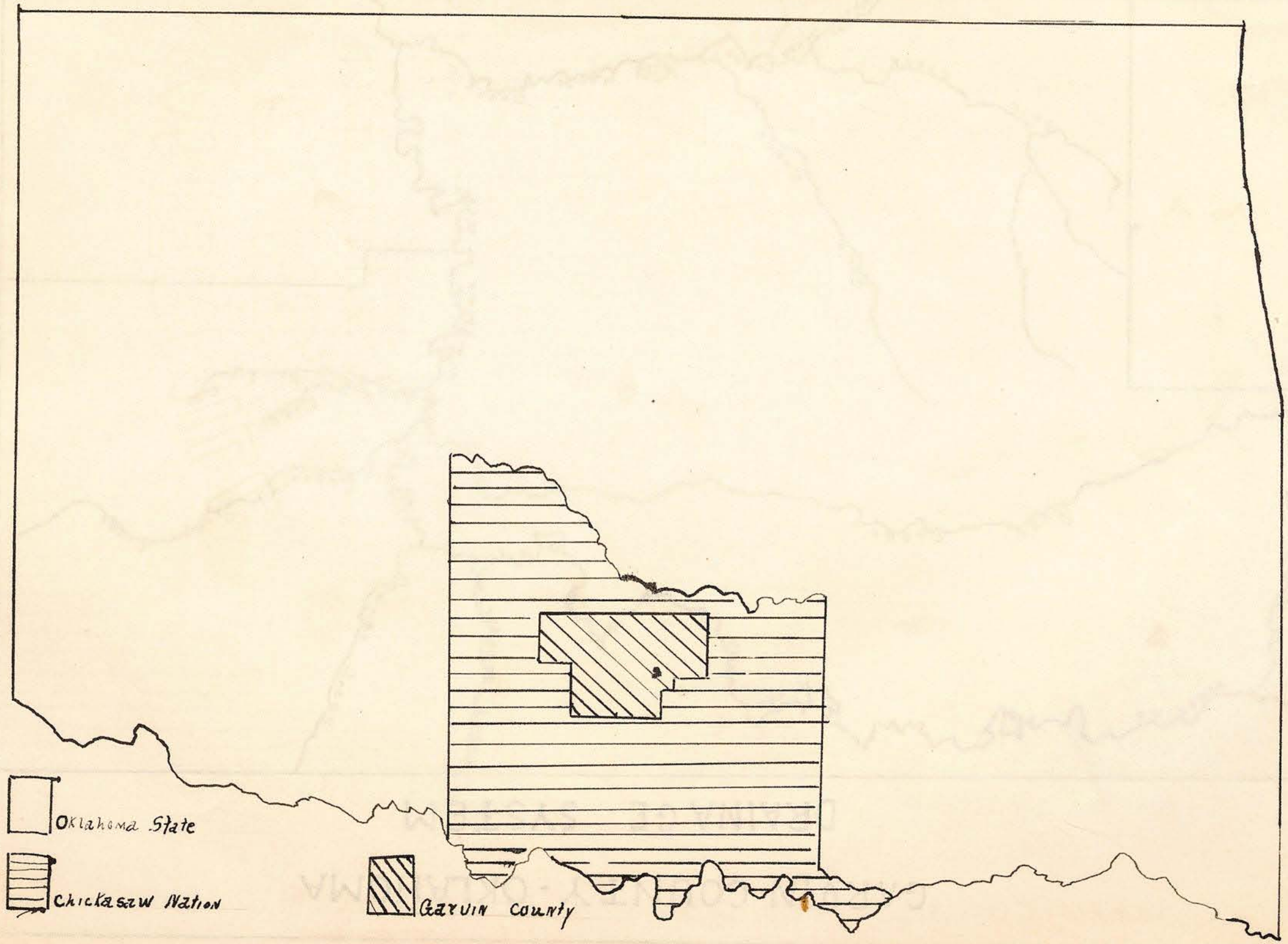
Garvin County, formerly a part of the Chickasaw Nation,[1] is located in the south central part of Oklahoma. When the Chickasaws came here, buffaloes, wolves, and wild horses had possession of the prairies, while along the streams bears, wild cats, and panthers preyed on the deer and smaller defenseless animals, as has always been the case of wild life unmolested by man. With these as well as turkeys, prairie chickens, small birds and sometimes geese and ducks this was indeed, "A happy hunting ground." If these Indians had been great fishermen, it could also have been called , "A happy fishing ground", since large fish abounded in all streams.

When the white man came, he made a different picture. With his better mechanisms of destruction and needless sport of killing in all seasons, large game rapidly decreased in numbers. The last buffalo was killed in the late seventies, and excepting a few protected by the ranchmen, the deer soon shared the same fate.[2] The slaughter continued until all large wild animals were killed thus leaving only rabbits, squirrels, opossums, and coons for the hunter and trapper. The birds and fowls were likewise treated. As for fish the large ones have been caught, though smaller specimens continue to be available.

This should not lead us to believe that the white race brings only destruction, because essentially it is constructive. The waving grains, the blossoming alfalfa , and the white of the cotton fields seen today are

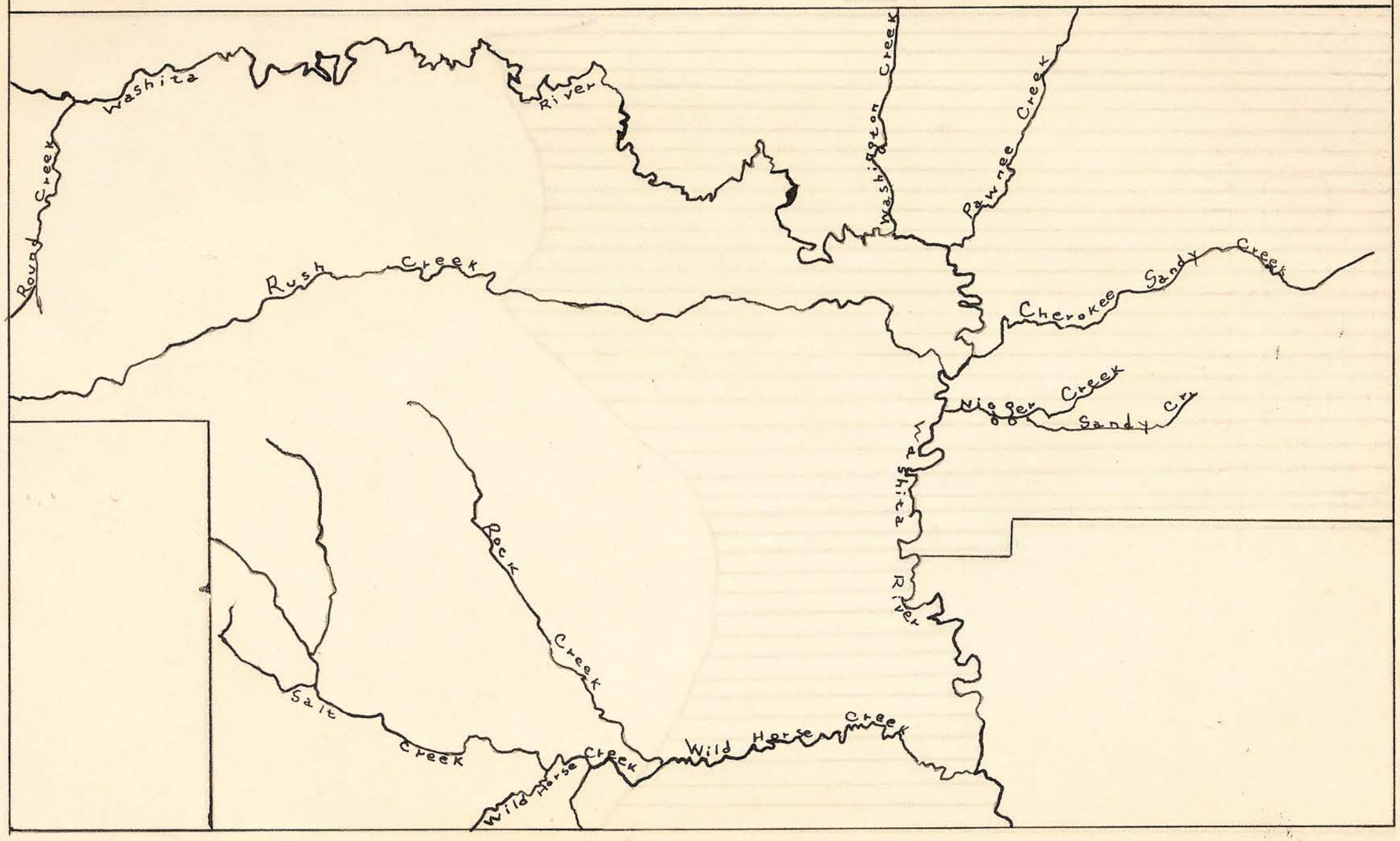
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1 U. S. Statutes at Large P. 611.
2 Statement, Mrs. Polly Ann Harmon Aug. 7, 1930 and Mrs Jack Florence Aug. 28.

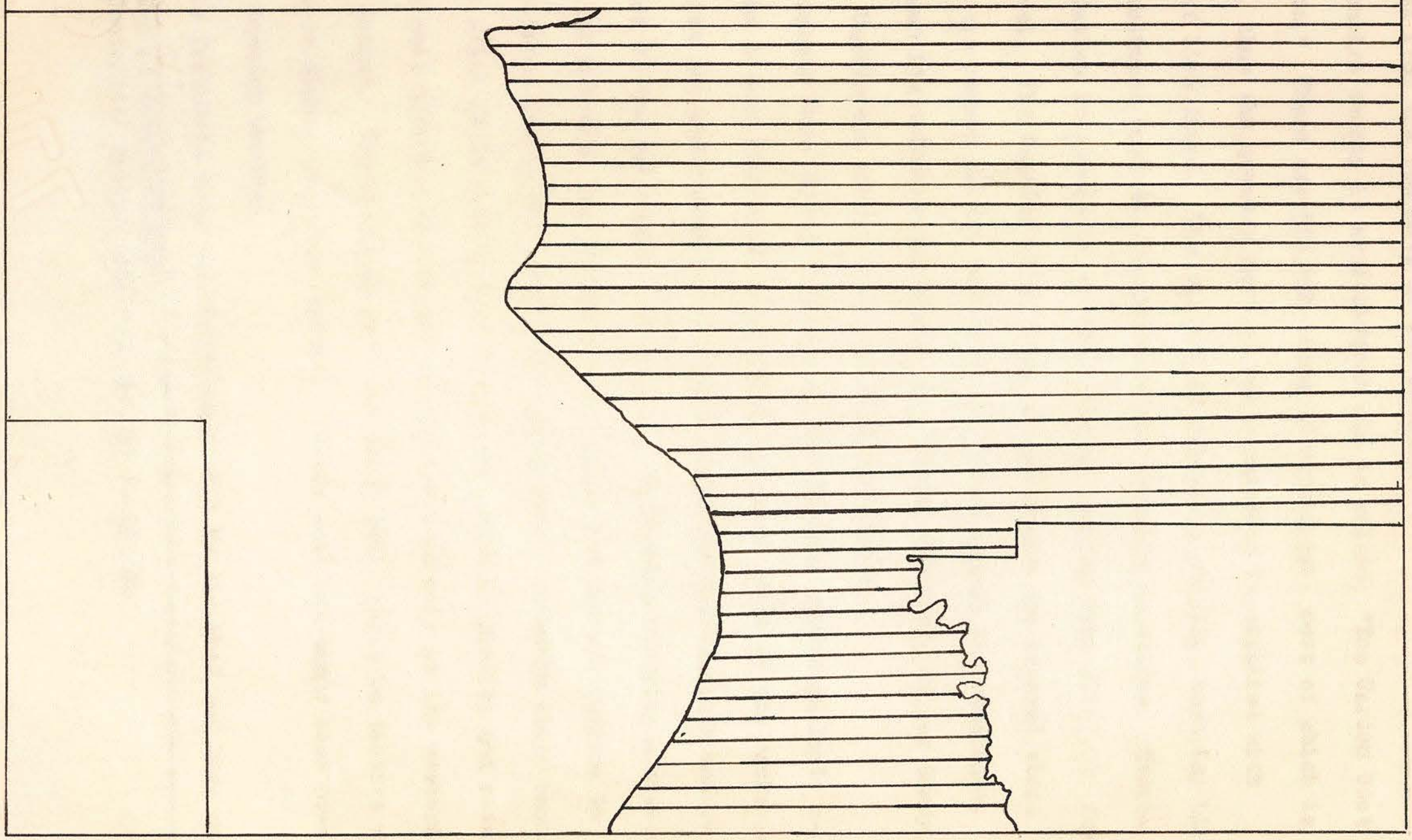

Oklahoma State
Chickasaw Nation
Garvin County

GARVIN COUNTY - OKLAHOMA

DRAINAGE SYSTEM



GARVIN COUNTY GEOLOGIC AND PHYSIOGRAPHIC MAP



very defferent from the products of the Indians.

The entire county is agricultural and is called, "The Garden Spot of the Washita." There are 525,440 acres of varied soil most of which is very fertile, thus the greater part of the population is supplied with their means of livelihood. The surface is generally rolling, becoming hilly toward the southeast near the location of the Arbuckle mountains. Therefore the variation in elevation is self evident ranging from 870-1,000 feet above sea level. The Washita River does not designate the general slope as it enters the county in the northwest and flows toward the southeast. This stream and its tributaries; Rush, Wild Horse, Cherokee, Nigger Sandy, Peavine, and Washington creeks form the drainage system.[3]

The county lies almost entirely in the Permian Redbed geologic area and in the Redbed Plains physiographic province. Most of the rocks are red clay shales and sandstones with a thick limestone conglomerate underlying portions of the southeast. Of course, the Washita carrying a heterogeneous mass of material has alluvial soils along its course, varying in color and tecture, though all are highly productive. Although sharp boundaries do not exist it is a fact that Vernon soil with it purples and reds and Kirkland soil with its blacks and browns are seen only in the western part of the county. The southern part has sandy soil, light in tecture and color with a reddish , or yellow subsoil. Sandy soil and sandy loam prevail in the eastern section.[4]

It is fortunate that the light sandy soil in the east can have at

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3 Lindsay, Map of Garvin County.
4 Oklahoma Geological Survey, Bulleti No. 27 P. 17, 84

least thirty-five inches of rainfall during the year , while the heavier type to the west receives the thirty inches. Another blessing of nature is the gift of sixty to seventy percent of the precipitation during the growing season, April to September. Although the region is subject to sudden changes in temperature, the usual time between the last frost in the spring and the first one in the autumn is two hundred and twenty days. The average temperature is sixty degrees. Usually a gentle breeze , blowing at the rate of two miles an hour,is enjoyed, though at times the wind has reached a velocity of sixty miles an hour. As a rule the county is temperate in every way.[5]

5 Pauls Valley, Chamber of Commerce Report 1930.

CHAPTER II

INDIAN OCCUPATION

The Chickasaw Indians at one time controlled a large territory, bounded on the west by the Mississippi River, on the north by the Cumberland River, and on the east by the Tombigby River.[1] This was ceded in tracts to the United States until, in 1832, only a small section remained to them. Even this could hardly be called their own, because the white people had control of it. Such a situation caused the Chickasaws to agree to leave their old home and settle somewhere within the territorial limits of the United States west of the Mississippi River.[2] They further agreed neither to make war upon the United States nor any tribe of Indians; however, if attacked they could defend themselves until the United States troops came to their assistance.[3]

After the scouts had looked about for a place in which to live, they decided upon land that had been acquired by the Choctaw tribe in 1820. This strip lay between the Canadian and Red Rivers in Oklahoma. In 1837 an agreement, which gave the Chickasaws the right to form a district within the Choctaw Nation, was signed by the United States and the two tribes concerned. This arrangement placed the Chickasaws under the jurisdiction of the Choctaw laws in every way other than the control of the Chickasaw funds, which were to remain in the hands of the Chickasaws. For the land the Choctaws received $ 530,000 paid by the Chickasaws.[4]

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1 Malone, History of the Chickasaw Nation P. 57.

2 Ibid P. 318-20

3 Homer, Constitution and Laws of the Chickasaws P. 463.

4 11 U. S. Statutes at Large P. 537.

In 1838 the migration took place, and into what later became Garvin County, T. F. Waite and family came , accompanied by Smith Paul, a young white man.[5] Perhaps there were others, but this group was the only one known definitely to have been in the locality until April 19, 1851. At that time Fort Arbuckle was established by Marcy and named in honor of General Arbuckle.[6]

The fort was built near Wild Horse Creek where the attitude was healthful and good spring water was abundant.[7] The materials used for the walls were logs, which had been hewn and notched, and for striping the cracks, drawn boards served. The foundations of solid stone masonry were necessary for greater security and for supporting the immense weight of the logs. The roofs were also strong, being constructed of old style clapboards made from oak trees. Within the fort were offices, officers headquarters, servants quarters, barracks for the men, the commissary, the guard house and the stables. There was sufficient room and equipment to accommodate four companies.[8]

The fort , though a center of activity for peace commissions, councils and military expeditions was not attractive to many of the young men stationed there if sixteen desertions in one month was any evidence. There were very few unusual incidents breaking the monotony of days. Occasionally wild tribes came to obtain food and to receive indemnity for children, which they had captured. Sometimes travelers going to California and other parts of the far west passed by, but it was a rare event indeed if a woman

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5 O'Beirne, Leaders and Leading Men of the Chickasaws and Choctaws P. 308.
6 Chronicles of Oklahoma Vol. V. P. 229.
7 Ibid Vol VI P. 23.
8 Ibid. Vol. V P. 229.

chanced to visit the fort. With this isolation there wasn't even the consolation of daily mail; only once each month mail was brought from Fort Smith. About the only diversion the men had was killing rattle snakes. This turned into real excitement when the reptiles persisted in getting into the barracks and secreting themselves under the beds. If any injury to the men occurred, a physician was at hand to minister to them, or to anyone in need of such service.[9]

With Fort Arbuckle as a place of refuge in time of danger people felt more confident , thus a number of families came to the county before the time of the Civil War. Since the members of the two tribes had the privilege of settling in either the Chickasaw or the Choctaw Nations, James Gardner, a Choctaw arrived and made his home near the present site of Wynnewood. Muncrief, another Choctaw was very near Fort Arbuckle. Others who came were George Gardner in the vicinity of Pauls Valley, T. A. McClure near Smith Paul and Tom Grant, an intermarried citizen close to the fort.[10] Such close grouping possibly would not have taken place had it not been for the proximity of the wild tribes of Comanches and Kiowas, which took delight in harassing the early settlers. Disturbances usually took the form of raids on livestock, while the owners themselves fled to the fort for protection, if the news of the foray came in time for them to reach there ; if not, they hid in the woods where the men stood guard until the danger was past.[11]
As a rule the Chickasaws were a home loving peaceful people, content with hunting wild game, fishing in the well stocked streams and tilling the soil.

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9 Chronicles of Oklahoma Vol. VI. P. 28.
10 O'Beirne, Leaders and Leading Men of the Chickasaws and Choctaws P. 93.
11 Mrs. Jack Florence, statement Aug. 24, 1930.

Only once did they become incensed to such a state as to go on the war path and recover their stock stolen by these Indians. They fought the battle alone, because the soldiers at Fort Arbuckle were unable to aid in the campaign.[12]

They were enterprising as well as industrious. It didn't require any great length of time for them to realize that the agreement to be subject to the laws of the Choctaws was a mistake. The Choctaws so for out-numbered them that they had no way of over-coming the unequal balancing of power. To remedy the condition a treaty was made between the United States and the two tribes in 1856, which gave the Chickasaws a title to their land and the right to control their own nation. When the opportunity offered itself of leasing their holdings west of the 98 meridian to the United States to be used for other Indian tribes, they took advantage of it.[13] They then divided their remaining land into four counties and adopted a constitution modeled upon that of the Choctaws.[14]

The tribe further showed astuteness by entering into the extensive commerce which sprang up between the Indian Territory and the states. Their surplus consisted principally of live stock such as cattle, horses and hogs. The people of the Arbuckle settlement did their part in any thing which concerned the nation. Since this was one of the richest districts in natural gifts it was an easy matter to produce more then their share of the surplus. As early as 1856 they began planting oats, wheat and potatoes, although corn continued to be the most valuable crop.[15] From the time of the establish-

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12 Ibid Vol. IV. P. 43.
13 Homer, Constitution and Laws of the Chickasaw Nation P. 485.
14 Chronicles of Oklahoma Sept. 1930, P. 327.
15 Commissioners Repor of Indian Affairs 1857. P. 251.

ment of the fort the settlers supplied the corn necessary for the troops and the stock. The chief contractor was Smith Paul who sometimes sold as much as 80,000 bushels at one time for one dollar per bushel.[16] He himself had a farm of 1,600 acres, and close by were many others ranging from fifty to one hundred acres each. The soil was so very fertile that it needed only meager cultivation to produce from one hundred to one hundred and twenty bushels per acre.[17]

These people were not just rude savages. They had comfortable log houses and good farms with some negro slaves to help do the work. They dressed and lived in a manner similar to that of the white people in neighboring states, and likewise they had schools and academies to which they sent their children.[18]

The tribe early manifested interest in education and had its efficiency been as great as its interest results must have been different. In 1834, a treaty provided that $3,000 should be set aside each year , over a period of fifteen years, to be used under the direction of the Secretary of War for the education of children of the Chickasaw Nation.[19] In their constitution they recognized the importance of education by making it the duty of the legislature to provide for the support and maintenance of the public schools, and to select a superintendent of public instruction who should hold office for a term of four years. This superintendent had control and management of all the schools in the nation. He examined teachers, made quarterly reports to the government of the Chickasaw Nation, on the condition

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16 W. H. Paul , statement Aug. 26, 1930
17 Moore, Report of the Indian Territory 1874 P. 23.
18 Commissioners Report of Indian Affairs 1857, P. 251.
19 Malone, History of the Chickasaw Nation P. 323.

of the schools, appointed a trustee for each school and suggested plans for the improvement and progress of education.[20] The Chickasaws appropriated sufficient funds to have had good schools for Indian children, though no provision whatever was made for white children and of course, none for negro boys and girls,because they were still in slavery. Too much authority was vested in one individual, thus the result was small, poorly equipped, log school houses and incompetent teachers.[21]

The missionaries of various churches early saw the great need for education and by 1850 they began to organize and conduct schools. This was not exactly a new movement, however, because the tribe had been served by devoted churchmen long before the move from the East to Oklahoma took place. From 1840 to 1860 the Baptist, Methodist, Presbyterian and Congregational missionaries were active in the Indian Territory; the Baptist giving most attention to full blood Indians and the other denominations working principally among the white people and those of mixed blood.[22] The influence exerted by these churchmen was of great importance and thus played its part as a civilizing force in the life of the tribal nation.

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20 Homer, Constitution and Laws of the Chickasaw Nation P. 21, 30-37.
21 Commissioners Report of Indian Affairs 1873 P. 208.
22 Thoburn, History of Oklahoma Vol. I. P. 147, 181.

CHAPTER III

THE REIGN OF THE RANCHMEN

During the Civil War, the Chickasaw Nation was in the hands of the rebel forces of Texas and Arkansas, because the Indians had signed treaties with Albert Pike, which cast their lot with the South.[1] As in all other sections of the seceding states, affairs in the Arbuckle Settlement, were disrupted. The people were scattered, their stock driven away , and their homes destroyed. After the war was over and it was again safe, many of the Indians returned to the places where they had originally settled, while others looked about for new locations. Smith Paul, T. F. Waite, George Gardner and T. A. McClure located in the vacinity of Pauls Valley. Muncriefs were at Old Beef Creek, J. C. Worley at White Bead,[2] Harris in Rush Creek Bottom, Joe Colbert and Joe Camp in the Florence community,[3] and James Gardner and John Walner in the neighborhood of what later became Wynnewood. McCauthey and Carsons at first settled at Fort Arbuckle, but later moved to Erin Springs.[4] Since the houses no longer were standing these people lived in dugouts until new buildings could be erected.

At the fort conditions gradually returned to normal with United States troops again occupying the place. In 1867 Samuel J. Garvin, for whom the county was later named, arrived at the fort. He hadn't been in the station long until he became interested in an Indian girl, his choice being Susan Muncrief, whom he soon married. With the change from his bachelor state he left the government service, located near the Comanche line

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1 Malone, History of the Chickasaw Nation P. 308.
2 O'Beirne, Leaders and Leading Men of the Chickasaws and Choctaws. P. 93, 218, 282, 278, 116, 273.
3 Mr. Jack Florence, statement Aug. 24, 1930.
4 Paper by Mrs. Lewis Lindsay.

and engaged in raising live stock.[5] A similar case was that of Frank Murray, who before the war, had been employed by the government to carry the mail from Fort Smith to Fort Arbuckle. Shortly after the war, he married Mrs. (McCauthey) Powell and located at Erin Springs where he too raised cattle.[6] These men were typical. Before 1870 when Fort Arbuckle was abandoned, a number of soldiers and men otherwise in the employ of the United States found favor in the eyes of the Chickasaw damsels. Since land was owned in common, their marriage into the tribe automatically gained for them the right to control as much land as they desired, so long as they didn't interfere with their neighbors.[7]

A group of young men, who were well able to understand its value, came to know the locality. These men were the Texas cowboys, who drove large herds of cattle through central Oklahoma to reach the Kansas markets. The desire for some of this fertile land caused many of them to come. A number of factors served to make the place admirably adopted to the raising of cattle; much of it was covered with tall native grass, shelter for the stock during the winter could be found in the timbered parts along the streams, and at all seasons the animals could be turned loose to roam at will. Also there was the possibility, in the near future, of a railroad in the Territory, because at the end of the Civil War, the Indians had been compelled to agree to allow right of ways for railroads through the country.[8]

This knowledge caused an influx of white people, especially young men who were ready for adventure. Three of these; W. G. Kimberlin, James Rennie and J. T. Hill came into the region, married Chickasaw or Choctaw

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5 O'Beirne P. 44.
6Gideon, History of the Indian Territory P. 399.
7 U. S. Statutes at Large P. 611.
8 Homer, Constitution and Laws of the Chickasaw Nation P. 498.

women and engaged in the cattle business near White Bead Hill. Soon the Kimberlin Cattle Company was formed with W. G. and J. J. Kimberlin, Russ and Abe Mitchell, L. C. Wantland, and Ed Tilly stockholders. Employing the Crutch and Coffeepot brand, this company continued to flourish several years, keeping herds of cattle in the present Garvin County and in Grayson County, Texas. The coming of the M. K. and T. Railroad in 1872 through the Indian Territory was an asset. It was no longer necessary to haul supplies from Texas towns, nor was it imperative that the longer drive to Kansas be made, where the cattle could be sent by rail to centers of demand. Vinita be-
came the principal point to which cattle were driven for transportation.[9]

The time came when intermarried citizens were to be found in all parts of the county, some of them having married the daughters of leading men in the Chickasaw Nation. Two of these were R. W. Jennings, who married Jim Colbert's daughter and Noah Leal, whose wife was the daughter of Gover-
nor Harris. Both of these men established ranches near the place where Wynnewood now stands. Others whose names were synonymous with power and prestige in the region were; Dave Mays of the Bar and Buckle Brand at old Beef Creek, Byars Brothers in Pontotoc County, controlling the eastern part of Garvin County, Jack Florence of the Three Bar Brand in the Florence neighborhood, Bill Story to the northwest of him, George Gray and Henry Tussey on Wild Horse Creek, David Spain west of White Bead Hill and T. H Hewitt near Wynnewood.[10] There was another name which had to be reckoned with, Richard Prince, a negro who had extensive holdings on Wild Horse Creek.[10]

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9 Mrs. W. G. Kimberlin, statement Aug. 28, 1930.
10 Jack Florence, statement Aug. 24, 1930 and George Rennie, statement Aug. 17.

Such ranchmen with immense herds of cattle found it necessary to employ men to manage the stock; thus the cowboys were in evidence where ever cattle were raised. Often they moved from place to place, taking with them their horse, saddle, slicker and gun, which comprised the necessary equipment for such work as was required of them. The greater part of those in the Territory came from Texas, therefore the customs and the manner of dress for the class were brought from that state. Ordinarily they wore high topped, expensive boots, coarse wool clothing of good quality, broad brimmed hats, and during round ups, shaggy chaps. The predominating characteristics of these men were fearlessness, generosity, and loyalty. They never hesitated when danger threatened, they were willing to share their last bite of food with a stranger, and they were always true to their friends. They were not romantic heroes as they have been pictured in literature, but ordinary human beings. They liked to ride hard and drink deep and do expert swearing when occasion arose. They had great stamina, often remaining in the saddle many hours at a time without rest or sleep.

The most trying times were during the roundups not only for the employees, but also the owners of the stock, because the latter went with their men. The type of roundup determined the amount of excitement and extent of preparation. If it were just a private affair conducted by a ranchman who wished to check up on his own cattle, it wasn't considered so important, because it was small and might take place any time. The big roundup, which came in the autumn, was general and affected every stockholder. The day before the work started was always set aside as a holiday for the men. This gave them a chance for contests in roping steers, riding bucking horses,

and racing ponies. The next day, with fifteen or twenty wagons loaded with food and equipment and accompanied by several cowboys from each ranch, the affair started.[11] Procedure was more or less systematic since most of the ranchmen found it an advantage to belong to the Chickasaw Stock Association. Each year this body selected a committee on roundups whose duty it was to appoint captains for each group. These captains had to settle disputes over brands and keep the boys orderly. If brands were readable, the owners claimed the animals; if not, the cattle bearing such marks were given to the association. When all the stock had been gathered by the respective holders, each one had the men drive his herd home where the calves were branded with the particular stamp of the ranch. With this task completed all the herd to be kept through the winter was again turned on the opened range.[12]

When such strenuous work was finished the men were ready for relaxation and recreation. Pauls Valley was headquarters for many ranchmen, and cowboys went there to celebrate. High carnival, with wild orgies, much confusion and promuscous shootings was the result. As the cowboys expressed it they liked to , "Shoot up the town."[13]

In these pioneer days other men became interested in the Washita Valley, so contemporary with the cattle raiser and his cowbays came the farmers. They gained a foothold in the region by buying permits from citizens for twenty-five cents to five dollars. This gave them the privilege of remaining in the Chickasaw Nation one year.[14]

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11 Mr. Philan Love, statement Aug. 17, 1930.
12 Chickasaw Stock Association, Constitution and Laws.
13 Mr. Jack Florence, statement Aug. 20, 1930.
14 Homer, Constitution and Laws of the Chickasaws P. 229.

Also they leased land, although this was contrary to law. At any rate, when the whites were once there, they stayed, because there was plenty of room and a farmer needed only a small track of land. Their equipment, which consisted usually of a wooden plow, a yoke of oxen or a team of horses, and a wagon, was not sufficient for cultivating large areas. With these implements they managed to raise much of the food needed at home, and for a cash income they sold small amounts of corn, a few cattle or a bale of cotton.[15] In the early seventies conditions improved and much progress was made; new farms were opened, many miles of fencing were built, the growth of oats and barley increased and the production of wheat and cotton was begun.[16] The first cotton was picked, put into gunny sacks and hauled to Gainesville Texas in wagons. After 1866 the supply of corn for the United States troops stationed in nearby forts came from the farms around Pauls Valley and Erin Springs.[17]

Since the land was so productive, the ranchmen found it to their advantage to have farmers work for them, thus it was possible to have the necessary grains, fruits, and vegetable grown right on the home place. It was also profitable to have farmers to raise hogs, because the animals grew and fattened, with very little care, on the acorns and pecans growing abundantly along the streams. Every year each ranchman sent a group of men to market with a herd. If there were as many as 2,000 hogs in the bunch, it required about eleven men on an eight or ten day trip to Caddo, where the porkers were sold. To care for the hogs which became too tired or too lame

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15 Mr. Vick Florence, statement Aug. 16, 1930
17 O'Beirne, Leaders and Leading Men of the Chickasaw and Choctaws P.III
16 Commissioners Report of Indian Affairs. 1873, P. 308

to walk, a man usually followed the herd with a wagon and team, thus providing a way to defray loss by hauling the animals until they could again walk, or until some storekeeper along the way bought them.[18]

In many places, where farmers and stock men occupied the same region, there was bitter antagonism. Although occasionally there were personal quarrels, this locality was an exception to the rule. Of course if the farmers cow was driven to market with a herd, or if cattle got into the corn field, the farmer expected compensation. Such differences were easily settled because each group understood that the land was owned in common and that the lack of proper fencing necessitated every one being as free as possible of resentment.[19]

It was regretable that all differences in the land were not so easily settled. The problem of the freedman faced the Indians and Whites alike whether ranchmen or farmers. The negroes, aften the Civil War, were much like men without a country. Those in the Chickasaw Nation were not adopted into the tribe nor were they given homes in any other locality. With no land, no homes, no schools, and no churches they were in a regretable situation. Idle hands found mischief to do, and since there were as many blacks as Indians and Whites combined in Garvin County, trouble came and race hatred ran high. Numbers, and the assurance of freedom gave the negroes a feeling of confidence. They had been granted freedom by a government which could not automatically straighten the tangled affairs of a race nor bestow wisdom with a stroke of the pen. Crimes which were intolerable were committed. A depredation that ran hostility to fever pitch took place between the pre-

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18 Major McCauthey, statement Sept. 10, 1930.
19 George Rennie, statement Aug. 17, 1930.

sent towns of Wayne and Paoli. While the men of the household were away, a negro broke into the home of a white family and assaulted the women. As soon as the crime became known the negro was arrested and started for Fort Sill where he was to be taken before the United States marshall. During the night , the incensed citizens of Erin Springs took him away from his captors and hanged him. This drastic action aroused the negroes and forty of them started for Erin Springs. On the way they passed the Florence church where the people were holding services. When those in the congregation saw the negroes, they suspected trouble was brewing so Jack Florence with a group of eighty white and Indian men set out to follow the negroes. By the time the concourse reached Erin Springs the blacks had taken a house, in which white people lived, for use during the night. The place was surrounded and watched until morning when it was agreed that no harm should come to the blacks if they would lay down their arms and return home. The Whites and Indians disbanded, but the negroes did not return home as they had said they would. They went instead to Fort Sill and complained to the marshall. Since he had been through Erin Springs and knew about the case, he told the negroes that he understood the situation and if any of them were near the fort in two hours he would have them arrested. The blacks didn't wait to see if he would keep his word.

The negroes caused their share of trouble , but they were by no means the only ones. Much anxiety was felt by the people and particularly the ranchmen because the land was infested by horse and cattle thieves, known as rustlers. They were so well organized that it was difficult to catch them, or to prove their guilt when caught. The stolen stock were passed from one

place to another in much the same manner as were the negroes on the under-
ground railway.[20]

Much of the lawlessness for which the Territory was notorious was caused by lack of control on the part of the Indian Government, over white intruders. When the constitution, which was adopted after the war, was drafted it applied to citizens only. It was modeled upon that of the United States, having three departments and a Bill of Rights. The Legislature had two branches, a Senate and a House, the Executive had an officer called, "The Governor of the Chickasaws," and the Judiciary had Supreme, District and County Courts. The officials were elected by the male citizens of the Nation who were over nineteen years of age and had been in the Nation six months. That was very good as far as it went , but there were so many people who were not citizens and thus not affected by the laws of the Indians. Some of them were innocent so far as any intention of wrong doing was concerned; they simply were ignorant of restriction. Many however had improved land after having obtained permits and would have lost all their property had they released it. There were still others who fraudently claimed the right to live in the Nation, and in some cases, ranchmen pastured their cattle there, even though they were living elsewhere. The worst ones were escaped criminals seeking refuge from the law in the states.[21] Those who had refused to consider the rights of others in one locality were not promising material for citizens in another. Like all evil doers they influenced those with whom they came in contact, changing in some cases, law abiding people into desperados. Such was Jesse James, a freighter in government

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20 Jack Florence, statement Aug. 24, 1930.
21 Commissioners Report of Indian Affairs 1872. P. 233.

employ, who hauled supplies between Fort Sill and Caddo. Before he became an outlaw he was known and liked by those who knew him in Garvin County.[22]

The United States had agreed to protect the Indians from intruders, but it was a decidedly difficult task, with the nearest court at Fort Smith, Arkansas. If a person were suspected of crime the marshall and his deputies could enter the Nation, arrest him and take him to Fort Smith, however, there were few convictions in such cases because it was a serious problem to transport a number of witnesses so far over almost impassable trails in wagons or on horseback. Even though officials did manage to reach the court with their prisoner and sufficient witnesses to convict him, more than likely he would be wholly unable to pay the fine of $1,000 levied as punishment. There was nothing to do but eventually release him, although he would in all probability return to the Indian Territory as soon as he could get there.[23]

Procedure was a little different if a lawful citizen turned criminal. He was arrested and taken to Tishomingo for trial in the Supreme Court of the Chickasaw Nation. For the first two convictions of serious offences the punishment was whipping, and if a third occurred, the culprit faced a firing squad.[24]

As long as there were poor means of communication, progress was handicapped not only in law enforcement, but in every way. In early days, with no fences to interfere, a person could make his own trail, but no one man could build and maintain a road for public use. It took concerted action on the part of many to do that. The first regular way of travel through

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22 Paper by Mrs. Lewis Lindsay.
23 Commissioners Report of Indian Affairs 1881. P. 104.
24 Jack Florence, statement Aug. 24, 1930.

Garvin County was by way of the Arbuckle Trail, which took a north to south eastern course , passing by Pauls Valley, White Bead, Beef Creek and Erin Springs. Sometimes government troops made roads between military posts as was the case of the way between Caddo and Fort Sill. This road followed the same route through the county as that taken by the Arbuckle Trail and over it went the United States freight trains, made up of ten or twelve wagons coupled together and drawn by as many as twenty oxen. By this means supplies were hauled to Fort Sill and Fort Reno and also most of the necessities for Garvin County, which were not produced at home.[25]

In 1876 the Chickasaw Nation passed an act requiring the county judge to appoint road overseers to summon all male citizens from sixteen to fifty years of age to work on the public roads in their county six days each year. The men were required to supply their own equipment consisting of axes, grubbing hoes and spades. If any one refused to respond to the call, the fine imposed was three dollars a day for each of the six days . With such provision, wholly inadequate to the need, the improvement in roads went forward slowly indeed.[26] Occasionally the ways of travel reached the state of being so impassable that Gainesville and other Texas towns raised small amounts of money to have them repaired in order to secure the trade of the region.[27]

Since it was so difficult to get supplies from Texas and more and more people came thus increasing the demand for commodities, ranchmen and storekeepers found it profitable to establish places of business at convenient locations Among these were the four stage stands in the county, on the

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25 Paper by Mrs. Lewis Lindsay.
26 Homer, Constitution and Laws of the Chickasaw Nation P. 60.
27 Jack Florence , statement Aug. 24, 1930.

way between Caddo and Fort Sill. As the stage entered from the southeast the first stop was the old town site of Pauls Valley,[28] named for Smith Paul, the young white man from Craven County North Carolina, who moved with the Chickasaws in 1838. He had married an Indian woman and had become the principal land holder in the valley.[29] Colonel R. M. Hopkins, a typical southern gentleman, came to the valley and established a hotel where tired horses and drivers could be changed and hungry travelers could enjoy good country ham, red gravy, poached eggs, hot biscuits and coffee.[30] As need arose other businesses were established; the first store being that of Miller and Green where general merchandise was sold.[31]

The next stage stand to the northwest was White Bead, named for a Caddo Indian woman, who with her two children was the sole survivor of a smallpox scourge that killed all others of the Caddo tribe near Southern Springs. When the early settlers arrived, they found the mother and children living in straw tepees. In 1875 James Rennie opened a small store at the site, got a post office established, with himself as postmaster and named the place White Bead.[32] About the same time Mrs Polly Ann Harmon, William Hull, W. G. Kimberlin, and S. J. Garvin came and gave their time and influence in developing the community.[33] Since White Bead was in one of the most fertile bends of the Washita and also had the advantage of the stage line it grew to be one of the largest villages in that section. There were several mercantile stores, a black smith shop, a hotel , a postoffice, a gin, an amusement hall, a church, a school , and Masonic and Odd Fellow Lodges.

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28 Paper by Mrs. Lewis Lindsey.
29 Letter from Bryan Paul, New Bern North Carolina Sept. 9, 1930.
30 Pauls Valley Enterprise Feb. 1, 1906.
31 Gideon , History of the Indian Territory P. 200.
32 Chickasaw Enterprise Aug. 29, 1901.
33 George Rennie, statement Aug. 17, 1930.

When the fact was considered that building materials and other supplies had to be hauled from Gainesville, Denison and other Texas towns, it was evident that no small task had been undertaken.[34]

From the town of White Bead the stage followed a northwestern course to Beef Creek, its next stop, twelve miles from Pauls Valley. From there it went to Erin Springs. This location was witness to some exciting events in early times. The wild Indians knew and liked the spot because of the tall prairie grass for grazing their ponies and the opportunity of hunting wild game, which was abundant. Kickapoos, at various times, camped in the flat known as Myer's farm; Pawnees came and built their tepees in the woods; and often the Kiowas and Comanches passed through on their numerous raids. With their anger at fancied wrongs and their hedious war paint the latter were not a promising lot with which to deal; in fact they killed anyone who attempted to oppose them. In order to forestall any harm coming to the town the settlers gave them a few fat beeves to appease them. Once, however, during the building of Fort Sill, a skirmish between the wild tribes and General Cabell took place directly in front of the Lindsay home. Cabell and his soldiers were camped on the creek,which bears his name, when about sunset, the surprise attack came. Arrows used in the fight flew fast and furious and for years it was possible to find the flint heads lying about. In the fight two soldiers and seven Indians were killed, all of whom were buried on the site of Erin Springs. Another incident worthy of note was the visit of Geronimo and his guard of soldiers as they were on the way to Washington. Their camp was pitched in the woods where in later years the school

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34 Jack Florence , statement Aug. 24, 1930.

children played ball. The town was never incorporated , but at one time it was a village with a large trade territory. Time passed and changes took place until only a few residences and the cemetery were left as evidence that a flourishing village was there.[35]

With the establishment of towns and the closer grouping of people, social intercourse took on a more definite pattern. Homes became better established as the log houses, which had taken the place of dugouts, in their turn gave way to frame houses such as Garvins at White Bead, those built of native stone as Smith Pauls of Pauls Valley and of concrete as Frank Murray's home at Erin Springs.[36] With better housing conditions pioneer life for the house wife still was not easy , because of the style of the large rambling buildings and lack of conveniences and equipment. The summer months especially were crowded with work since vegetables and fruits for winter use had to be canned during the growing season. To help his wife with the many tasks, the ranchman usually employed girls or women of the neighborhood. Even though such help was available, with the advent of sometimes twenty or thirty unexpected guests for a meal, all hands were needed to prepare the food. Hospitality was an outstanding characteristic and with all the work necessary when company came, the hosts were pleased.[37] Visits paid to friends and relatives at a distance were considered exciting occasions and necessitated a great deal of preparation. If the journey required several days a wagon with luggage and camping outfit was packed, and to help with the work on such a trip servants were included in the cortege. Travel was slow; the rate

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35 Paper by Mrs. Lewis Lindsay.
36 Major McCauthey, statement Sept. 8, 1930.
37 Mrs. Jack Florence, statement Aug. 24, 1930.

depending entirely upon the ability of the horses pulling the carriages and wagons.[38] During such visits parties or dances were sometimes given. These might be attended by guests who rode thirty or forty miles on horses in order to be present for the occasion. As travel was slow and parties and dances didn't come very often many of those attending might stay several days.[39]

After towns grew up lodges were organized; the Masonic and Odd Fellows being the most common. These first functioned in Pauls Valley in 1875. and soon every village had one or more.[40] Occasionally log school buildings were used as halls in the thinner populated districts where no other meeting place was available.

In this period much interest in church affairs was manifested. There were two self evident reasons for this; in the first place, the pioneers had not discarded all their Puritan ideas and training and in the second place, there were very few things to distract their attention. Sunday services were a break in a monotonous week, aside from any consolation the church had to offer. It was true however, that the people were devout and wholly sincere, often going six or eight miles over rough trails in wagons to attend the church services. The preachers too were consecrated men; faithful enough to be willing to endure countless hardships. The salaries were so low as to be inadequate for a livelihood, thus some occupation, usually farming, had to be carried on in addition to the church work. Some men were not financially able to maintain a means of conveyance

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38 Thoburn, History of Oklahoma Vol. I. P. 264.
39 Mrs. Cora Spain, statement Aug. 17, 1930.
40 Johnson, South of the Canadian P. 388.

and found it necessary to sometimes walk fifteen or twenty miles to an appointment. With such self sacrificing leaders and an interested people churches wer soon established in many places with pastors on circuit duty.[41] The Methodists especially did efficient work. That denomination established a church at Pauls Valley 1874 and in 1875 Elijah Smoot became pastor of the circuit in which Pauls Valley was placed. In 1879 J. C. Powell was appointed as pastor for two churches, those of White Bead and Pauls Valley, but at the end of six years the charge was divided with each place becoming a station. In 1883 Rush Creek circuit was formed and J. K. Florence was appointed to take charge. The next year two more groups wer established; Beef Creek, supplied by L. H. Suckey and Wild Horse, served by E. F. McClanahan.[42] At first the church buildings were small and not well equipped In 1883 the Pauls Valley board of trustees reported they had a building valued at $ 600:00 which would be good with a few repairs.[43] Improvement in housing and equipment came gradually with the accumulation of wealth and the concentration of population.

In the field of education, schools conducted by both church and nation were inefficient. The Chickasaw government appropriated sufficient funds, but they were not properly used. Equipment, w ich was badly needed, was not supplied and incompetency was encouraged in 1876 by the removal of the requirement for teachers examinations. The neighborhood schools were provided for in 1876 by an act of the Chickasaw Legislature. This measure stated that a neighborhood must have at least ten Indian children between the ages of six and fourteen before it could have a school. When this

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41 Mr. Vick Florence, statement Aug. 9, 1930.
42 History of Indian Mission Conferences P. 76, 77, 79, 91, 96.
43Letter to J. C. Powell, in possessionof Mrs. Mary Harris, Lindsay.

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requirement was attained, a trustee was appointed whose business it was to visit the school and make reports to the Superintendent of Public Instruction. Each teacher was supposed to have not more than thirty pupils, thus where there were only ten children, twenty other Indian children were allowed to board with the Indians in the neighborhood and attend school. For each pupil who attended eight dollars were sent each month for board. To the teachers four hundred and fifty dollars were paid for a ten months term.[44] The year the provision was made[45], the Chikika School, was located east of Pauls Valley on Sandy Creek.

Thus the pioneers of the locality moved on in the development of the region. Many ranches were established, additional farms cultivated, better homes built, church circuits organized, and attempts made to better conditions of the schools. The tasks were far from simple, and results were indeed noteworthy.

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44 Homer, Constitution and Laws of the Chickasaw Nation P. 101-102.
45 Ibid P. 78.

CHAPTER IV

THE CHANGING YEARS

In the Washita Valley, the shift from ranching to farming as the principal industry took place gradually. The men with extensive land holdings started farming in a small way, but it proved to be such a profitable undertaking that more and more attention was given to the enterprise. In order to protect the fields from cattle, fences were built by both individual farmers with small tracts and by cattle raisers with many acres. This brought two definite changes; the first having to do with the physical appearance of the region. Green lines of boisd'arc hedges, rough brush barriers on the hillsides, and meandering snake fences built of rails were markings of man's claim never before in existance there. The second change concerned many people, to some extent, but one group in particular. Cowboys were not needed in great numbers to herd cattle segregated and enclosed by fences. Thus they had either the choice of moving on to other open country or settling on the land and becoming farmers. Since the latter possibility promised returns, a large number of the men preferred to become permanent citizens. This added still more to the amount of land under cultivation. With so much of the native grass destroyed, not enough food remained to supply the cattle during the winter, and to provide shortage hay was stacked and corn ricked in rows near the feeding pens. Although corn occupied the greatest space, almost every farm product was grown. In the fields hundreds of acres of grain sorghums, oats, barley, wheat, and cotton flourished, and near the homesteads grew an abundance of fruits and vegetables. In 1890 O'Beirne reported that the valley of the Washita

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1 Mrs Polly Ann Harmon, statement Aug. 10, 1930; Philan Love Aug. 17, 1930.

was the most productive body of land in North America. The yield of corn per acre in ordinary seasons was from fifty to eighty-five bushels , and some farmers in the region cultivated from 2,000 -10,000 acres. Frank Murray at Erin Springs had approximatily 25,000 acres fenced, one half being planted to corn, small grains and cotton.[2]

He and others like him, dividing their attention between farming and stock raising, realized that quality counted more when space for cattle was limited. In 1890 W. G. Kimberlin brought into the locality the first pure bred shorthorns, then shortly afterwards, J. E. Burch and S. J. Garvin improved their herds by introducing pure bred animals. As conditions changed, attention was given to the kind and amount of feed. Grain sorghums, hay and shelled corn, grown at home, was mixed with cotton seed meal, brought in from the milling districts by rail.[3]

In 1887 when the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway met the southern division of the Gulf, Colorado and Santa Fe at Purcell,[4] the former passed from south to north through Garvin County. Where railroads existed depots had to be built, and on this line three were located in the county; one near the southern border, another near the middle , and the third not far from the northern line.

The one to the south was in the Washita Valley and was a promising spot. A log structure that servel as a subscription school and church house was already located at the place, and with this and the depot as a nucleus , Jimmie Gardner and Regean Jenning, who had controlled the land on which the depot was built, soon found they had a village. Railroad

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2 O'Beirne, Leaders and Leading Men of the Chickasaws and Choctaws P. III.
3 Mrs. W. G. Kimberlin, statement Aug. 26, 1930.

officials named the place, Wynnewood, for a suburban region west of Phil-
adelphia.[5] Enterprising professional and business men saw the promise of the location and came at an early date. These were J. E. Walner, retailer and general merchandise salesman; Joe Walker, hotel proprietor; Dr. A. P. Rayan, physician; A. N. Averyt, minister; and Noah Leal, charter member of the first bank called, "The Citizen's Bank." With life moving on in normal channels and with prosperous farms and ranches surrounding the village, growth and prosperity were assured.[6]

Passing north from Wynnewood, the next station was the one near the middle of the county. It was established about a mile from the village known as Pauls Valley, and in order to keep its identity this small town moved to the depot. After the move, the business houses which had been at White Bead were taken there, and because of the possibilities of the location new ones were established. James Rennie and C. J. Grant were partners in a general merchandise store, Drs. Shelton and Bayne managed a drug store and S. J. Garvin owned a lumber yard. Frank Miller and Tom Green, proprietors of a general store, owned also a black smith's shop managed by Amos Klingelsmith. Two other businesses were, a livery stable operated by E. P. Baker, A. R. Bandy and R. E. Baker and a gin and corn mill operated by J. D. Harvey.[7]

C. J. Grant, after the town's migration, established the first bank, the Mercantile Banking Company, which later merged with the Bank of Pauls Valley. A few months later when the banking enterprise was functioning,

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5 Thoburn History Vol I. P. 718.
6 Gideon, History of the Indian Territory P. 200.
7 Ibid 191.

he worked with S. J. Garvin and W. G. Kimberlin to build a court house located on the place where the Ford plant stood in 1930. The first brick building of the town was erected on the site of the First National Bank, however, few substantial business structures were to be seen. This was due to the fact that a clear title to the land could not be obtained and people hesitated to invest in something they might loose.[8] as the town grew, the inhabitants became anxious to have better government in order to clear the streets of fakirs. This was possible because of a provision made in 1889 by the United States government, which divided the Chickasaw Nation into court districts and extended the laws of Arkansas over the Indian Territory. Ardmore was the place designated for the third district court,[9] but six years later Pauls Valley was granted the privilege along with four others in the southern district.[10] Shortly after this, incorporated towns had commissioners courts for trying civil and criminal cases.[11] March 2, 1898 a committee was selected at a mass meeting to secure the incorporation of Pauls Valley. Through this move the desired result was obtained July 1898, and the first election was held August twentieth of that year. The officers chosen to serve by this vote were: J. T. Jones, mayor; Jack Smith, clerk; J. J. Thompson, marshall; and T. M. Bandy, Ernest Kendall, Jesse Reaves and Ben Hightower, aldermen.[12] After incorporation one of the first ordinances passed required every business firm to pay a license ranging from two dollars and fifty cents to twelve dollars per annum.[13] Thus the town was develop-

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8 Story of Pauls Valley by Mrs. G. G. Terry.
9 U. S. Statutes Vol 26 P. 81
10 Ibid Vol 32. P. 641.
11 Chickasaw Enterprise January 13, 1898.
12 Gideon, History of the Indian Territory P. 200.
13 Pauls Valley Enterprise Jan. Oct. 12, 1899.

ing in every way; growing in size, in wealth and in business acumen.

To the north of Paula Valley was the third depot located near the northern boundary of the present Garvin County. Jim Doolin controlled the land on which it was built and when railroad officials wanted to call the place Doolinville, he objected , but suggested the name, Paoli. The depot served as an attraction and soon a few business concerns were located there. Thompson, Dillingham and Brewer were the first merchants, Klingelsmith the first druggist and Thompson owned the first hotel. Crabtree operated a livery stable which in early days was successful, but like many other livery stables it eventually became a place for the gasoline innovation. Even though Paoli obtained the lodges from White Bead and had and even start with other towns along the railroad it never had a period of rapid development.[14]

In addition to these three railroads towns there were three inland towns which grew up about the same time. There was a need for places to which people in the eastern and western sections of the county could go for supplies and trade, without having to spend so much time on the way. To the east,two miles north of the site of Stratford , McGee grew slowly during the nineties and was incorporated in 1899.[15] The two villages in the west division were Purdy and Elmore City. The former had a store and sawmill as early as 1880, operated by Daniel Harrison who controlled the land in that locality. The place grew into a village and was one of the first in the county to be incorporated. In 1900 a man by the name of Purdy established a post office. Later when Lindsay came into existance Purdy moved there and left only a store and a school as markers at the site of the village.[16] The

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14 Mrs. Amos Klingelsmith, statement Sept. 6, 1930.
15 Chickasaw Enterprise Oct. 12, 1899.
16 Ibid July 14, 1904.

other town in the western part was Elmore City. This was a lawless district in early days where cattle and horse thieves were numerous, but as more settlers moved in , the desperados decreased in number. The more people there were the greater the demand for supplies, so in 1890 Jasper N. Black located on Rock Creek and established a small store. Later he secured a post office, had himself appointed postmaster and named the place Banner.[17] In a few years the town was moved one mile to the southwest and called Elmore. However post office officials soon added the word, "city", because mail for the place often was sent to Elmer. After the move , business concerns were the general merchandise store of Douglas Burch, the drug store owned by Dr. Callaway and the first bank organized by J. P. Gibson, Dr. Lindsay and others.[18] Elmore City developed rapidly and was later rated as the best inland town in the county.[19]

Although the people were handicapped by poor roads the towns and villages were a great asset in social development. The religious inclination inherent in human nature brought people together in groups with common interests. Shortly after the building of the railroad and consequent growth of towns, Protestant denominations reached the stage when self supporting churches were possible. The Methodist advancement was the most systematic, thus the most rapid. Circuits had been functioning in the county for a period of years, so just two years after the depot at Paoli was built a circuit was created there with C. F. Roberts as pastor. One year later Wynnewood and Pauls Valley became stations . Before the close of the century there were a number of workers in the field and many churches came

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17 Gideon, History of the Indian Territory P. 676.
18 Pauls Valley Democrat Oct . 23, 1930.
19 Pauls Valley Enterprise June 30, 1904.

into existance. Brady was supplied by T. A. Darr in 1895, Purdy by W. D. Sauls, Erin Springs by J. B. Williams and Elmore City by C. May in 1898.[20] The Presbyterian churches made their appearance at approximately the same time, though they were not so numerous. A mission station was located at Pauls Valley in 1886,[21] and a few years later one at Wynnewood. With these in the locality , organized churches was the next step. In 1889 Wynnewood acquired a fully organized church of this denomination, and in 1890 Pauls Valley likewise began supporting one. Other churches established by the Cumberland Presbyterians, were at Elmore City, Antioch, McGee and Brady.[22] In the case of the Baptists the movements of the early missionaries were not specifically recorded. Evidently some missionaries were in Garvin County, because the Baptists had a good Sunday School as early as 1886 at Gardner School, a structure near the site of Wynnewood. Four years later, when the town had had time to develope a church was established there.[23] In 1892 Story Baptist Church became a live organizatcn and the same was true of the church at Pauls Valley organized in 1895. Others in the county starting in this period were at Paoli, Elmore City, Peavine, McGee, Katie, Erin Springs, Klondyke, New Hope and Wallville. One other denomination had a church in the county. This was the St. Mary Protestant Episcopal church located at Pauls Valley in 1890.[24]

The churches gave attention to education as well as to purely religious matters. For a number of years after church schools first came into existence the government continued to help in supporting them. The Presbyterians established a mission school in Wynnewood in 1899* on land given

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20 History of Indian Mission Conferences P. 101, 104, 111, 145.
21 Valley News Dec. 25, 1902.
22 Mr. Duncan McRuer, statement Oct. 29, 1930.
23 Letter to J. C. Powell in possession of Mrs. Mary Harris, Lindsay.
24 J. B. Reaves, statement Sept. 14, 1930. * Error - Mrs. H. moved to Duncan in 1896.

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by Jennings. This school, conducted by Mrs. Mary Semple Hotchkins and financed by the church,[25] rendered a valuable service to the town and community for many years. This denomination also had a school of similar type at Pauls Valley founied in 1869.[26] There were other mission stations and schools in the county managed by the churches, but in reality there were only two schools worthy of the classification, church schools. One of these, the Pierce Institute was located at White Bead, through the efforts of J. C. Powell, pastor of Pauls Valley and White Bead Methodist churches and W. G. Kimberlin an influential member. The Indian Mission conference convened under a brush arbor at White Bead in 1884 and there decided to build a school.[27] When the Chickasaw Legislature met that fall, an act was passed which gave the Methodists the privilege of erecting a school on a campus of ten acres. A two story frame house was built with a capacity for accommodating one hundred pupils. The school started functioning with J. C. Powell the first president and with equipment and teachers for offering both grade and high school work. The institution was to have been under the control of the church for ten years, but at the end of that time an extention of another ten years was granted.[28] For quite a number of years there was an excellent patronage with pupils coming from as far south as Red River. Gradually , however, attendance decreased until it was little more than a neighborhood school. When the support of the church was withdrawn, according to the original contract, the buildings became the property of the community.[29] Later the lumber was used for a church building and parsonage.[30]

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25 Commissioners Report of Indian Affairs 1889 P. 200.
26 Valley News Dec. 25, 1902.
27 History of Indian Mission Conferences P. 94.
28 Homer, Constitution and Laws of the Chickasaws P. 163.
29 Ibid P. 215.
30 Mr. R. L. Spradlin, statement Aug 20, 1930.

The other church school in the county was under the guidance of the Presbyterians . at a meeting of the Synod held at Wynnewood toward the close of the century, a decision was reached to launch a college there under the name of Cumberland Synodical College.[31] a building and girls' dormitory were erected at a cost of $20,000 and six teachers were employed. When all was in readiness and the term opened 309 students came. The course of study was academic or high grade preparatory work with the possibility of the trustees enlarging upon this if interest justified changes. At first conditions were promsing, but the school failed to get the support of the U. S. Presbyterians with whom the Cumberlands had consolidated, and the property had to be sold to the town,because of debts.[32]

The neighborhood schools were functioning in the Nation, though very inefficiently in spite of the expenditure annually of between 42,700 and $58,000 for about 280 pupils that attended this type of school. In 1900 the Indian agent reported that most of these institutions were in isolated districts and the houses were equipped only with rough benches; no desks, no blackboards, nor writing facilities of any kind being supplied. They were patronized almost exclusively by full bloods; the children and sometimes the teacher speaking the Chickasaw vernacular to the almost utter exclusion of the English language.[33] One neighborhood school established in Carvin County during this period was the McClure School at Pauls Valley, Built and furnished by T. A. McClure in 1891 at a cost of $195:00. He was later reimbursed by the government. In 1898 an appropriation was made to

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31 Letter from J. A. Lawerence to R. N. Comfort Mar. 24, 1930. also called Indianola College
32 Commissioners Report of Indian Affairs 1904 P. 255.
33 Ibid 1896 P. 156, 110.

construct and equip a building sixteen by twenty-four feet to take the place of the smaller house.[34]

One other kind of school prevalent at the time was the academy. There were four of these operating, but they , too, were inefficient. The wretched contract system under which they labored provided unlimited opportunities for misapplication of funds. For a term of five years they were let to a contractor who had charge of the money for food, fuel , lights, teachers salaries and incidental expenses of the schools.[35]

Since the Chickasaw Nation made no provision for educating any children other than Indian, some arrangement had to be made for both negroes and whites. The United States Government financed a few schools in the Nation for negroes. The one in Garvin County, conducted by two white women, was the Bethesda mission, located three miles north of Wynnewood.[36] White children were sometimes allowed to attend neighborhood schools upon the payment of tuition, and in communities where the parents were sufficiently interested and the number of pupils justified the expense, white people built their own schools. These were similar to rural schools in neighboring states. The buildings were small and the furniture crude, consisting of home made benches for seats and boxing planks nailed along each side wall for desks, one side for girls and the other for boys. Since playground equipment was unheard of, the children entertained themselves during recess periods as best they could. The teachers usually signed contracts to teach six months for about $30:00 a month, the money being collected from the

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34 Homer, Constitution and Laws of the Chickasaw Nation P. 288,425.
35 Commissioners Report of Indian Affairs 1896 P. 156.
36 Wynnewood New Era June 14, 1917.

pupils by the trustees. In other cases the teachers took the responsibility of collecting the money directly from the pupils by charging $1:25 to $2:00 monthly tuition. The personnel of such schools made a varied group, numbering between 20 and 120 and ranging in age from 6 to 21 years. The course of study included the common branches and sometimes a few secondary subjects, but there was no regulation of text books. Those most commonly used were Websters' Speller, McGuffey's Reader, Ray's Arithmetic, Manteith's Geography, and Pinnea's English Grammar.[37] Although such methods were not efficient, they were better than none, and there were many children who did not have access to any school. The Curtis Act was passed with the intention of improving conditions, however, the two per cent tax for which it provided harily was sufficient to pay teachers.[38] The growth and development of towns did more than any thing else to relieve the situation. In them near the close of the century free schools were provided. Pauls Valley adopted a system of free schools for whites in 1899, which includei a four years high school course, similar to that of Dallas, Texas. It immediately attained an attendance of 351. In 1900 the superintendent of schools stated that the first graduate of a high school in the Chickasaw Nation came from that system . He also said it was evident that the school was well known because applications for positions had come from nearly every state west of the Mississippi.[39] At the same time Wynnewood provide: for free schools, not only for whites but also for Indians and negroes. The attendance was large, there being four hundred whites, twenty-three Indians ani seventy negroes, making a total of four hundred and ninety three,[40]

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37 Letter from Mrs Margaret Coyle Sept. 10, 1930.
38 Commissioners Report of Indian Affairs 1901, P. 138.
39 Pauls Valley Enterprise May 10, 1900.
40 Commissioners Report of Indian Affairs 1901, P. 137.

The white people who moved into the region desired the advantages to which they had been accustomed in their old homes. Until the railroads came distribution of mail was slow and burdensome. When towns grew along the right of ways, mail was brought to them by rail, thus more full and more interesting contacts were made with the world at large.

As villages and towns grew larger and the rural districts were more thickly settled there were enough people to justify and maintain several newspapers in the county. One of the first of these was the Chickasaw Enterprise. The press was loaded on wagons, drawn by oxen, at Denison, Texas and hauled to Pauls Valley. It was unloaded one mile south east of the present town at a place known as the Miller and Green Store, installed in an out building, formerly used as a smoke house, it was put into operation and the place transformed into an office. The paper had a varying career before the century closed; there being a number of different editors and owners, but through all the vicissitudes it survived.[41] Another publication which was begun in this period was The Herald, published for the first time at Wynnewood in 1890.[42] Still another was one started at McGee in 1899 by W. G. Butler. This[43], however, did not survive because the town was moved.

The papers which did continue to be published were a means of enlightment and enjoyment for the citizens in both town and country. In those days there were not so many factors contributing to the entertainment of the people, still life was not dull. Interepersed with the problems of

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41 Pauls Valley Enterprise, Feb. 1, 1906
42 Commissioners Report of Indian Affairs 1890. P. 250.
43 Pauls Valley Enterprise Oct. 12, 1899.

developing the pioneer territory were periods of recreation. There was the joy of visiting friends and relatives, the excitement of the celebration before roundups and the pleasure of association with neighbors at dances and parties. Another social event, considered especially important were the annual picnics. These were held at convenient places during the season when the weather was likely to be fair. Usually procedure was more or less the same each year thus the affair for celebrating Wynnewood's first birthday was typical.

A committee of five men was appointed to see that the picnic grounds were cleared, the invitations sent, the fiddlers employed, a dance platform constructed, beeves provided for barbecue and cooking utensels assembled. When the day came everything was in readiness as invitations had been sent along the Santa Fe, people came from towns and communities at quite a distance. Of the four hundred persons gathered there some were from as far south as Gainesville, Texas and others from as far north as Parsons, Kansas. After Samuel Paul had given the welcome address, the people turned to the savory odors of cooking food. So plentiful was the fish, cornbread, chicken, barbecue and cake prepared by the fifteen negro cooks, that enough was left for the evening meal.[44] This event was important not just for the pleasure of eating good food but because of theopportunity of making interesting contacts with old friends and making new ones and learning of ideas and plans of other communities and districts. The stage had been reached when complete isolation was no longer a physical necessity.

These were changing years indeed. The possibilities of agriculture

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44 Jack Florence, statement Aug. 24, 1930.

brought many people by whose labor a large surplus of farm products resulted. Since transportation facilities were a necessity in disposing of this surplus, railroads were built bringing with them depots, the important nuclei for towns. Because of the demand for the superior training and greater ability of white people as executives in organizing towns, they came in added numbers for this reason as well as in answer to the call of agriculture. With the segregating of people in towns and closely settled communities development took place in every way at a rapid rate.

CHAPTER V

IN A NEW STATE

It was fifteen years from the time of the arrival of the first railroad in the locality, until another was built. Circumstances similar to those prevailing in the first instance were repeated. The rich farming section needed better transportation facilities to bring in manufactured equipment and take away the surplus products. A county with 72,468 acres of corn, 60,000 acres of cotton, 1,825 acres of oats, 671 acres of broom corn, and barley, wheat, grain sorghums, onions, cowpeas, soybeans, hay, vegetables and fruits in relatively large amounts had to have means of disposal.[1] In 1902 a branch line of the Atchison Topeka and Santa Fe was constructed from Pauls Valley to Shawnee,[2] and in the same year this company laid a branch road from Pauls Valley to a point agreed upon in the extreme north west corner of the county, where it was met by the Rock Island from Chickasha.

In December 1901 T. D. Wagner was called from Lawton for the purpose of platting a town at the meeting place of the two roads. When he arrived he found the intended site to be in Lewis Lindsay's cornfield, which contained the remains of luxuriant cornstalks and sunflowers. After the debris was cleared away and he had performed the task for which he had come, the place was called Lindsay for the man who had supplied the land. In January 1902 the Laidlow Lumber Company with C. W. Henry in charge began construction of an office, the first building, and within the next few days other box shacks were built and occupied by business concerns. E. A. Diggs

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1 Biennial Report of the Board of Agriculture 1908, P. 194-5.
2 Mrs. G. G. Terry, Story of Pauls Valley.

of Erin Springs and Bell Walker's Hardware Company of Wynnewood had groceries and hardware for sale; Brooks and Fisher operated a general store and Dad Sanders established the hotel, De Wagner. On July 1, 1902 the first train reached the place and that fall all leading crops were marketed. With this encourging progress having been made, during the following year many substantial homes and business houses were constructed. Within four years after its beginning Lindsay was a flourishing town with banks, schools and churches.[3]

Twelve miles north west of Pauls Valley where the stage stand of Old Beef Creek had been, the railroad officials decided to locate another depot. Williams and Dave Mays donated the land for the purpose, and for the latter the town was named Maysville. As in the case of Lindsay the first buildings were crude shacks made of lumber. These housed John Mays and J. R. Ham with their general merchandise and F. C. Cook who was the first druggist. Gradually other businesses needed to serve the people of the town and trade territory were established, and about 1905 incorporation took place.[4]

The town of Stratford came into existance as a result of the railroad, first known as the Oklahoma Central and later the Santa Fe, being laid across the extreme north east corner of the county just two miles south of McGee. A depot was located and McGee moved en masse to the railroad. The village was first named Walling by the Canadian Valley Construction Company, which bought the land for thesite from Martha Lewis, a Choctaw Indian. When application was made for a post office, it was found

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3 T. D. Wagner, Story of Lindsay
4 J. R. Ham, statement Sept 9, 1930.

another place had the name. The choice of a new one fell upon an Englishman, then working on the railroad, who admired Shakespeare. With this interest in mind he called the town Stratford in honor of Shakespeare's birthplace. The first general store. was established by Santford and Strickland, the first hardware store was owned by w. M. Goodwin and Son, and the first bank, the U. S. Bank was organized by J. M. Bayless, the president and M. F. Bayless, cashier. By the end of the first year five hundred people had arrived and erected temporary shacks in which to live and conduct business. These were soon replaced by good frame and brick buildings. Stratford could not be said to have had a boom, but the rapid movement at the beginning presented the semblance of such a state and gave an excuse for a lawless element. However, responsible citizens were aided by the coming of state hood in ridding the village of undesirable characters.[5] It had a similar effect on other towns and communities as well because it made organization for law enforcement definite and effective.

Statehood was not attained without much thought and effort for there were men who spent their lives building the foundation. The most influential of these in Garvin County was Samuel Paul, who held every national office except that of governor. Several times he went to Washington to represent the interests of the white people, to whom he was always a friend. A contemporary said of him:

"He was progressive , enterprising and far-seeing and the moves made by him upon the political chess board of the Indian Territory have had much to do with the progress and development of this country. It was he

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5 The Star Sept. 15, 1929.

who inaugurated the first move, erected the first finger board, pointing to the expediency, the feasibility and plausibility of statehood. Others took up the game where he left off, and yet it is to him much honor is due."[6]

He could well be interested in the white people because they kept coming by hundreds, seeking new land and new homes. They came so rapidly that a step was taken toward statehood although that was not the immediate goal. There was the possibility of the Indians again being without a home if action was not taken to straighten the tangle of land control. As a result of a movement to allot land to Indians, the Curtis Act was passed in 1898. This provided that all land in the Indian Territory belonging to the Choctaws and Chickasaws be allotted to the members of the two tribes in such a way that each member, so far as possible might have an equal share.[7] In 1900 the Secretary of the Interior had the land surveyed, graded, town sites platted and members of the tribes enrolled by the courts. Announcement of the allotment of Chickasaw land was hailed with a great deal of satisfaction by the whites , because they believed it meant a more orderly and rapid development of the region. The ratification of the Atoka Agreement by the Indians showed that many of them were prepared for a change and approved the allotment.[8] At any rate management of affairs had passed from their hands. In 1899 by order of the Secretary of the Interior leases were no longer controlled by the Chickasaws, but by the Federal Courts.[9] With this and similar cases the Indians realized a change of some kind was imminent. In 1902 an agreement was made which allowed each Indian to have land equal

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6 Paula Valley Enterprise Feb. 1, 1906.
7 U. S. Statutes P. 495
8 Chickasaw Enterprise Mar. 12, 1903.
9 Ibid April 11, 1901.

to 320 acres of average value and a homestead of 120 acres, both inalienable for 21 years. Freedmen, whom the Chickasaws persistently refused to adopt, were granted homesteads of 40 acres each. There were ten different grades of soil from which to choose, ranging in price from fifty cents to six dollars and fifty cents an acre.[10] However, allotment was not a simple matter. Governor Staley, who was in a position to know said:

"To allot the Chickasaw lands is a difficult task. In the first place they hold land in common with the Choctaws. Chickasaws and Choctaws may allot in either Nation. Very few Chickasaws are locating in the Choctaw Nation, but many Choctaws are locating in the Chickasaw Nation. The Indians themselves may not be ahead of the Cherokees, but their country is in a higher state of cultivation. Its fertile valleys-Pauls, Red and Washita are dotted with farms. Perhaps half of these are cultivated by whites, or intermarried citizens. The rest are tilled by high class Chickasaws; the commission had to take in consideration the improvements, as a result there will be more many cornered farms than in any county on the face of the earth."

"Many contests have already been filed over land, for one man will have improvements on a number of quarter sections. Often they sell these several times. Numbers of Choctaws are allotted a small portion of land in the Choctaw country and the rest in the Chickasaw country, then this Chickasaw land is leased to a grafter at a small sum.[11]

In order to be sure each Indian had his share of land the United States Government empowered the commission to choose allotments for indigent Indians and those who refused to make selections. In 1904 the United States Interior Department rule i that Indians minors must have guardians, because ignorant parents were squandering their children's money obtained by sale

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10 Ibid Nov. 6, 1903.
11 Ibid May 28, 1903.

of property.[12] This law resulted in the arrival of inhabitants from every state in the union, wishing to become guardians in order to have control of the land and money. It was found these grafters charged over nineteen per cent of the money handled,[13] while citizens charged three to five per cent.[14]

Even though a number of Choctaws were given land in Garvin County, there were only 791 Indians in a population of 23, 734. The 2,063 negroes were granted land in the southern part of the county and around the towns of Paula Valley , Wynnewood, and Paoli.[15] After all allotment was over for the Territory, 2,000,000 acres remained, most of which was in the Chickasaw and Choctaw Nations. This as well as reserved mineral land was sold at public auction and the proceeds divided among the Indians.[16]

The last Chickasaw Convention had been called in 1904 for the purpose of selecting a group of officers for completing the business of the Chickasaws. Five men were chosen to handle the estate, which was worth millions of dollars. They were ; Governor, Douglas H. Johnston; Secretary, Ludie Johnston; Tribal Interpreter, Eastman Johnston; Mining Trustee, J. H. Willis; and Tribal Attorney, Reford Bond.[17]

June 6, 1906 the Enabling Act, which provided for the Territory of Oklahoma and the Indian Territory adopting a constitution and becoming a state, was passed. The Indian Territory, in order to have a fair election of representatives to the Constitutional Convention, was divided into 55

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12 Chickasaw Enterprise July 7, 1904.
13 Malone, History of the Chickasaw Nation P. 444
14 Mrs. Cora Spain, statement Aug. 17, 1932.
15 Biennial Report of Agriculture 1907-08 P. 194-5.
16 Chickasaw Enterprise July 14, 1904.
17 Malone, History of the Chickasaw Nation P. 506.

districts with approximately 13,000 inhabitants in each.[18] Part of Garvin County was in district 94 where Pauls Valley was the largest town and part in district 95 with Wynnewood the principal center. The representative elected by the people of the latter district was Frank J. Stowe,[19] an Independent. In the Convention he often opened the meetings with a prayer and at one time he acted as chairman of the Committee of the Whole. He likewise gave efficient service when placed on the Committees on Education and on Liquor Traffic.[20]

In district 94 Lasater, a Democrat was elected by a majority of 980 votes over his Republican opponent, E. M. Carr.[21] In the Convention Lasater was chairman of the Committee of Revision. This was a compliment to his merit as a scholar since the work of the committee was of utmost importance. Every phrase, sentence and paragraph of the Constitution came under the scrutiny of the committee and upon the chairman devolved the duty of seeing that the document was a literary work, as well as an organic law. There were other important committee assignments given to him. He was a member of the Committee on Roads and Internal Improvements, on Banks and Banking, Loan, Trust and Guaranty Companies; of Public Institutions; and of Counties and County Bounaries. Fifteen men worked on the last Committee to make the map of Oklahoma.[22]

Milas Lasater favored large counties and was able to secure a large division in the section around Pauls Valley and Wynnewood. This was named Garvin, a name applied to the region in the Sequoyah Convention, in honor of Samuel Garvin,[23] a well known intermarried citizen of Pauls Valley. The Constitutional Convention designated Pauls Valley as the county seat,

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18 Pauls Valley Enterprise July 19, 1906 19 Ibid Aug. 30, 1906.
20 Journal of Constitutional Convention P. 47, 48, 72, 215, 221, 234.
21 Pauls Valley Enterprise Aug. 2, 1906 22 Ibid Dec. 6, 1906
23 Ibid Dec. 29, 1906.

but provided that it could be changed if sixty percent of the voters wished to change it.[24]

Elmore City initiated a county seat fight by circulating a petition asking Governor Haskell to call an election in order to give the people an opportunity to vote on the location of the county seat. Although many people objected , enough people signed the petition and Governor Haskell called for an election June 20, 1908. Inspectors from some other locality were to supervise the election.[25]

Elmore City and Pauls Valley then began extoling their good points. Elmore City stated she had no rich men, but she emphasized the fact that Pauls Valley's streets were often muddy and there was danger of the overflow of Rush Creek and the Washita River at all times.[26] Pauls Valley's good points were given by her citizens: the town was one-tenth of a mile from the center of the county and within two and one-fourth mile of the center of population, railroads ran in four directions, 16,000 of the county's 22,787 inhabitants resided within six miles of a railroad having direct communication with Pauls Valley, the census showed that with 2,157 inhabitants she paid taxes on a property valuation of $1,220,928; she had a good building that could be rented at a reasonable price and when a court house was erected it would cost fifty per cent less than one in Elmore City; the town had a three foot levee to guard against high water and there was money in the bank for a sewerage system, and money had been voted to pave the streets.[27]

Just six weeks before the vote, Wynnewood entered the field, bas-

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24 Ibid Jan. 24, 1907
25 Ibid Feb. 27, 1908.
26 Ibid May 14, 1908.
27 Ibid May 7, 1908.

ing her desirability upon her pure soft water, her high and dry location, her opera house, which could be used as a court house, and the guarantee never to have high water injure county property.[28] It was soon evident the contest lay between Wynnewood and Paula Valley. Debates were held and during the last month each town had forty men in the field campaigning.[29] Since high water in Paula Valley was the main issue , matters were complicated by the worst floods in the history of the county. Near election day the rains grew worse, train service was delayed,[30] and when the election day came people north of town had to go in skiffs, or swim the river in order to reach the polls for Rush Creek and the Washita River had met.[31] Even with adverse circumstances, however, when the ballots were counted the results were Paula Valley 2,004 Wynnewood 1,561 and Elmore 803.[32] With this result Paula Valley staged a celebration; bonfires were built, and Wynnewood, after being given an appropriate funeral service, was buried on Main Street in a beautiful casket covered with flowers.[33]

The first general election was held September 1907 for the purpose of accepting or rejecting the constitution and deciding other questions. The returns showed; for the constitution 3,175 and 899 opposed; for prohibition 2,184 and 1,705 against. Excepting number seven the entire democratic township tickets were chosen. Those elected were: judge, W. B. M. Mitchell; treasurer, J. F. Trimmer; clerk, J. W. Twiggs; sheriff Charles Worley; superintendent of schools, Miss Pearl Bradfield; surveyor, S. E. Neill, weigher, J. J. Rotenberry; attorney, J. D. Mitchell; commissioner,

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28 Wynnewood Republican May 29, 1908.
29 Paula Valley Enterprise June 25, 1908.
30 Ibid July 1, 1908.
31 Jim McClean , statement Aug. 12, 1930.
32 Paula Valley Enterprise July 25, 1908.
33 Pictures owned by Mrs. J. M. Kennedy, Paoli.

J. R. Ham and representative, W. M. Lindsay.[34]

When the constitution was ratified President Roosevelt issued his proclamation which admitted Oklahoma to the Union , Saturday, November 16, 1907. People celebrated the occasion in thetowns by blowing whistles, ringing bells, building bonfires and having an exciting time.[35]

After the excitement had died the people realized that statehood had not relieved them of problems, but had brought new ones. Suitable offices had to be provided for the officials, money had to be obtained,by voting bonds,to erect county buildings and improve roads; and the judicial system had to began operation. Another problem was dividing the county into school districts, electing school boards and voting bonds for supplying school buildings.

Statehood brought many improvments to rural and village schools alike even though some progress had been made. In 1907 there were seventeen subscription schools functioning in Garvin County all inlepenient of any centralized or uniform supervision. Statehood brought system and cooperation. The census of the county was taken , then the area was divided into 38 school districts. After the first year the number of districts were increased to 67.[36] to accommodate the 9,058 children of school age, 809 of whom were negroes. Twenty four new buildings had to be constructed.[37] The County Superintenient, Pearl Bradfield, made and enforced the rule which called for a uniform system of text books. She also demanied that teachers take an examination to secure, at least, a county certificate.[38] With

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34 Pauls Valley Enterprise May 30, 1907
35 Ibid Nov. 21, 1907.
36 Miss Pearl Bradfield, statement Oct. 3, 1930.
37 Superintenient Report for 1908.
38 Miss Pearl Bradfield, statement Oct. 3, 1930.

better equipment, better trained teachers and a centralized system of supervision, uniform text books and taxation for support , the rural schools had the first chance in the history of the county to do efficient work. The towns, which had already made much progress, improved their schools by the erection of new buildings and the installation of better equipment.

In 1909 a school was located four miles south of Pauls Valley on land donated by the citizens of that town,which was neither a rural, nor a city school, but a state school . This was the Training School for boys who were addicted to stealing, burglary, larceny, forgery, or other misdemeanors. After being taken to the school the task was in finding suitable interests and responsibilities for the boys. Through their work the expenses of the place were partly paid and their activities and study were much like that of boys in any of the schools of the county.[39]

The majority of the people were consciencious, lawabiding citizens, and religious organizations moved forward steadily. The new towns; Lindsay, Stratford and Maysville were fields of activity for the various denominations from the time the depots were located and the town platted. The Maysville Methodist church was moved from Old Beef Creek where it was first organized. The other denominations developed new churches and soon had sufficient funds for buildings. Between 1900 and Statehood the Presbyterians located at Lindsay, and Paoli.[40] The older towns had been served by the churches for many years, but as time passed they too had im provments in the way of enlarged membership, better buildings and equipment.

One of the biggest factors in advancing development in schools,

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39 Homer Weeks, Delinquency in the Training School P. 47.
40 J. R. Ham, statement Sept. 9, 1930.

churches and civic life after statehood were better means of communication. The railroads had played a great part in this so far as they could serve the people, but those several miles removed from the lines were at a disadvantage as long as there were only wagon ruts to follow to town. Since voting bonds and paying for them by taxation became possible with statehood this method was used in financing road construction.[41] With roads which were always passable it was possible to go to and fro for church services , elections, personal business, or any matter of importance. Rural mail delivery also became possible.

Through the newspapers it was possible to disseminate interesting and instructive information. Several publications had their beginning in this period. The Democrat, published at Pauls Valley was established by H. M. Carr in 1904. This paper was of help especially to the rural districts because it catered to their interests.[42] Wynnewood had three papers; the New Era, established in 1902 by H. S. Shackleford, The Wynnewood Gazette edited by Tom Fields, and the Wynnewood Republican, which made the county seat fight in behalf of that town, then quit business.[43] Other towns which were newer , but none the less enterprising had their own publications.[44] The Lindsay News came into existance in 1905 with J. L. Avey as editor.[45] Stratford early circulated a paper and Maysville had a newspaper as soon as it was a town.[46] A few of the villages not located on any one of the railroads had their own news sheets, and even though these ordinarily con-

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41 Pauls Valley Enterprose Feb. 15, 1908.
42 R. A. Bigham, statement Oct. 4, 1930.
43 W. E. Showen, statement Oct. 3, 1930.
44 Wynnewood Republican June 26, 1908.
45 Thoburn, History of Oklahoma Vol. IV. P. 1623.
46 W. E. Showen, statement Oct. 3, 1930.

timued only over intermittant periods, they did their part in influencing and directing the opinion of the people.

In this period came the first interest in mineral wealth. In 1901 G. H. Eldridge noted several oil seepages in springs and wells located about twenty-two miles from Wynnewood toward the southeast. Nothing was done in a constructive way until 1915 when Pierce Larkins confirmed the presence of oil and aroused the interest of the McMann Company. Leases were secured which were then sold to the Magnolia Petroleum Company. It was sometime before drilling began, and then the first results were not the production of oil , but gas. The system of leases alone was instrumental in bringing capital to the county.[47]

After the first rush of events following statehood the county settled down to ten years of steady growth and progress. Not only were there new churches, schools, and newspapers, but the towns had water works installed, fire departments organized, sewerage systems laid, electric plants put into operation, and new and better homes and business houses were constructed.

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47 Bulletin No 40K Geology of Garvin County by Robert Dott P. 33-35.

CHAPTER VI

RECENT YEARS

The people of Garvin County had no occasion to be affected by the war in Europe, only as it caused prices to soar, until April of 1917 when the United States entered the conflict. Then it became something very close indeed, because sons, husbands, and fathers had to register, thus making known their abilities and disabilities likely to aid of hinder them in military action. The examinating physicians were W. E. Settle and E. E. Norvell of Wynnewood and H. N. Lindsay and G. S. Johnson of Pauls Valley. The members of the exemption board were Ira Mitchell, H. P. Wilson, and J. T. Blanton.[1]

Although a number of men volunteered in the first part of the war the draft took thegreater number. In June of 1917 when registration took place, there were 2,666 men in the county within the age limits for active duty. Only a short time elapsed before the first group , made up of 266 men, was called. When they were mobilized to entrain for Camp Travis, a great ovation was accorded them by the people of Wynnewood and by friends and families gathered to see them leave. The school children, six hundred strong, marched by waving flags and singing songs, and the citizens added their wishes and prayers for a safe return.[2]

In addition to the 266 men , there were 43 more white men and thirty-six negroes, who later received the summons to go. As so often has been the case in war they did not all return. On the roll of the nine-

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1 New Era Aug. 2, 1917 and July 11, 1918.
2 Ibid Sept. 20, 1917 and Mar. 28, 1918.

teen young men who died in service[3] were the names of:

Corporal Cecil R. Secor	Wynnewood
P. E. Carter	"
Clayton Miligan	"
Bob Terrell	"
R. Y. Price	"
W. W. Crump	"
James Yarbraugh	"
William J. Campbell	"
George W. Cooper	Stratford
Ira Lewis	"
Burney Blankenship	Pauls Valley
Verna Harris	"
Jesse L. Colson	"
Ira Hurt	"
Tom P. Humphries	Elmore City
Roy Borders	"
Harry Roy	Paoli
Odes O. Jones	Antioch
Corporal William H. Ball	Lindsay

The county over subscribed her quota in the four liberty loans, war saving stamps, and all Red Cross drives, thus showing her financial strength as well as the spirit of her citizens.[4] After the war closed and the boys returned home much excitement prevailed when 15,000 people took part in a celebration.

The spirit of jubilation did not last, after the excitement died a feeling of unrest prevailed and a change in economic conditions showed itself. As in other wars the aftermath, as well as the actual conflict, brought sacrifice and hardship. A depression came, which struck a hard blow at the farming sections of the country.. Cotton and other farm products came down, before the wage scale was affected, making it impossible to realize a profit on the crops gathered by hired laborers. Many acres, especially cotton, were plowed under and left to decay for soil enrichment.

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3 Ibid April 24, 1919.
4 Pauls Valley Enterprise Oct. 10, 1918.

However, the economic cycle remained in an unfavorable position only a short time following the World War and life soon moved on in the ordinary way. Land owners began to realize that soil enrichment was becoming a necessity as a result of erosion and failure to rotate crops. It was well that the need was recognized in time, since the drain on mineral content would have eventually exhausted the supply. By terracing rolling land, by crop rotation and by diversification many acres were kept in good condition. Still, many acres were not saved as there were 500 abandoned farms in 1930, and sixty-six per cent of the other farms were cultivated by tenants.[5]

In the decade after the World War, alfalfa, which did not deplete the soil, became an important asset to the locality. In 1930 R. C. Kennedy had 600 acres, T. G. Mays 400 acres, Stewart and Longmire 500 acres and many others had smaller plots, which made the total 10,000 acres. Regularly each year five cuttings were removed , making from three to six tons per acre.

Another crop of importance was broom corn with an unusually heavy yield in the vicinity of Lindsay, the largest market in the county. This town shipped 428 tons in 1928 and Pauls Valley shipped a number of tons the same year. Other field and garden crops, grown in an earlier day, continued to be produced. Many kinds of fruit were grown as well as the native pecans which were improved in value by 50,000 buds from good quality trees.

In the live stock phase of farming, dairy cattle took precedence

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5 Pauls Valley Chamber of Commerce Report for 1930.

over beef stock, although both were improved greatly by proper feeding. Improvement was also made by the importation of pure bred stock, especially registered bulls of which there were fifty in 1930. The dairy herds had increased until there were 6,000 head in the county. The value of milk and cream increased from $ 30,000 in 1921 to $300,000 in 1928. With better feed, better housing, and better quality stock, the dairy cows showed a decided increase per animal in milk and cream supply and the beef cattle produced more weight on the food consumed.

Poultry received more attention during this period than had previously been accorded it. The practice of having an annual poultry show at Pauls Valley was begun in an effort to improve the stock and keep up interest. As a result the value of the products of poultry increased from $300,000 in 1921 to ove half a million in 1928.

One of the most influential factors in helping to improve conditions i in rural communities was agricultural clubs. The work was begun by Lee who conducted a demonstration farm. In 1917 Felts was appointed county agent and began the organization of 4H Clubs. The work was carried on by Gray, Hawkins and Waldby. Home demonstration work was begun in 1918 and carried on through the supervision of five agents; Moore, Ware, Gantry, Martin and Smith. The clubs are organized in the school districts and supervised by the county anl demonstration agents. Each club holds regular meetings at the school house under the supervision of a teacher. Several times a year each club is visited by the agents, who give the members instructions and literature published by the A. & M. College and the United

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6 Pauls Valley Enterprise Jan 31, 1929 and Pauls Valley Democrat Oct. 2, 1930.

States Department of Agriculture. With this supervision and help the boys and girls undertook many different projects; the boys' interest going more to rural engineering, bee culture, raising poultry, pigs, sheep, beef cattle and dairy cows; as well as the production of field crops such as cotton corn, grain sorghums small grains and legumes. On the other hand the girls' attention went to sewing, cooking, home improvement, yard improvement, poultry raising and health work. Some of the girls were quite successful. Katherine Boren took second prize in both state and nation in 1928 in the better dress contest. In 1929 Vera Hatcher and Nellie Mae Parkey won second prize in the Saint Louis dairy show, and in 1930 Lance Spradlin brought second prize, for the better dress contest, again to Garvin County. The value of the club work was proved more conclusively by the number interested than any other way. In 1930 there were seventeen clubs for whites and one for negroes with numbers totaling 236 boys and 269 girls.

Each year district fairs were held at Stratford, Wynnewood and Lindsay and the county fair at Pauls Valley. For the farm, home and school products exhibited, prizes were prepared for the best article in each class and the prize winners were sent to the state fair at Oklahoma City.[7]

The farms determined, to a great extent the type of industries which could operate in the towns profitably. In 1930 there were 35 gins located in various towns and at least one hatchery and two or more produce houses in every town. In addition Pauls Valley had a mattress factory, ice cream plant, grain elevator, flour mill, two feed mills and a $50,000 plant, with a capacity of three tons per hour for making alfalfa meal.

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7 Waldby and Martin, county agent and home demonstrator, Reports for 1929 and part of 1930.

There were a few industries in Pauls Valley which did not depend upon the farms for existence. These were an iceplant, bit and spur factory, bottling works and two pumping stations operated by the Prairie and the Sinclair Companies. In 1916 Wynnewood succeeded in persuading the Texas Pacific Coal and Oila Company to locate a refinery there, which was the largest industry in town. Garvin County also had its own gas and oil field whose products had to be marketed. In 1920 the Magnolia Petroleum Company discovered gas in the Robertson field located in the southeast section of the county . Later in the year a large well was brought in and others begun in order to increase the volume to reliable commercial quantity. In 1921 when oil was found a drilling campaign was instrumental in bringing in two wells making 8,000 barrels daily. To care for the supply in the new field three pumping stations were built, the two at Pauls Valley and one at Brady. Five pipe lines were laid and a 3,000 barrel refinery was installed at Wynnewood. With this impetus the time soon came when the field reached its peak of production. Gradually the supply decreased in volume until the flow amounted to only 2,000 barrels a day.[8]

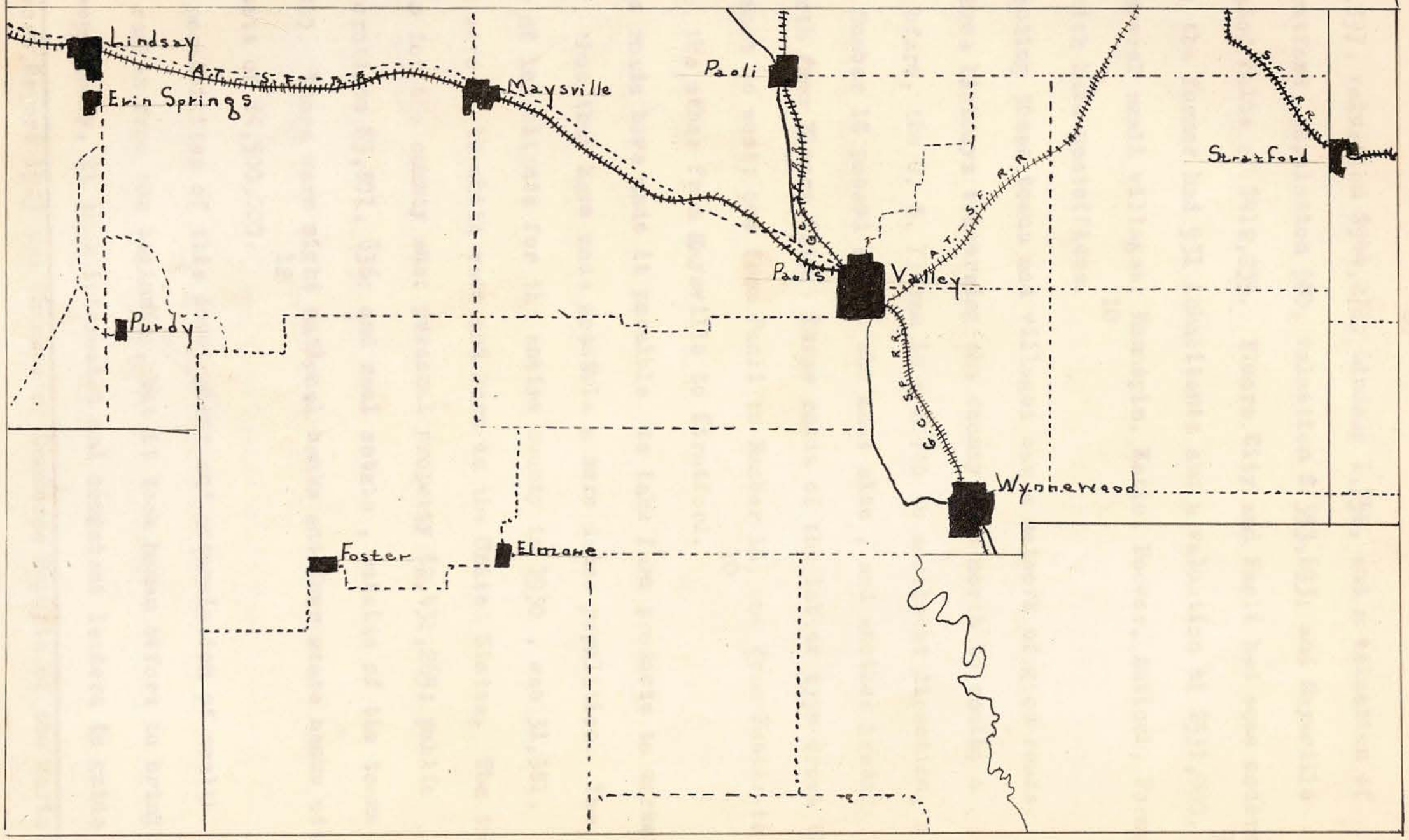
The towns not only had a number of industries, but they also had public utility corporations and other improvements depending upon their size and wealth. Pauls Valley, Wynnewood, Stratford, Lindsay, and Maysville had electric lights, gas waterworks, sewerage system, ice plants and varying amounts of paved streets and concrete sidewalks. The population and property valuation of this group of towns in 1930 were: Pauls Valley having a population of 4,223 and a per capita wealth of $570:90,; Wynnewood

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8 Bulletin No 40 K Geology of Garvin County by Robert Dott P. 33-35.

MAP OF GARVIN COUNTY - OKLAHOMA

TOWNS AND ROADS



population 1,897, valuation $944,278; Lindsay 1,756, and a valuation of $980,000; Stratford, population 980, valuation $ 353,693; and Maysville with an assessed value of $412,239. Elmore City and Paoli had some modern improvements; the former had 931 inhabitants and a valuation of $531,000.[9] There were several small villages; Hennepin, Katie, Hoover, Antioch, Pernell and Brady, which have postoffices.[10]

Connecting these towns and villages was a network of good roads. There were three highways traversing the county from north to south; a paved thoroughfare, the U. S. 77 ran in a north to southeast direction, a graded road, Number 18 passed across the east side , and another graded one went north from Elmore City. Three roads of the latter type cross the county from east to west; one from Paoli to Number 18, one from Foster to Wynnewood and the other from Maysville to Stratford.[10]

These roads have made it possible to take farm products to market very cheaply, thus they have made possible a more dense population. The total number of inhabitants for the entire county in 1930 , was 31,381, most of whom were of th white race and born in the United States. The total valuation for the county was: personal property $2,431,265; public service corporations $3,807, 636; and real estate , outside of the towns was $9,152,800. There were eight national banks and four state banks with combined assets of $4,500,000.[12]

The possibilites of this development and accumulation of wealth were in the region from the beginning, but it took human effort to bring it forth, and especially, it took interested and competent leaders to guide

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9 Tax Assessors Report 1929 and Chamber of Commerce Reports of the various towns.
10 Oklahoma Almanac 1930, P. 145.
11 Lindsay, Map of Garvin County.
12 Pauls Valley, Chamber of Commerce Economic Survey for 1930.

and direct the thoughts and activities of the people. The county was fortunate in having men who could take the responsibilities which had to be faced in connection with local, county, state and national affairs.

The people of the county, as a rule have shown good judgment in their choice of county officials and when one proved his worth he was reelected many times, as evidenced by J. W. Harris who has been on the pay roll since statehood. Likewise their state representatives were worthy of the confidence bestowed upon them. The men who filled this place were; W. M. Lindsay, J. J. Rotenberry, O. W. Patchell, Joe Edwards, W. B. M. Mitchell, C. J. Murray , L. Dabeny, J. B. Gibson, James Thompson and Homer Paul.[13] The senatorial district composed of Garvin, McClain and Cleveland County, has been served by three men from Garvin County. They were H. S. Blair, Katie; J. B. Thompson, Pauls Valley; and Mac Q Williamson, Pauls Valley.[13]

Three United States Congressmen made their home in Garvin County. J. B. Thompson of Pauls Valley was serving his term as Representative from the fifth district at the time of his death in Washington, September 25, 1919. He had been in public service since before Statehood and had worked faithfully for the good of the people. While in the United States Congress he was considered one of the most progressive members, his time being spent in an effort to secure aid for the farmers, and it was to his credit that he helped form and push through the Farm Credit Bill, passed during Wilson's administration.[14] Scott Ferris of Pauls Valley served one term in the House. F. B. Swank, who grew to man hood at old Beef Creek, was reelected in 1930, after having served several terms.[15]

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13 Thoburn , History of Oklahoma Vol II. P930. and Pauls Valley Enterprise Nov. 6, 1930.
14 Ibid March 28, 1919.
15 Ibid Sept 29 and Nov. 6, 1930.

Another factor which had a great deal of influence in directing opinion was the presence of the newspapers of the region. They served as an intermediary between the representatives and those represented, giving public approval or disapproval of proposed acts and measures, thus helping forward a better understanding of the needs and problems of all concerned. Several publications were still supported in 1930, after having been in existence since before statehood. These were: in Pauls Valley, The Pauls Valley Enterprise, published by W. M. Erwin, and the Democrat, edited by R. A. Bigham and Jim Alexander; in Wynnewood, theNew Era, controlled by W. E. Showen and the Wynnewood Gazette, owned by J. N. Squires; in Stratford, The Star, published by P. B. Watrus; in Maysville, the Maysville News, owned by W. E. Showen ; and in Lindsay, the Lindsay News, published by J. L. Avey. With the exception of the last named each of these papers changed editors and owners, some of them several times, during the years between the date of their establishment and 1930.[16] Even with changing owners, changing times, and changing conditions the people continued to realize the value and importance of this method of disseminating news. Only with the support of the majority of the citizens could this number of papers within a small area managed to exist, much less had any degress of success.

The support of the greater part of the people was essential to advancement in any way. The efficiency of the public schools depended upon the hearty cooperation of all concerned. There were seven independent districts in the county; Pauls Valley, Wynnewood, Lindsay, Maysville, Stratford, Elmore City, and Paoli. Each system had suitable high school

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16 Statement of the various editors of the papers mentioned.

buildings,containing the proper equipment,and employed well trained teachers. Thus the schools greatly enriched the lives of the people. However, in spite of the cooperation of the people , the grade work in some of the rural districts did not compare favorably with that done in the towns, because the former were handicapped by lack of funds for replacing small buildings, adding new equipment, and supplying trained teachers. For the 5,263 grade pupils and 406 high school pupils in rural and consolidated schools 161 teachers were employed with an average annual salary of $773:00. This salary scale was below that of the town systems. The first trials proved, that a step in the right direction was taken when schools began to consolidate: with the combined resources of several districts more fully equipped buildings and better trained teachers were possible; furthermore the farm children no longer found it necessary to leave home in order to attend high school, for most of the children were near enough to one of these six rural high schools to attend. The rural high schools were; Florence Chapel, Pernell, Union Springs, White Bead, and Consolidated Numbers one and three.[1]

Each year both rural and town schools had a chance to cooperate in the annual literary track and literary meet, and the basket ball tournament gave the chance for friendly rivalry. Prizes in all contests were much coveted and well worth winning.

As more wealth came to the region the people found it possible by working together to have larger and more attractive church buildings. In 1929 the Methodist was the strongest denomination in the county. It had churches at Paoli, Stratford, Lindsay, Maysville, White Bead, Pauls Valley,

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[1] Pauls Valley Enterprise Jan. 29, 1929.

Elmore City, and Wynnewood with a combined membership of 2,160 and buildings valued at $99,300. Some of the ministers held regular services in communities where churches had not been built.[18] The Baptist had churches at Pauls Valley, Wynnewood, Maysville, Elmore City, Robertson, Love, Story, Paoli, and Katie.[19] Of the other denominations there were: the Presbyterians at Pauls Valley, Wynnewood, and Lindsay; the Christians at Elmore City, Stratford, Wynnewood, and Pauls Valley; the Church of Christ at Lindsay, Maysville, Paoli, and Pauls Valley; the Holiness at Lindsay, Stratford, and Paoli; the Primitive Baptist at Elmore City; and the Nazarene and Episcopal churches at Pauls Valley.[20] All these exert an influence for good, for most of the citizens find time to attend churche services.

While the social life in the rural communities centered almost entirely around the church and school, this was not true of the towns, for each one had it lodges, chamber of commerce and boy scout organizations, and various federated and local clubs. As cars were numerous, ball games, circuses, swimming pools, and picture shows were patronized by the young people in the towns and in the rural districts, while singing conventions and picnics were enjoyed by people of all ages.

Nearly a century has passed since the Chickasaws first came to the region known as Garvin County, and found there "A Happy Hunting Ground," and an ideal place to make home for themselves and children far removed

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18 1929 Minutes of the Methodist Church.
19 J. B. Reaves, statement Sept. 10, 1930.
20 G. E. Spradlin, statement Aug. 20, 1930, and Reports of the chamber of commerce of the various towns.

ffrom the haunts of the white man. However, their dream of a powerful nation composed of and controlled by Indians was shattered when daring, ambitious, young white men, entered the Territory, married Indian maidens and turned the wilderness into a cattle country. The range in its turn gave way to the plow of the farmer. The crude shacks of the pioneer have been converted into comfortable farm homes, his small fields have been enlarged until the vivid green of alfalfa and fields of corn, cotton and grains cover the entire county. Schools and churches have been built, roads have been improved, until excellent highways reach many parts of the county.

Through all these struggles and achievements the Indian has borne his full share of the burden. He has sent his children to high school and college, while many public offices have been filled with men of Indian blood. The great natural resources of the county combined with the aggressive spirit of her citizens causes her to look forward to a future greater and more useful than her glorious and historic past.

Appendix

Walter Jackson Harris has the honor of being on the pay roll of Garvin County longer than any other official, as he has held office since statehood. He was born October 14, 1877, in Rome, Georgia, the son of Joseph F. and Elizabeth Harris. He was educated in the high school and a commercial college in his native city.

He began his career as a bookkeeper and stenographer in the Tecumseh Iron works in Tecumseh, Alabama. After a short time he came to Oklahoma and located at Pauls Valley, where he was employed by S. J. Garvin and later by A. J. Hullum. In 1905 he engaged in business for himself at Maysville, until he had a disastrous fire. He then returned to Pauls Valley and was soon elected as Register of Deeds. He is a man of integrity and ability and enjoys the confidence of the people of his community. He enjoys outdoor recreation, hunting being his favorite pastime.[2]

Another popular official of Garvin County is Judge Joe A. Edwards. He has served as alderman and mayor of the city.[3] He has served his county in the capacity of representative and county judge, the office he now holds.[4] He was born May 2, 1859 in Etowah County, Alabama. He was educated in his native state. Migrated to Texas, where he was a member of the board of examiners to admit candidates to the bar in Cooke and Montague counties. Afterwards he taught school in Cooke County, Texas, Elk, Indian Territory, and McGee, Indian Territory. He was licensed to practice

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1 Enterprise July 17, 1930.
2 Hill, History of Oklahoma P. 67-8.
3 Pauls Valley Enterprise July 17, 1930.
4 Hill, History of Oklahoma P. 74.

law in the United States courts and in the courts of the five civilized tribes.

A man of intellectual ability and scholarly attainments he first became noted as an educator, and later was widely known as a successful juige.[5]

C. F. Worley, whose death occurred recently, was for many years a popular sheriff in Garvin County.[6] He was the son of John C. Worley, a ranchman, who came to the Chickasaw Nation in 1873, when Charles was one year old.

Reared on a ranch he early assisted in various labors incidental to agricultural pursuits. In 1895 he was made deputy marshall of the United States courts, with headquarters at Purcell and Paula Valley. At the expiration of his term of office he ran a bakery and confectionery establishment. Although he served as sheriff and engaged in the hardware business he made his bakery a success. March 19, 1899 , Mr. Worley married Etta Hughes of Pauls Valley.[7]

Miss Pearl Bradfield held the office of county superintendent eight years. With the exception of these eight years and two years spent teaching at Harley Academy, Tishomingo, she has been connected with the Wynnewood schools since 1890.[8]

She was born and reared on a farm in Hopkins County, Texas.. She received her early education in the Bradfield School, which was named in

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5 Hill, History of Oklahoma P. 74.
6 Mr. R. L. Spradlin, statement Aug 30, 1930.
7 Hill, History of Oklahoma P. 81.
8 Miss Sallie Bradfield Sept. 24, 1930.

honor of her father. She graduated from Central College, Sulphur Springs, Texas. She taught her first school near her country home, and was employed in the public schools of Sulphur Springs, until she came to Wynnewood. She is a woman of culture and poise. She is progressive in thought and efficient in her work.[9]

Frank J. Stowe was born in Lickport, Illinois, May 11, 1868. He spent his boyhood on a farm, for his father was a farmer. He attended school more or less regularly, while helping with the farm work. He had an ambition for an education, so he went to Boston Massachusetts, where he worked as an apprentice in a wholesale jobbing house. He attended school in Boston and graduated at Emerson College in 1895. In addition to his school work he worked in the missions and slums of the city.

After graduation he became a teacher in the college at Waynesburg, Pennsylvania. Later he spent eight years as a student and teacher in Cumberland University at Lebanon, Tennessee. His regular pastorate was at Murfreesboro, Tennessee. In 1907 Mr. Stowe came to Wynnewood, where he served as pastor of the Presbyterian Church and president of Indianola College.[10] Since that time he has served as pastor of several churches; Purcell, Blackwell, and Maywood Church, Oklahoma City.[11]

While at Wynnewood he was sent as an independent to the Constitutional Convention from district 95. He was a member of the liquor traffic and educational committees.[12]

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9 Hill, History of Oklahoma P.83.
10 Thoburn, Standard History of Oklahoma P. 1984.
11 Mrs. Jim Lawerance, statement Oct. 3, 1930.
12 Journal of Constitutional Convention P. 202.

Milas Lasater, as a member of the Constitutional Convention from district 94, impressed his ideas upon the law of the state, for he was a member of several important committees and was chairman of the committee that wrote the constitution.

He was born in Palo Pinto County, Texas, 1872. His father was a pioneer and first judge of that county. Milas was reared on a cattle ranch. He was educated in the public schools of Texas and Tennessee, and in De-
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Pauw University, Indiana.

Coming from college as a teacher at Wynnewood, Indian Territory, in 1892, he soon engaged in cattle raising near Pauls Valley. In 1905 he purchased an interest in the First National Bank of Pauls Valley and became an active executive officer. Three years later he purchased The Democrat, which he edited until 1913. For several years he was supervisor of the agencies for the Equitable Life of New York, with jurisdiction over Oklahoma and Kansas.

Wherever Mr. Lasater lived he was always active in social and club life of the community. Still, he found time to devote to public service. He was a member of the Constitutional Convention, a member of Oklahoma's first text book commission, a member of the first board of control of the State Training School, and was Oklahoma second insurance commissioner. In 1917 he became a director of the Federal Land Bank of Wichita, and two years later became president of the same institution, a position he held until his death, which occurred March 11, 1929.

The following is a statement made by his fellow workmen.

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13 Thoburn, History of Oklahoma Vol. III P. 1899.

"Milas Lasater consumed his life in the building of the Federal Land Bank of Wichita. He brought to the presidency of the bank a background of wide experience in various lines, all having a bearing on the work which confronted him. This experience was fortified by rare intelligence, and analytical mind of the highest order, and superb courage which admitted no obstacles as insurmountable. His every thought and sole ambition was to develop and maintain the bank in a sound position while serving to the utmost the financial needs of farmers and stockmen of Colorado, Kansas, New Mexico, and Oklahoma.

The feeling of all who came into contact with him is voiced by the statement of one in a position of great responsibility in the Federal Farm Loan System, who said; 'It is hard to believe that our mutual friend is no more. He was one of the very best men it has been my pleasure to encounter in the work which I undertook almost two years ago. One never had any doubt as to where Lasater stood. He was always intelligent and always courageous.'"[14]

At Pauls Valley Mr. Lasater met and wedded Miss Sarah Waite, whose father, Thomas Waite, was a pioneer settler of this section and whose mother was a member of the Chickasaw tribe of Indians. Mrs. Lasater is a woman of education and culture and has devoted much of her life to the education of their daughters, Corinne and Carol.[15] Mrs. Lasater resides in Pauls Valley.[16] Corinne is employed by the Valley Abstract Company.

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14 A pamplet by the Federal Land Bank of Wichita entitled Milas Lasater Built an Enduring Monument.
15 Thoburn, History of Oklahoma Vol III P. 1900.
16 Corinne Lasater , statement Sept. 12, 1930.

Mac Q. Williamson was reared in Pauls Valley. He received his education in the schools of his home city and at the University of Oklahoma. He was made county attorney and ranked among the strongest prosecutors of the state. He did his bit in the World War, as he volunteered among the first. Being elected to the senate, he was made president pro tem. For a number of years he has successfully practiced law at Pauls Valley. Being an entertaining speaker, he is in demand as an after dinner speaker.[17]

Smith Paul of Scotch-Irish descend was born in New Bern, North Carolina May 27, 1809. While still a lad he ran away from home to the Chickasaws in Mississippi. With these he came to the Chickasaw Nation in 1838.[18] He and T. F. Waite settled in the valley, which bears his name.

The soil being very fertile, he furnished corn to the United States government for the soldiers at Fort Arbuckle and Fort Sill. He often sold as much as 80,000 bushels at one time. The price of the corn was often one dollar per bushel. In this way he became a rich man, although not a millionaire. He planted forty acres of fruit. He also had hundreds of head of cattle and hogs.

He was a man who loved comfort, but did not care for finery.[19] As early as 1872 he built a substantial home of native rock, which was known as the "Paul Mansion." It was an excellent home then, although today it is only an average size bungalow, since the top has been removed.[20]

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17 Pauls Valley Enterprise Dec. 2, 1926.
18 Letter received from Bryan Paul New Bern N. C. Sept. 9, 1930.
19 Mrs. Jennie Edwards, statement Aug. 24, 1930.
20 Mrs. G. G. Terry and Mr. W. H. Paul, statement Aug. 22, 1930.

Soon after coming to the Nation he married Ellen McClure, a widow,[21] the mother of Hon. T. A. McClure. To this union were born three children;[22] Jesse, Samuel, and Pippie. His wife died in 1874.[23] A few years later he married Annie Lilly, a white girl. With her he went to Santa Barbarba, California.[24] To this union were born three boys and one girl.

Later he returned to Garvin County and died at White Bead August 19, 1893. He was buried in a rock tomb in Pauls Valley's old graveyard. The monument on his tomb bears this inscription.

"He was the first to make this Valley yield of its wealth."[25]

Trippie Paul married William Hull in 1872. For years he cultivated thirteen hundred acres of the finest land in the Washita Valley.[26] After her husband's death Mrs. Hull went to California, where she still resides.[27] Mr. and Mrs. Hull gave their children excellent educational advantages. They sent their eldest daughter, Miss Tamsie, to a seminary in Liverpool. She was the only young lady among the Chickasaws who was educated in the Old World.[28] She married Mr. Clayton and resides near Pauls Valley,[29] where she is well known.

Samuel Paul followed in his father's footsteps and became a prominent and influential citizen.[30] He too was a farmer and stock raiser.

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21 O'Beirne, Leaders and Leading Men of the Choctaws and Chickasaws P. 308
22 W. H. Paul, statement Aug. 22, 1930.
23 Tombstone in Pauls Valley's graveyard.
24 Gideon, History of the Indian Territory P. 786.
25 Tombstone in Pauls Valley's graveyard.
26 O'Beirne, Leaders and Leading Men of the Choctaws and Chickasaws P. 314.
27 W. H. Paul, statement Aug. 22, 1930.
28 O'Beirne, Leaders and Leading Men of the Choctaws and Chickasaws P. 314
29 Mrs. W. G. Kimberlin, statement Aug. 28, 1930.
30 Gideon, History of the Indian Territory P. 786.

One of his sources of income was the leasing of lots, as he controlled the town site of Pauls Valley.[31] Unlike his father he took a great interest in politics. He held every office in the Chickasaw legislature, except that of governor. He at one time made the race for that office, but was defeated, for most of his supporters were disfranchised. He was ever the friend of the white man and did every thing in his power to advance their interest.[32] He had a great influence in securing the allotment of lands.[33]

Falling heir to a large fortune early in life, and being generous and liberal, he acquired habits of extravagance, but his most pronounced trait was an utter contempt for danger. Through his impetuousity of disposition he committed some errors which set the wagging tongue of scandal in motion more than once.[34]

He was married three times and had six children. He died December 19, 1891 at the age of forty-six. He was buried in Pauls Valley's old graveyard.[35]

W. H. Paul, son of Samuel Paul, was born at Pauls Valley in 1870. He was educated in the schools of White Bead, Tishomingo, and at Austin College. He was a ranchman until 1903 when he entered the real estate firm of Eybarger, Moore and Company. Having worked for them a number of years he engaged in business for himself.

He married Victoria Bosser. Five children were born to this un-

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31 Mrs. G. G. Terry, statement Aug. 29, 1930.
32 O'Beirne, Leaders and Leading Men of the Choctaws and Chickasaws P.282.
33 Pauls Valley Enterprise Feb. 1, 1906.
34 O'Beirne, Leaders and Leading Men of the Choctaws and Chickasaws P. 282.
35 Tombstone at Pauls Valley.

ion.[36] For several years Mr. Paul was afflicted by dropsy, which caused his death which occurred at Pauls Valley September 21, 1930. One of his sons, Haskell, is employed by the land department of the state. Another son, Homer, is now serving the third term in the legislature as a representative from Garvin County.[37]

Samuel J. Garvin , for whom the county was named, was for years a prominent ranchman and merchant in this county. He was born in Fleming County, Kentucky January 28, 1846. He migrated to Missouri, then to Denver, Colorado. At Bent's Fort he joined the Confederate Army. He was soon taken prisoner and put into the quartermaster's department of the Union Army. After the war he continued to work for the government and was sent to Fort Arbuckle in 1867.[38]

Soon after coming to the Territory, he became interested in the cattle business. He first located on the Little Washita, but later removed to White Bead. He purchased James Rennie's brand and mercantile business in that town. He opened branch houses at Beef Creek and Paoli. His ranching business soon brought handsome returns, for he collected large herds. He also had over two thousand acres in cultivation.[39] When the railroad came through Pauls Valley, he engaged in the mercantile business at that place, as well as at Rush Springs and Purdy. He became vice president of the First National Bank at Pauls Valley. Before his death he sold his interest to the Hart Drug Company.

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36 Hill, History of Oklahoma Vol. II P. 81.
37 Pauls Valley Enterprise Sept. 25, 1930.
38 Gideon, History of the Indian Territory P. 618.
39 O'Beirne, Leaders and Leading Men of the Choctaws and Chickasaws P.44.

He married Miss Susan Moncrief. To them five children were born. Mrs Garvin still resides in Pauls Valley and enjoys the wealth left her by Mr. Garvin.

Canada furnished her share of the leaders of Pauls Valley, for the Rennies came from Toronto, Canada. James Rennie was born there November 3, 1846. Having acquired his education at Hamiliton, he engaged in the mercantile business in his native country. Accumulating a few hundred dollars he disposed of his business and went to New York City. For a while he held a position in Stewart's store, then he resigned to accept a better salary offered by the New York Central Railroad. After three years he came to Tishomingo, where he remained a few months working for his brother.[40] In 1875 he engaged in the mercantile business at White Bead Hill. He was able to get a postoffice with himself appointed as postmaster. When railroad was built, he secured a good location from Mr. Samuel Paul, and moved his business to that town.[41] Here he took contracts for freighting and furnishing supplies to the government at Fort Sill and Fort Reno.

All this time Mr. Rennie was engaged in the cattle business, for he had married a Choctaw maiden and controlled a ranch about ten miles square at White Bead Hill. Cattle went down with a crash, carrying away his fortune. He sold his mercantile business and paid his local creditors and settled satisfactorily with all his creditors.[42]

In the succeeding years he held the office of postmaster, and built a splendid business in insurance agencies, at one time represent-

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40 Gideon, History of Indian Territory P. 618 and 235.
41 Pauls Valley Enterprise Aug. 29, 1901.
42 Gideon, History of the Indian Territory P. 235.

ing eighteen different companies. Also he was the controlling stockholder and manager of the Pauls Valley and Ada Telephone Company. He was active, energetic, and generous to a fault. He was one of the organizers of the Episcopal Church at Pauls Valley.

His first wife was a member of the Choctaw Nation. To them were born two children, Hazel and George. In 1887 he married Nannie Hutchins of Lawrence, Kansas, who was teaching at Pierce Institute.[43] She now resides at Chickasha, Oklahoma.[44] Mr. Rennie died in 1901.

His son served in the World War as an aviator. He followed that profession a few months after the war. He resided on a farm near White Bead until his death which occurred suddenly November 27, 1930.[45]

Albert Rennie, born and educated in Canada, came to this section in 1883. For six years he engaged in the cattle business. Then he began the practice of law at Purcell. In that town and at Ardmore he practiced law until 1895, when he became a resident of Pauls Valley, where he still resides. He is a prominent and able representative of the legal profession. He thoroughly understands law and is forceful in his arguments before judge and jury. He was the secretary of the first Republican territorial organization and he has always retained an important position on committees. In times past he held the office of United States Commissioner.

In 1893 he married Miss Laura Mathews, a daughter of Hon. A. D. Mathews of Ardmore. To them have been born four children; Albert M. Gertrude, Melville, and Florence.

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43 Pauls Valley Enterprise Aug. 29, 1901.
44 Mr. George Rennie, statement Aug. 14, 1930.
45 Pauls Valley Enterprise Dec. 3, 1930.

He holds membership in several lodges.[46] For nearly half a century he has been a prominent factor in public life in Pauls Valley, Indian Territory and Oklahoma and has left the impress of his individuality upon many lines of progress. He is still actively engaged in the practice of his chosen profession.[47]

Mr. Tom Grant was born in Georgetown, Scott County, Kentucky, February 17, 1831. He was educated in his native state. In 1849 he immigrated to Texas, and four years later to Fort Arbuckle. That fall he married a Chickasaw maiden and engaged in the cattle business on a large scale. He also engaged in the mercantile business on an extensive scale, as well as being postmaster and assistant postmaster for over a quarter of a century. He was a director and stockholder of the First National Bank of Pauls Valley for many years. He belonged to several lodges. He made friends easily and no man was better known or more highly esteemed than Mr. Grant.

His first wife was Mary Jane Love, a daughter of Benjamin Love, a prominent member of the Chickasaw Nation. She died and in 1872 he married Margaret S. Howell a member of the Choctaw tribe of Indians. By the first marriage there were seven daughters, all of whom died many years ago, and one son. By his second wife he had two sons C. M. and Tom.

Tom Grant resided at the old homestead at Fort Arbuckle many years. C. M. was educated in Sherman and Gainesville, Texas. Throughout his business career he has been engaged in agricultural pursuits. He married and located at Wynnewood, where he erected an attractive home.[48]

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46 Gideon, History of the Indian Territory P. 424.
47 " " " " " and personal knowledge.
48 " " " " P. 239 and 630.

C. J. Grant was the son of Tom Grant by his first wife. He was educated in the school of experience, while still a boy he began carrying the mail from Fort Arbuckle to Miller and Green's store at Pauls Valley. After three years as a mail carrier, he began to clerk for Miller and Green. With the exception of one year at school he grew to manhood in this store. While in the store he saved enough to engage in the cattle business, which soon failed, so he returned to his old position. In two years he bought a half interest and the next year he bought the other half, which he sold to Thomas H. Martin.[49] He continued in this business until 1893, when he organized the Mercantile and Banking Company which later merged with the Bank of Pauls Valley. This institution continued until the First National Bank was organized with C. J. Grant as president.[50]

In 1898 he was appointed treasurer of the Chickasaw Nation and helped frame a supplementary treaty to the Atoka Agreement. With Garvin and Kimberlin he built a court house which they rented to the United States Government for many years. He also engaged in the cattle business. Although he was a very busy man, he found time to devote to his duties of citizenship and to support any measures calculated to prove of public benefit.

He was the first one married in the new Pauls Valley. He married Miss Carrie L. Witten and to them have been born four children; Calvin, Thomas, Mattie, and Nora. Mrs. Grant died and two years later he also died, March 17, 1905.[51] For a number of years Froman Calvin Grant

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49 Pauls Valley Enterprise Mar. 19, 1905.
50 Gideon, History of the Indian Territory P. 611.
51 Pauls Valley Enterprise Mar. 19, 1905.

actively carried on his father's business, but in the last few years he has disposed of most of his interests.

William J. Thompson's father had a salt work at Boggy Depot, which he operated successfully until the Civil War. In 1872 he moved to Garvin County and engaged in the live stock business until his death two years later. His mother, who was the third wife of Giles Thompson, survived her husband many years. She later married C. S. Wall and resided in Garvin County until her death in 1908.

William was born in Garvin County July 14, 1876 and was an infant when his father died. He was educated in the public schools in Garvin County, the Academy at Atoka, Normal School at Fort Scott, and the University of Oklahoma, and the University at Valparaiso, Indiana. While in college he took an active part in athletics and various other activities.

For a short time after his return to Garvin County he was a bookkeeper. He then engaged in the real estate business, in which he has been successful. He operated in Garvin, McClain, Grady and neighboring counties. He owns many acres of land and a number of lots and business houses in Pauls Valley.[52] He now devotes most of his time in taking care of his property.[53] He belongs to several lodges and is affiliated with the Presbyterian Church at Pauls Valley.

In 1900 he married Miss Savannah Kinnebrew, who was the second graduate of the Pauls Valley High School. Four children have been born to this union; Winona Sue, Lorene, Gladys, and Ramona.[54]

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52 Thoburn, History of Oklahoma Vol IV. 1582.
53 Mrs. W. J. Thompson Aug. 9, 1930.
54 Thoburn, History of Oklahoma Vol. IV P.1582 and Enterprise May 24, 1899.

In 1890 William J. Long came from Sulphur Springs, Texas, and established a store and engaged in the cattle business at McGee. A few years later he located in Pauls Valley, where he has successfully engaged in various business enterprises. He assisted in the organization of the Sullivan-Long Wholesale Grocery Company, which was later sold to the Tyler and Simpson Firm. He also helped to organize the First National Bank of Pauls Valley. He has taken an active part in the lodges and clubs of Pauls Valley.[55] His office is in the Valley Abstract Building, known as the Bank of Commerce Building.[56]

In 1883 at Sulphur Springs, Texas, he married Miss Julia I. Hicklin. To them have been born four children; John , Maud, Edwin, and Charles. All of them reside in Pauls Valley, where they are actively engaged in business.[57]

T. F. Waite, one of the first settlers in Pauls Valley, was born February 21, 1827 and was buried in the Pauls Valley cemetery April 28, 1874.[58]

His son Frederick T. Waite was born at Fort Arbuckle, Indian Territory, in 1853. He was educated at Illinois Industrial University, Bentonville, Arkansas and Mound City Commercial College, St. Louis Missouri. Having completed his education he served two years in his father's mercantile business on Rush Creek. After spending several years in Colorado and New Mexico he returned to the Territory and married Miss Mary E. Thompson. After his marriage, with the exception of two years spent in the

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55 Thoburn, History of Oklahoma Vol. IV. P. 1672.
56 I. R. Tolbert, statement Aug. 24, 1930.
57 Thoburn, History of Oklahoma Vol. IV. P. 1672.

Choctaw Nation, he has lived in the present Garvin County.

In 1889 he was elected representative of Pickens County, and became speaker of the house. In 1887 he became a member of the Indian police force and was a candidate for the senate on the Progressive ticket in 1890. He is a good speaker and has contributed many interesting political papers to the journals of the day.[58]

Another son, Amos R. Waite, was born at Pauls Valley February, 1858. He was educated at Ann Arbor , Michigan and Oberlin, Ohio. After his school days he returned to the Territory and opened a mercantile business at White Bead, which he sold two years later and embarked in the same line of business in Pauls Valley. In 1889 he disposed of his business and devoted his attention to farming. In 1886 he married Mary E. Spear, daughter of E. R. Spear of Devonshire, England.[59]

Tecumseh A. McClure was born in Mississippi about 1830 and came with the first group of Chickasaws that left the old state. Soon after coming to this country his mother, who was a widow, married Smith Paul. His step-father placed him in school at Boggy Depot and later transferred him to the school at Post Oak Grove. In 1862 he married Mary, daughter of Aho-che-tubbe. After spending a few years in the Sac and Fox country, he located near Smith Paul. He was a great hunter and killed numerous deer, antelope, and buffalo. When the animals disappeared he built a deer park and turned his attention to the cultivation of a large farm. He never took much interest in politics, but was elected to the senate and became president the first year. He was offered the governorship, but refused

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58 and 59 O'Beirne, Leaders and Leading Men of the Choctaws and Chickasaws P. 218 and 261.

the nomination. This is a quotation from O'Beirne.

"Tecumseh McClure is beloved and respected by all-his record is without a blur or blemish."[60]

E. P. Baker was born in Arkansas in 1853. He came to Pauls Valley and established a hotel and livery stable in 1888. Beofre his marriage he was engaged in freighting for the government between Caddo and Fort Sill, and was later employed filling hay contracts for the government.[61] Although not a citizen of the Chickasaw Nation Mr. Baker has continued to live in Pauls Valley and has helped in all movements for the betterment of his town.[62]

More than half a century ago there came to the Indian Territory an adventurous young Englishman, John T. Hill. He was born in England in November 1849. With his parents he emigrated to Kentucky, then to Kansas where he was educated.

He began his career in Pauls Valley as a buyer and seller of cattle. A few years later he gained control of a ranch seven miles wide and fifteen miles long. He had large herds of cattle, including 3,000 head of pure breds, but the largest profits were made by fattening cattle for the eastern market. After the coming of the Santa Fe he helped organize the Bank of Commerce. He held the office of president in that institution for many years, and was also a director of the First National Bank. A democrat in politics, he at one time served as U. S. marshall. He was a member of the anti-horse thief association, the Methodist church,

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60 O'Beirne, Leaders and Leading Men of the Choctaws and Chickasaws P. 308.
61 " " " " " " " " " P. 265
62 Mr. Ducfield, statement Aug. 13, 1930.

and several lodges.

In 1905 he married Mattie McFarland. They had one daughter, Ruth. Mr. Hill died January 19, 1913, but Mrs. Hill still resides in Pauls Valley.[63]

December 22, 1841 Mr. W. G. Kimberlin was born in Washington County, Kentucky. When he was twelve his parents moved to Missouri, where he acquired his education. At the age of nineteen he enlisted in the Confederate Army. He served four years under General Joe Shelby in Company D. Schonch's Regiment.

In 1868 he came to the Indian Territory, making his home at White Bead. He engaged extensively in stock raising, and mercantile enterprises. Also he was interested in real estate in Texas and Old Mexico.[64] Although he had many business interests, he found time to devote to the Methodist church. He was a steward in this church and attended every important meeting and every conference that the denomination held, until his health began to fail. He was interested in the education of the children of the Chickasaw Nation, serving as a trustee of the White Bead school for over fifty years. He affiliated with the Odd Fellow and Masonic lodges. Mr. Kimberlin was a member of the Noble Shrine and became a thirty-second degree mason in 1917. He died June 10, 1927. Funeral services were held at the First Methodist Church , Pauls Valley and he was interred in the White Bead Cemetery.[65]

In 1870 he married Miss Lizzie Mitchell of Chickasaw Bluff and

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63 Thoburn, History of Oklahoma Vol IV. P. 470.
64 Gideon, History of the Indian Territory P. 788.
65 Pamplet published after his death.

to them were born five children; Mrs Ida Bridwell, Clarmore, Oklahoma; Zada, deceased; William H., White Bead; Sadie, deceased; Ernest, Pauls Valley. His wife died and he married Mrs. Mary Hancock. To them were born three children; Grant C, Pauls Valley; Agnes Elizabeth, deceased; and Mary Susan Williams, Pauls Valley.[66]

James R. Calloway began the practice of medicine in Pauls Valley in 1889. He had a large practice and his skill was recognized by people in other towns, although a few years before his death he devoted most of his attention to office work. In the early days he underwent all the hardships of a pioneer doctor, regardless of his own health and comfort he would travel for miles to visit his patients. He was a specialist in deseases of children.

He was born in Denton County, Texas, August 22, 1854. His father, being a physician and a minister, traveled widely, so the young James spent his boyhood in several states. From boyhood he was a student. Having access to his father's library, he became widely read in medical science before reaching his majority. When he first came to Pauls Valley he was an undergraduate practitioner, but graduated from the Christian University at Fort Worth in 1897.

Like his father he was a regularly ordained minister of the Christian Church and for many years preached regularly. He belonged to the Chickasaw Medical Society. Later he joined Garvin County, Oklahoma and American Medical Societies.

In Texas, Doctor Calloway married Miss Frances E. Clemens. To

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66 Mr. W. G. Kimberlin, statement Aug. 30, 1930.

them were born five children; Ethel, Etta Frances, Vivienne, Lillian, and John R. , who is following his father's profession at Paula Valley.[67]

Mrs. Polly Ann (Guthry) Harmon was born in Green County, Indiana, in 1842. While still a child her parents emigrated to the northern part of Missouri. Later with a hundred other families they settled Paris, Texas.

In 1865 she married a man the same age as herself. For a while they resided in Paris, then moved to Denison. In 1875 they loaded every thing on a wagon and came to the Chickasaw Nation, locating at White Bead.

Mr. Harmon died over a quarter of a century ago . Mrs. Harmon resided in the old home for over fifty-five years.[68] She has never engaged in any big business enterprise, but she reared her family and her son's family and has always been a friend to the stranger, who came into the community, as well as a friend to the early settlers. She now resides at Blanchard, Oklahoma.[69]

David Mays was born in Tennessee July 31, 1837. After attending school in Arkansas , he emigrated to Texas, where he remained until the Civil War. He returned to Arkansas and enlisted in the third Arkansas cavalry. After the war he went to Sherman, Texas. Two years later he married and came to the Indian Territory and began farming on a small scale, but increased his interests until he had thousands of head of cattle, horses, and mules.

Mrs. Mays was a Chickasaw Indian. To them five children were born; Laura, Ella, Willie, Thomas, and Clarence. His ranch was located in the

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67 Thoburn, History of Oklahoma P. 1812.
68 Mrs. Polly Ann Harmon, statement Aug. 10, 1930.
69 Personal acquaintance.

vicinity of Maysville, that town being named in his honor. His son, known as Bus Mays, is president of the First National Bank, Paula Valley. He has been one of the leaders in Maysville for many years.[70]

W. B. Crump was a pioneer merchant and banker of Wynnewood. Coming to that town in 1889, he entered the mercantile business. This business grew until 1905, when he incorporated the business as the Chump-Hargis Mercantile Company. In 1895 he became vice president of the First National Bank and bought a controlling interest in the Southern National Bank. He was also president of a bank in Blanchard. Nevertheless, he found time to devote to municipal affairs. He married Miss Lucy Nuckalls. To them were born four children; Earl, Bessie, Wilkinson, and William B. Jr.[71]

His son, Earl, is followihg in his father's footsteps in taking a keen interest in financial and community affairs. He is president of the Southern National Bank, and takes an active part in the Chamber of Commerce and the Rotary Club.[72]

Dr. William Eugene Settle has been a prominent physician and surgeon in Garvin County for many years. He is a native of Mills, Texas. After obtaining an education in the commin schools, he entered Louisville Medical College from which he graduated in 1894.

After graduation he located at Wynnewood. Later he took a post graduate course at the Chicago Clinical School. When he first came to Wynnewood he associated himself with Dr. Winfrey. Other partnerships have been with Norvell and with Baker. He now practices alone.

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70 J. R. Ham, statement Sept. 10, 1930.
71 Hill, History of Oklahoma P. 68.
72 J. N. Squires, statement Sept. 30, 1930.

Outside of his profession the doctor is a skillful farmer, having assumed that vocation as a means of recreation.

He married Florence Brown and to them have been forn four children; Bessie, Dorothy, William E. Jr., and Newell Duncan.[73]

Noah Lael, one of the pioneer stockman of Wynneweed, was born in North Carolina June 22, 1848. In his boyhood he traveled over many northern states. In 1872 he came to the Indian Territory and built the first residence at Sulphur. For six years he followed the blacksmith's trade and accumulated $2,500.00 with which he engaged in the cattel business. This business developed until he became one of the largest stock raisers in the Chickasaw Nation. Mr. Lael was one of the organizers and directors of the First National Bank at Wynnewood, and institution which he made one of the leading financial institution of that section of the country.[74]

In 1878 he was united in marriage to Miss Lucy Harris, a daughter of Governor Harris. Shortly afterward the couple located at Wynnewood. Here he constructed a house in which he lived until his death, which occurred July, 1930. Although Mrs. Lael died many years ago, re remained unmarried and daily visited the room where she died. He was a stalwart and genuine pioneer in the early days and has wielded a powerful influence in stablizing the moral and economic conditions of this country.[75]

His two children still reside in Wynnewood. They are Mrs. R. M. Rouse and E. C. Lael, who is president of the First National Bank, and a leader in financial affairs.[76]

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73 Hills, History of Oklahoma P. 71.
74 Gideon, History of the Indian Territory P. 795.
75 The Wynnewood New Era July 24, 1930.
76 Mrs. J. N. Squires, statement Oct. 3, 1930.

John H. Walner, son of William Walner, was born near Colbert, Indian Territory in 1862. He was educated at the Baptist Academy Fort Smith, Arkansas. In 1878 he embarked in the mercantile business in Cherokee Town. In 1883 he located at Wynnewood[77] and lived there until his death. Mrs. Walner still resides in the old home.[78]

Reagan W. Jennings was born in Sherman, Texas, in 1857. During his earlier years he devoted himself to the raising of stock. In 1878 he married Miss Henrietta Colbert, a member of one of the most prominent families of the Chickasaw Nation.

The couple at first settled on Rush Creek, near Erin Springs. They moved several times and finally located at Wynnewood in 1882. Mr. Jennings owned nearly half of the site of Wynnewood, besides owning many acres of farm land. He had five children; Daisy, Thenie, Cugcheon-tubby, Lavisa, and Alvers.[79] Mrs. Jennings passed away several years ago, but Mr. Jennings resides in Wynnewood with one of his daughters.[80]

James W. Gardner was born in the Choctaw Nation, in 1849. Owing to the death of his father his opportunities of an education was limited. In 1870 he married and came to Wynnewood where he cultivated a large farm. He owned one half of the town site of Wynnewood.

He had four children; Zachariah, Benjamin, Emiline, and James.[81]

Morris Fenton Bayless, a progressive man, has been identified with Stratford since the beginning of the town. He helped organize and

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77 O'Beirne, Leaders and Leading Men of the Choctaws and Chickasaws P. 278
78 Mrs. C. W. Henry, statement Oct. 3, 1930.
79 O'Beirne, Leaders and Leading Men of the Choctaws and Chickasaws P. 284
80 Mrs. C. W. Henry, statement Oct. 3, 1930.
81 O'Beirne, Leaders and Leading Men of the Choctaws and Chickasaws P. 93

and became cashier of the First National Bank.[82] He is now successfully engaged in the drug business at that place.[83] He was born July 11, 1883 at Cassville, Missouri. Here he received a common school education. He was reared to argicultural pursuits, but did not find them congenial, so he turned his attention to financial matters. He first came to Sulphur, Indian Territory, where he held the position of assistant cashier in a bank. He then came to McGee and removed to Stratford when that town was built.[84] He married Ethel Baker of Paris, Texas.

Another progressive family in Garvin County is the Goodwins, who located at McGee at an early date. When the Oklahoma Central Railway was constructed, W. U. Goodwin and his sons removed their hardware business to Stratford. W. U. Goodwin is dead, but his son, Charlie, still operates a hardware store at Stratford and takes a leading part in all progressive movements.[85] Another son, Samuel James, was admitted to the bar in 1924. Since that time he has been practicing his profession at Pauls Valley and has attained a favorable reputation.[86]

Mrs. Alzira (McCauthey) Murray was born in Mississippi. She was named for her grandmother, who was a daughter of Molly Folsom Mitchell. She did not come with the Choctaws from Mississippi, but remained there to attend school. Her father died during the siege at Vicksburg. She came to the Indian Territory and settled at Boggy Depot, but soon moved to

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82 Hill, History of Oklahoma Vol. II P. 73
83 The Star Sept. 15, 1929.
84 Hill, History of Oklahoma P. 73
85 The Star Sept. 15, 1929.
86 Thoburn, History of Oklahoma Vol. III P. 376.

Fort Arbuckle.

She married William Powell, who was a native of Ireland. To this union was born one child, Anita, who is now Mrs. Lewis Lindsay. In a few months Mr. Powell died. Two years later Mrs. Powell married Frank Murray, another native of Ireland, at Fort Arbuckle. After spending one year at Pauls Valley, they located at Elm Springs, later changed to Erin Springs. Here he controlled one of the largest farms and ranches in the Chickasaw Nation. His holdings extended twelve miles down the Washita River. Every year he marketed thousands of cattle in Wellington, Kansas. He purchased the only store at Erin Springs. In 1883 he erected one of the best houses in the Chickasaw Nation. After his death she controlled the business and erected a beautiful home in Purcell, although she spent most of her time at Erin Springs.

Mr. Murray was born in Londonderry, Ireland in 1832. At the age of sixteen his father sent him with a herd of three or four hundred head of sheep to London. After selling the sheep he sent all the money home, except enough to pay his passage to America. He landed in New Orleans with only sixty cents, but he was able to take care of himself. When the Civil War came he enlisted and was in the commissary department. He was in the government service when he was sent to Fort Arbuckle.

Mr. and Mrs. Murray had eight children, who are now dead. Mr. Murray has been dead many years and Mrs. Murray died in 1924. Mrs. Anita (Powell) Lindsay now resides in the old home at Erin Springs. Her husband is dead, but she has eight living children.[87]

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87 Mrs. Lewis Lindsay, Biography of her mother.

John L. Avey was born at Arcola, Douglas County, Illinois, September 25, 1866. His father was born in England and came to the United States and located in Illinois, where he engaged in farming and stockraising. In 1892 he came to Oklahoma City, where he made a success as a business man.

John received his primary and secondary education in the public schools of Arcola, Illinois. He attended Valparaiso University. He returned home and taught school for several years. In 1892 he entered the Arcola Herald office.

In 1905 he came to Linisay and purchased from Trillingham the Lindsay News, which had been established by A. A. Veach. Under Mr Avey capable and energetic management the newspaper has a large circulation in Garvin, Stephens, McClain and Grady counties in addition to having a respectable list in other places.

From the time of his arrival here Mr. Avey has been a stalwart and enthusiastic booster of every enterprise calculated to advance the general welfare and has been generous in giving of his time, ability, and means in forwarding progressive programs. In politics he is a democrat and served as postmaster of Lindsay during Wilson's administration. He served as president of the school board for several years. He is a member of the Christian Church. He is affiliated with Lindsay Lodge No. 248, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, the Modern Woodmen of America, the Knights of Pythias, and the Court of Honor and in all of these orders he has many friends.

Mr. Avey was married at Charleston, Illinois, in 1902, to Miss Nellie Fancler, daughter of David Fancler, who was an engineer for the cotton mills. Mr. and Mrs. Avey have one child, Paul K, who is engaged in business with his father.[88]

James Doolin immigrated from his native state of Georgia to Rush, and then to Parker County, Texas, in 1854. Four years later he took a pack outfit from Gainesville, Texas to Denver, Colorado in search of gold, but returned without a fortune. For many years Mr. Doolin scouted with various independent companies in pursuit of Comanche and other hostile Indians in western Texas, and was with Mr. Ross when he captured Cynthia Ann Parker. He served during the Civil War with General Cooper.

In 1871 he married Pocahontas Walner and settled on Blue Creek, where he remained until 1877, when he located at Paoli. He successfully engaged in farming and stockraising and reared a family of four children.[89] One son makes his home in Paoli. Mrs. McCrinnon, a daughter, is a prominent member of the social circles of Pauls Valley, where she resides.[90]

Mr. Jack Florence, one of the ranchman of the Chickasaw Nation, resides in the Florence Community, which is near Paoli.[91] He was born in Sinclair County, Alabama. When five years old he removed with his parents to the vicinity of Dallas, Texas. Here he was educated in the common schools, while he helped his parents on the farm. In 1871 he came to the Chickasaw Nation and located at Pauls Valley. In 1874 he married Mary

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88 Thoburn, History of Oklahoma P. 1623.
89 O'Beirne, Leaders and Leading Men of the Choctaws and Chickasaws P. 243
90 Mrs. Mary Baggett, statement Sept. 7, 1930.
91 Mr. Jack Florence, statement Aug. 24, 1930.

Jane Gardner, a member of the Choctaw Nation.[92] Over fifty years ago they located at their present home. To them have been born five children: Annie, Charlie, Zachariah, Lena, and Fannie. They are all married and have homes of their own.[93]

Mr. Florence is well known in fraternal circles, being a prominent Mason and Odd Fellow. Mrs. Florence is a member of the Methodist Church, so Mr. Florence has been generous in his support of that church.[94]

Doctor N. H. Lindsay was born in Alabama July 13, 1870 and attended the public schools in that state. He was a student in Buena Vista Normal in Mississippi and in the Memphis Hospital Medical College. He began to practice in Texas, but after two years located at Elmore City. Here he had a lucrative practice and kept in touch with the advanced thought and discoveries in his profession.

On September 10, 1899, Dr. Lindsay was united in marriage to Miss Kathleen Giddens of Texas.[94] They had five children: Sarah, who is now Mrs. Buckholt, Virginia, who is now Mrs. Baker, Laura May, Mary Ruth and Earline.[95] A short time ago Dr. Lindsay passed away. His wife and three children still reside in Elmore City. Mrs. Lindsay always takes the lead in any progressive movement in that place.[96]

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92 Gideon, History of the Indian Territory P. 788.
93 Mrs. Jack Florence, statement Aug. 24, 1930.
94 Gideon, History of the Indian Territory P. 788.
94 " " " " P. 954.
95 Mrs. J. P. Gipson, statement Oct. 30, 1930.
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