

1

C.D. Adkins 1868 - 1947

Columbus Delaney Adkins was born June 9, 1868 in Tenn., the son of Pryor and Elizabeth Adkins. Pryor Adkins, a veteran of the war between the States brought his family of six sons from Tennessee to homestead in the Oklahoma wilderness. The family first settled near Eufaula on the Canadian river, <sup>where</sup> the Adkins boys operated a ferry across the river.

<sup>2</sup> ~~In 1885~~ <sup>In 1885</sup> C.D. <sup>with</sup> his father, <sup>Pryor Adkins,</sup> and <sup>brother</sup> James came to this area in search of a place to settle. This unsettled wilderness, <sup>known</sup> as the Indian Territory, was beautiful indeed, <sup>there were</sup> wild flowers, vast forests and pastures for miles <sup>and</sup> miles. Wild animals roamed <sup>the area.</sup> This was the paradise they sought.

~~In 1886~~ <sup>In 1886</sup> C.D. Adkins <sup>had</sup> married a <sup>young</sup> Indian <sup>girl</sup> ~~bride~~, Sarah Jane McKinney, (Dec. 12, 1870 - 1952) ~~who was~~ the daughter of John <sup>and</sup> Catherine McKinney. <sup>He was</sup> a U.S. Attorney for the Choctaw Tribe, ("John McKinney's works, silver rifle, saddle <sup>and</sup> violin are in the National Archives in Washington, D.C.") his parents Pryor + Elizabeth Adkins, his five brothers, James, Frank, John, Hughell and Art camped one night on the flat ~~that~~ <sup>was</sup> ~~some~~ <sup>was</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> ~~place~~ <sup>place</sup> ~~where~~ <sup>where</sup> ~~he~~ <sup>he</sup> ~~was~~ <sup>was</sup> ~~born~~ <sup>born</sup> ~~in~~ <sup>in</sup> ~~1868~~ <sup>1868</sup>.

the war between the States brought his family of six sons from Tennessee to homestead in the Oklahoma wilderness. The family first settled near Eufaula on the Canadian river, <sup>where</sup> the Adkins boys operated a ferry across the river.

<sup>2</sup> ~~In 1885~~ <sup>with</sup> C.D., his father, <sup>Peyor Adkins,</sup> and <sup>brother</sup> James came to this area in search of a place to settle. This unsettled wilderness, <sup>known</sup> as the Indian Territory, was beautiful indeed, <sup>there were</sup> wild flowers, vast forests and pastures for miles <sup>and</sup> miles. Wild animals roamed <sup>the area.</sup> This was the paradise they sought.

~~In 1886~~ C.D. Adkins, <sup>had married a</sup> young Indian <sup>girl</sup> ~~boy~~, Sarah Jane McKinney, (Dec. 12, 1870-1952) ~~was~~ the daughter of John <sup>and</sup> Catherine McKinney. <sup>He was</sup> A. U. S. Attorney for the Choctaw Tribe, ("John McKinney's works, silver rifle, saddle <sup>and</sup> moccasins are in the National Archives in Washington, D.C.") his parents, Pryor + Elizabeth Adkins, his five brothers, James, Frank, John, Hughell and Art camped one night on the flat that someday would be Norman. The next morning they drove slowly across the beautiful Canadian, then a stream about 800 ft. across making

The land was later allotted to ~~the~~ C. D. Adkins family and the children of the C. D. Adkins family, who ~~was~~ <sup>was</sup> moved to an Indian descent.

Their way to the scenic hill rising out of the misty blue April morning, later known as "Adkins Hill," in McClain County.

The Adkins family were permitted to settle in Indian Territory because of the marriage of C. D. Adkins to Sarah Jane McKinney, a member of the Choctaw Tribe. The couple were married under Choctaw tribe law, making C. D. an adopted member of the tribe. The family were allowed to lease as much <sup>Indian</sup> pasture land as they could fence which at one time was thousands of acres having as many as 18 to 20 thousand cattle at one time.

Hard work faced those early pioneers. They built a log cabin on the hill later replacing it with a large two story ranch house.

The Adkins family was closely identified with the early history of Norman. ~~The~~ When the Santa Fe railroad was being surveyed, the surveyers camped on the hill and took meals with the family. A welcome occasion for the Adkins family in an unsettled country. Here developed a firm friendship between C. D. Adkins and Abner Norman, for whom the town was named. ~~When~~ Abner Norman, ~~sub~~

The land was later allotted to ~~John~~ and children of the C. D. Adkins family and John Adkins family. ~~sub~~ <sup>also</sup> ~~was also moved to an~~ <sup>also of Indian descent.</sup>

later known as Adkins Hill, in McClain County.

The Adkins family were permitted to settle in Indian Territory because of the marriage of C. D. Adkins to Sarah Jane McKinney, a member of the Choctaw Tribe. The couple were married under Choctaw tribe law, making C. D. an adopted member of the tribe. The family were allowed to lease as much <sup>Indian</sup> pasture land as they could fence which at one time was thousands of acres having as many as 18 to 20 thousand cattle at one time.

Hard work faced those early pioneers. They built a log cabin on the hill later replacing it with a large two story ranch house.

The Adkins family was closely identified with the early history of Norman. ~~The~~ When the Santa Fe railroad was being surveyed the surveyers camped on the hill and took meals with the family. A welcome occasion for the Adkins family in an unsettled country. Here developed a firm friendship between C. D. Adkins and Abner Norman, for whom the town was named. ~~When~~ Abner Norman, ~~sub~~ when leaving gave C. D. the survey chains and survey transit with which the railroad was routed.