

One time we got mixed up on our dates and worked all one Sunday, thinking it was Saturday. We started visiting the next day thinking it was Sunday and saw men working. We stopped and inquired why they were working on Sunday and to our surprise we were told it was Monday.

No crop was raised the first year, but in the spring of 1890 we began breaking land. Our neighbors, with several yoke of oxen, did the work. It seemed a shame to turn under grass. We could hardly see a cow when it was grazing in it.

Our first school was organized in 1890, I believe. The neighbors did the work and put up a log house for school and church. John Carver, Dave Miller, J. W. Ball and Rufus Sullivant paid for the land on which the school house was built. It was agreed Clearbrook should be the name of the new school since it was located near Clearbrook Creek. Mr. Vandever was our first teacher.

Just a few of my early experiences in the new country. I was 22 years old in 1889 and am 72 years old now in 1939."

MINNIE BALL

J. W. Ball died at the age of 78 in November 1933; he was buried in the Denver Cemetery east of Norman, Oklahoma. Mrs. J. W. Ball died in 1954 at the age of 87. She was buried in the I.O.O.F. Cemetery, Norman, Oklahoma.

Of the ten Ball children who lived to be adults only three of them are still living in Cleveland Country. They are: Mrs. Velma Carr, Ila Minnie (Mrs. Farmer Houck) and Miss Ella Ball.

THE FAMILY OF BENJAMIN FRANKLIN BARTHOLOMEW

By Earl Bartholomew

In 1850, at Nobleville in Hamilton County, Indiana, James Bartholomew married Ruth Smith. A few years later they moved to St. Joseph, Missouri, and then to a farm in Brown County near Hiawatha, Kansas. Eight children were born of the union -- the five youngest in Kansas. Among these was Benjamin Franklin who was born in 1870.

In 1891 James made a trip to the newly opened Oklahoma Territory, became impressed by its opportunities, and bought a claim that had been staked in the 1889 "run". This was located about eighteen miles east of Norman, probably in Pottawatomie County but, in any case, close to the eastern border of Cleveland County. Returning to Kansas, to prepare for moving, James' enthusiasm for the new land was such that he and Ruth were soon followed by

five of their children. Three of these acquired farms near that of the parents but Benjamin and Henry chose to live in Norman.

Henry died while young, leaving one daughter, Effie Sellers, who still lives in Norman.

In 1899 Benjamin married Ada Florence Burke who was born in Marion, Ohio, in 1879. Shortly after the "run", Ada and her father left the others of the family at the home in Sedgwick County, Kansas, to live in a sodhouse on a claim in Cleveland County, while a house was being built for the Burke family about one mile east of Norman. Until his death in 1909, Ada's father operated a nursery where all kinds of shrubs, as well as shade and fruit trees, were grown and sold. The land is now part of the State Hospital properties.

The Benjamin Bartholomew family lived on East Lynn Street in Norman. Benjamin bought hogs from farmers in wagon lots, which he fed to maturity and shipped to railroad to markets, first to Ft. Worth, and later to Oklahoma City after packing plants were built there. Benjamin also was an apiarist by vocation and hobby, serving as a source of information on bees to beekeepers and Boy Scouts in the country. In his later years he operated a feed and seed store on East Main Street in Norman. He died in 1955, and his wife in 1956.

The two sons, Earl and Carl, and the daughter, Ruby, attended the University of Oklahoma. Earl married Juanita Snedeker of Norman; Carl married Kathleen Landers of Oklahoma City and Ruby married Leland Minich of Eldorado, Oklahoma.

For three years Earl was an instructor in the Harvard Engineering School before joining the Ethyl Corporation of New York in 1926. He established the Ethyl research laboratories in Detroit and San Bernardino, California, and became their general manager. He now lives with his wife in Carefree, Arizona. Carl was in the sales department of Ethyl and is in retirement with his wife in Tampa, Florida. Ruby and her husband live in Wichita Falls, Texas.

THE ORA HYDE - BEAVERS FAMILY

By Mary Lyle Childs Weeks

Mrs. Ora Southern Hyde-Beavers, the sister of James Monroe Southern, was born in Paradise, Texas. She was educated in the Cherokee Female Seminary, and in 1893 married Benjamin Hyde, part Cherokee Indian. Two children, Sadye and Herbert, were born to Mr. and Mrs. Hyde. In 1900, after Mr. Hyde's death, Mrs. Ora Southern Hyde, with her two small children, left the Cherokee Territory and moved to Norman, Cleveland County, O. T., to be near her brother, James Monroe Southern. Mrs. Hyde built a home at 422 South Findley,