

DEDICATION

This History is dedicated as a labor of Love to
the Descendants of Joe and Della Burkett.

PREFACE

At the annual reunion of the Joe L. Burkett Family on the first Sunday in August 1961, at Lake Merriot between Mullin and Goldthwaite, Texas, someone suggested a written history of our family for the benefit of younger and future relatives. This history records both past and present events among members of the Joseph Lafayette Burkett family.

We realize this history may not be interesting to everyone; but to those who are interested we heartily and willingly give the information which we obtained orally from our parents; Joe and Della Burkett; also from other relatives and friends. We are aware of the fact that we do not have as much information about some of the uncles, aunts, and cousins as we do others. That explains why this history contains more details about some relatives than it does others. We do not intend to show partiality or favor to certain relatives by the amount of information recorded in this family history.

This book may be subject to some criticism because the contents are not based entirely on written records. It is compiled largely from the memories of various people. The book is not written for the personal gain of any individual or family. It is presented specifically for those seeking facts and related knowledge about the lives, traditions, customs, personality traits and characters of Joseph Burkett; and his wife Della Catherine (Pyeatt) Burkett, and their ten children: Annie, George, Stella, Edgar, Floyd, Lee, Birdie, Mae Delle, Gladys and John.

ANCESTORS AND OTHER RELATIVES OF JOSEPH LAFAYETTE BURKETT

Tradition handed down orally is to the effect that three bachelor brothers named Burkett arrived in Pennsylvania soon after the American Revolutionary War--- having been expelled from Holland on account of their religious beliefs. After leaving Holland, they lived awhile in Germany, before coming to America. From Pennsylvania, one of the brothers went to Illinois, another to Kentucky, the third to North Carolina.

Our Burkett family descended from the one who went to North Carolina. Joseph Lafayette Burkett's great-grandfather married an Epley in North Carolina and emigrated to middle Tennessee years before the Civil War. Joe's paternal grandparents were Henry and Mary Burkett. To them were born ten children, Mary, Martha, John, James, George, David, Nathan, Jobe, Tolbert and Jacob L. We do not know their birthdates. Mary married a man named Brown; Martha married Robert Young; One of the Burkett boys, George, emigrated to Missouri; James to Arkansas; and David to Kansas.

We are descendants of Jacob Lorenza, who married Lavina Burnet. Her father is thought to have been a Major Burnet in the Army. Some of our relatives say that he appointed Jacob L. Burkett as a lieutenant during the Civil War. Other relatives say that Jacob was elected lieutenant by his company. We do know that Jacob was a soldier in that war and received wounds which later caused his death after he moved to Texas.

Our family is related to David G. Burnet, first president of the Republic of Texas. At this time we do not know the exact relationship to him, but it is through our grand mother, Lavina Burnet Burkett.

Seven children were born to Jacob and Lavina Burkett---all in Tennessee, before the family moved to Texas in 1865. The children were; George W., Joe L., Mary, Sarah, James H., and his twin sister, Jane, and Fannie. After the close of the Civil War, 1865, Reverend Ike Hoover of Burnet County, Texas, visiting his home state of Tennessee, caused the Jacob Lorenza Burkett, David Epley families and others to migrate to Texas. David Epley was an uncle of Jacob L. Burkett. Starting near Nashville Tennessee, they went to Memphis, then by boat on the Mississippi River to New Orleans, Louisiana. There they took passage on a ship sailing to Galveston, Texas. After landing safely at Galveston, the Burketts, Epleys, other relatives and friends rode a train to Brenham, Texas, at that time the terminus of the railroad. At Brenham they transferred to ox wagons for the last part of the journey and arrived in Hoover Valley, Burnet County, Texas, on Christmas Day, 1865.

Upon their arrival in Burnet County, Jacob and Lavina Burkett became home owners until her death, probably in 1866 or 1867. She was buried in Cummings cemetery at Hoover Valley. In a letter written several years later by Jim Burkett, one of her sons, he made some very impressive statements about his mother, Lavina. One of the

remarks is; " I remember seeing my mother lying in a winding sheet on the bed, with what looked like a little doll in her arms. They told me she was dead." After Lavina's death Jacob Lorenza broke up housekeeping and placed the younger children with kind hearted neighbors. Mary was placed with the John Davis family; Sarah with the Reverend Jack Mabry family, Jim, Jane and Fannie with the Elkins family, all living in Hoover Valley.

About two years later Jacob Lorenza Burkett married Miss Matilda Reed and she assumed the responsibility of mothering his children. They were brought together again under the same roof, at first living a short while at Rose Mill, McCollough County. Returning soon to Burnet County, they lived on the John Davis farm. There, Ellen the first of the half-sisters was born. Laura, the second half-sister was born, also in Burnet County. The Burketts moved to Lone Grove, Llano County, and lived on the D. H. Trent farm for awhile., then they moved to San Saba County where the Rev. John Reed lived and located on the Vest farm. From there they moved to Big Valley, Mills County, where their half-sister, Lavina was born. In Big Valley, Jacob pre-empted a small place which he later sold to David Farley. The Burketts located next on a place near the Colorado river in Mills County, having bought the place from "Uncle John Conner." Later Jacob sold that place to Abe Ezzell, father Of Henry, Will, and Mary Ezzell. Then Jacob bought a place on Prescott creek one-half mile below Prescott's old home place. It was part of the old Murrah ranch, four and a half miles from Goldthwaite, Texas. At that farm Jacob Lorenza Burkett died in December, 1875. He was buried in the nearby Joy cemetery on the farm now owned by J. R. Parker. Two months after Jacob's death, his youngest daughter, Virginia was born. She was the last of the four half-sisters; Ellen, Laura, Lavina and Virginia., the children of Jacob Lorenza Burkett and his second wife, Matilda Reed Burkett.

While the Burketts were living in Burnet County, the Indian Massacre of the Whitlock family occurred December 7, 1870, on a farm next to the Burkett farm.

Jacob Lorenza Burkett returned to Tennessee, probably in 1873 or 1874, for the purpose of closing the estate of his father, Henry Burkett, who had died. When Jacob came back to Texas, he brought his mother, Mary Epley Burkett, and his two sisters, Mary Brown, Martha Young and their children. Later Aunt Martha Young moved to Oklahoma taking with her the old family Bible which contained valuable records pertaining to our ancestors. That information has not been available to us, but we hope it will be someday.

At the time Jacob Burkett brought his mother and sisters from Tennessee, his home was located near the Colorado River and included the Little Pecan Bayou. His house was just above the bayou and about fifty yards from the river. His mother, Mary Epley Burkett is thought to have stayed part of the time among relatives at Williams Ranch. She is buried in the cemetery there.

The following paragraphs give the limited information that we have about the brothers and sisters of our father, Joseph Lafayette Burkett;

George Washington Burkett, first child of Jacob Lorenza and Lavina Burnet Burkett was born in 1851, in Tennessee, came to Texas with his parents in 1865. After living a few years in Burnet County, they located at Big Valley, now in Mills County, but at that time part of Lampasas County.

As a young man, George W. Burkett, with other cowboys, drove large herds of cattle to market in Kansas and farther to the north. An interesting romantic incident occurred on one of these cattle drives to Kansas. The cowboys met a wagon train of people moving from Missouri to Texas. Members of the wagon train stopped the trail drivers in North Central Texas and inquired about suitable camping places. After the travelers resumed their journey, the cowboys, talking among themselves, jokingly claimed various items on the wagon train. One boy mentioned a certain mule and said "That is mine." As the conversation continued, George W. Burkett said, "Well, boys, you may have the mules, horses, and other things you have claimed; but that little 'gal' in the front wagon is mine." After delivering the cattle to a Kansas market, the trail drivers returned

to their homes in Texas, riding horse back all the way, and the trip took two or three months. When George rode up to his father's home at Big Valley, he saw a tent in the yard. He soon learned that living in it was the Abe Ezzell family who had been in the front wagon of the wagon train which the cowboys had met on their drive to Kansas. Mr Ezzell had bought the Jacob Burkett farm and was to get possession as soon as the crop was harvested. "The little gal in the front wagon" was Mary Ezzell, the 'gal' that George W. Burkett married. They had three children, Salena, John, and Archie. Salena married Eph Guthrie. To them were born two children. A son, Fay and a daughter, June. Salena was killed in a car wreck about 1947. Archie married V. W. Heard. They had one son, Vernon Price. Archie, a widow since 1961, lives alone in Big Springs, Texas, one block from her son.

John, the only son of George and Mary Ezzell Burkett, married Zona Albright. They had eight children, five boys and three girls. John, Zona and every child were fine singers. The boys, all good musicians, could play any and all of several instruments. They played for many radio and television programs. John and all of his sons, except one, are elders in the Church of Christ in their various home congregations. They are active leaders in church affairs, some leaders and Sunday School teachers. Elmo, the oldest son, is a minister as well as a song leader for the Church of Christ. He was leading the song service in church when he was only nine years old.

While we are thinking about religious activities, we are reminded that Floyd E. Burkett told us that Uncle George Burkett taught him a lesson he will never forget. While Uncle George was visiting in Floyd's home near O'Donnell, Texas, they attended church services. On their way home they were discussing the sermon and Floyd remarked

that it surely was a fine sermon and he liked it; but the preacher had ruined the influence of the lesson for him (Floyd) by begging too long for the listeners to accept the invitation to obey the gospel. Floyd said he would not want anyone to beg him, when he was ready, he would hunt up the preacher and tell him. Uncle George explained to Floyd, " I know how you feel. You are a Burkett and they are that way, but everyone else is not. It requires more begging or pleading for some people than it does for others. The minister was not preaching to you only, he was preaching to other people, too, as well as you. Remember that you are not the only pebble on the beach."

Uncle George was truly a devout and consecrated Christian. When he was a young man, stout and healthy, he could outwalk the horse pulling a plow and would have to stop at times to rest the horse. During those intervals Uncle George took his testament from his shirt pocket, sit on the plow and read from the scriptures. George Washington Burkett died in 1927, at the age of 76.

Joseph Lafayette was the second child of Jacob and Lavina Burkett. Details about his life are given in a separate chapter of this book.

Mary, the third child, married John Clark. They had two children, Albert and Ida. Albert married Alice Ray. They had four children, two girls, Alta and Vern; two boys-----&-----, Ida Clark married James Box. They had several children, all of whom are well educated and hold good well salaried positions in various towns. The Box family lived at Lone Grove, Llano County, Texas for a number of years. After the death of Uncle John Clark, Aunt Mary (Burkett) married Jim Templeton. To them were born three children, Alice, Ora and Fred. We have always called the girls by their nicknames. Alice is 'Cricket' and Ora is 'Fraud". Cricket married Elza Sullivan. Fraud married Jim Bordan. Fred married, but we do not know to whom. She lived only a short while, Fred still lives in Llano.

Sarah, the fourth child of Jacob and Lavina Burkett, married Arch Murray. They had four children; Will, Georgia, Asa, and Ezra. Uncle Arch died while the children were very young, so Aunt Sarah and the four children lived a few years with her brother, Joe and his family at Mullin, Texas. There she married Ole Storehoff, a Norwegian shoemaker, who lived, also in the Joe Burkett home. Aunt Sarah and Uncle Ole had two daughters. The Storehoffs moved to Oklahoma. Aunt Sarah, with some of her children and grand children came back later to visit the Burketts at Mullin.

Jim and Jane, twins, were the next children of Jacob and Lavina Burket. Born in Tennessee in 1862, they were three years of age when the family came to Texas. Jane married John Pavy. They had one daughter, Ollie. Later Jane married John Cox and moved to Chickasha, Oklahoma, where she died about 1956. It did not seem convenient to exchange visits, therefore we did not see Aunt Jane after she moved to Oklahoma. Edgar L. Burkett attended her funeral services.

Uncle Jim, (James Henry) Burkett Married Samantha Nolley, a widow with three

children, Sallie, Jennie, and Sam. Some of the Nolley descendants now live in Fort Worth, Texas. Sam Nolley has lived in Gaines County, Texas several years. He was a sheriff there.

Uncle Jim and Samatha Burkett had four children; Omar, Joe, Iru, and Kate. All of them except Omar have passed away. He lives between Cisco and Eastland, Texas. For several years Omar was a State Representative. He worked several years for the Texas Land Department. Joe was County Judge of Eastland County, before moving to San Antonio, where he was District Judge. Iru married Luther Jackson of Baird, Texas. They lived in Abilene, Texas many years while Luther worked for a whole sale grocery firm and Iru sewed for the public and rented out rooms to students of Abilene Christian College.

Kate Burkett who married Carl Grubbs became a medical Doctor.

Uncle Jim Burkett was a pecan expert. Having become interested in pecans in his youth, he learned the art of budding, grafting and growing them. The Burkett pecan is still regarded by many persons to be the best produced in West Texas. In recognition of his developing such a fine pecan, Uncle Jim served as Chief of the Department of Edible Nuts in the Texas Department of Agriculture for several years. He wrote four pamphlets on pecan culture, all accepted as authoritative. He was presented a placque in 1929 by the Brazos Valley Pecan Association for "Outstanding service in the Pecan Industry."

James Henry Burkett died in 1945 at the age of 83 at his home, Clyde, Texas.

Fannie, the seventh child of Jacob and Lavina Burkett, married a Mr. McCall. They moved to California soon after their marriage and we do not know any other information about her except that she once visited briefly at Mullin, Texas with Mrs. Birdie Chambers.

At this writing (May, 1962) we have very little knowledge of our aunts who were the half-sisters of our father, Joe Burkett. To help clarify the family history, we are repeating their names. Ellen, Laura, Lavina and Virginia, (Jennie). We have heard that Aunt Ellen and Aunt Lavina are dead. We do not know to whom they were married or where they lived. Aunt Laura married Will Lynch. They had five children. One of the sons lives in Big Springs, Texas, where he works for the railroad. Aunt Laura, now nearly ninety years old, still lived in Sweetwater, many years prior to her death two or three years ago. Her two daughters, Mrs. Jewel McGowan and Mrs. Hazel Gardner, both live in Sweetwater. Her son, J. W. Godfrey, lives in Fort Worth, Texas.

ANCESTORS AND OTHER RELATIVES OF DELLA PYEATT BURKETT
THE FORSYTHE FAMILIES

This information about the Forsythe families is included in the Burkett history because Emmaline Forsythe was the mother of Della Catherine Pyeatt Burkett. According to information obtained from Miss Edna Marrs, Della's neice in Missouri, a Mr. Henderson Pyeatt went from Prairie Grove, Arkansas to Ellis County, Texas in the 1850's and married Emmaline Forsythe Marrs. She had first married Aaron Marrs of Prairie Grove. After Aaron's death, Emmaline came to Texas with her parents, the Thomas Jefferson Forsythes. She later returned to Arkansas with her second husband, Henderson Pyeatt and their son, Jesse Newton Pyeatt. Their daughter, Della Catherine was born in Arkansas. Other details of her life are given in a separate chapter.

Della Catherine Burkett's maternal grandfather, Thomas Jefferson Forsythe was among the first settlers in Mills county, locating at Williams Ranch about 1866. At that time Della was living in Arkansas with her Aunt Mary Cox. We are inclined to believe that Della never saw her grandfather Forsythe because she did not come to Texas until after his death. T.J. (Jeff) Forsythe first brought his family from Polk County, Arkansas to Ellis County, Texas in 1851. His children were; Emmaline, William "Bud", R.D. 'Bob', Newton, Mary and Elizabeth Jackson, Aunt Jackie. Mary married a Mr. Cox. Jackie married George Williams, whose father, John Williams, founded Williams Ranch. It may be pertinent to remember that George Williams was a second cousin to Joe Burkett through the Epley family. George's mother was an Epley, sister of David, Daniel and Bill Epley. Aunt Jackie and Uncle George Williams often visited in the Joe and Della Burkett home. Uncle Bob (R.D.) Forsythe married Betty Vann. He was a well known, highly respected rancher with part of his ranch in Brown County and part of it in Mills County. His ranch house was in Mills County near Blanket Creek. In 1917 he moved to Zepher in Brown County and lived there until his death October 6, 1933 at the age of 86. Our Maternal grandfather, Thomas Jefferson Forsythe, died about 1872 at the home of his son, Bill in Brown County, Texas.

THE PYEATT FAMILIES

This information about the Pyeatt families was dictated by Jesse Newton Pyeatt to his Neice, Anne Burkett Jackson, at Mullin, Texas, August 1, 1940.

Uncle Newt was born in Ellis, County, Texas, May 14, 1859, to Henderson and Emmaline Forsythe Pyeatt. They moved to Polk County, Arkansas, where a daughter, Della Catherine, was born November 14, 1861. Newton and Della had a half-brother, Martin L. Marrs, because their mother, Emmaline had been married earlier to Aaron Marrs who died, leaving the son, Martin L., born in 1855. After the death of his mother and stepfather, Martin was reared by the Marrs relatives. He died in 1927 at Jane,

Missouri, where his daughter, Edna, still lives.

Emmaline Forsythe Pyeatt died in 1864; her husband, Henderson Pyeatt died in 1865. Their children, Jesse Newton and Della Catherine, went to live with their Aunt Mary Forsyte Cox. She brought them to Texas in 1873.

Uncle Newt married Miss Nancy Epley on February 23, 1881. She was a second cousin to Joe Burkett and came from Tennessee to Texas at the same time as Jacob L. Burkett family did. Newt and Nancy Pyeatt moved to New Mexico in 1882, but stayed only six months, then returned to Mills County, Texas, where he and his brother-in-law, Joe Burkett, owned and operated a blacksmith shop at Williams Ranch until 1885. They moved the shop to Mullin and operated it there until 1889. The Newt Pyeatt family moved to Callahan County that year. Seven children were born to Uncle Newt and Aunt Nancy. All those living are Christians. Their oldest child, a girl born at Williams Ranch, lived only a few days. The next child, also a girl, was born in New Mexico, lived only six months. Dollie Pyeatt was born at Williams Ranch, September 6, 1884. Oscar Pyeatt was born at Mullin, Texas November 25, 1886; Callie Pyeatt at Mullin, Texas September 1, 1889; Russell Pyeatt at Cottonwood, Texas, August 17, 1891. Another baby was born at Putman, Texas, but did not survive.

Dollie Pyeatt married Erry McCollum on November 8, 1903. They had three children; Acton, Velma and Pyeatt.

Oscar Pyeatt married Beulah Merrick April 11, 1906. Their three sons were Merrick, Harold and -----.

Callie Pyeatt married Roy Marshall June 19, 1910. Their daughter is Mary Maude.

Russell Pyeatt married Zada-----. They had three sons; Jesse, Mack, Bobby and Russell, Jr. who died after he was grown.

The Pyeatts are Scotch-Irish. One very important fact to be remembered is that no Pyeatt was ever connected with any crime.

May 28, 1962

Uncle Newt and Aunt Nancy Pyeatt passed away several years ago. Their son, Russell is dead also. Oscar and Dollie live in Clyde, Texas. Callie lives with her daughter, Mary in El Paso, Texas. Several of our Pyeatt ancestors and their relatives are still living at Prairie Grove, Arkansas.

The Pyeatt History is incomplete unless we tell about the Bear's attacking Aunt Nancy and almost killing her. One morning in 1876 in the Williams Ranch community, Nancy Epley came to the John Williams home to borrow smoothing irons. Two pet bears were chained in the yard, when Nancy came out of the door to return to the J.D. Chessar house where she was visiting her cousin, Mrs. Chessar, one of the bears made a lunge toward Nancy breaking the stake that held the chain and seized her roughly by the arm. She screamed and tried to run back into the Williams house. Old Rock, the faithful dog, attacked the bear whose strength was so much greater than that of Nancy and the dog, that they could not prevent the bear from renewing his savage attack on the girl, mauling and scratching her. Again old Rock grabbed the bear in the neck, chewing and biting until the wild beast turned to throw off the dog. Then Nancy escaped into the house. The bear started to tear down the door. several women inside the house screamed for help, cut strips of fresh beef and pushed them through cracks to the bear while one woman slipped out the back door and rode a horse to the mill at Williams Ranch, Ben White, who had heard the screams of the frightened women and started toward the house, met the excited woman. He shot the bear maddened by the scent of human blood. Nancy was so severely wounded and shocked by the vicious bear that she was ill for several weeks and bore scars as long as she lived.

BIOGRAPHY OF JOSEPH LAFAYETTE BURKETT

by Edgar Lorenza Burkett

My father, Joseph Lafayette Burkett, was born in Maury County, Tennessee. April 3, 1853, to Jacob Lorenza and Lavina Burnet Burkett. Jacob and Lavina with their seven children came to Texas in 1865. Starting near Nashville, Tennessee, they went to Memphis, then by Mississippi river boat to New Orleans, Louisiana, then by ship on the Gulf of Mexico to Galveston, Texas. From there they traveled by train to Brenham, Texas, the terminus of the railroad at that time. From Brenham to Hoover Valley, Burnet County, Texas, the Burketts traveled in ox wagons, arriving at Hoover Valley on Christmas Day, 1865. My father, Joseph L. Burkett, was twelve years of age at that time.

The family lived some four or five years in Burnet, Llano and San Saba counties before moving to Mills County. Grandfather, (Jacob L. Burkett) owned and lived on three different farms that were in or near the Big Valley community. He pre-empted one of them himself, but later sold it. His third and last farm in Mills County was near the Prescott creek, about four and a half miles south of Goldthwaite, Texas. Additional details concerning his ownership and disposition of all these farms are given in chapter one of this book, also in the autobiographical sketch letter of Uncle Jim Burkett. Grandfather, (Jacob L. Burkett), died in December 1875 and was buried in the Old Joy Cemetery south of Goldthwaite.

After his father's death, Dad stayed with his step-mother, Matilda Reed Burkett, and his four younger half-sisters, making a living for them until his step-mother married a Mr. Wallace about four years later.

Dad then worked on ranches for Bill Williams, Bob Forsythe, and Dan Trent, until 1882, when he married Miss Della Catherine Pyeatt in the Chessar Valley community and moved to the near-by Williams Ranch Community. There he and his brother-in-law, Jesse Newton Pyeatt, owned and operated a blacksmith shop until 1885.

When a railroad offered to come through Williams Ranch for a certain sum of money, the citizens of that community refused to comply with the request. The railroad right-of-way, was marked at it's present location, missing Williams Ranch. Immediately, three sites, Mullin, Pegtown and Goldthwaite were established on the new right-of-way. Pegtown, (near the present Bozar crossing) was sponsored by three of our family friends, "Uncle" Jim Guthrie, Phil Duren and J.A. Conner. An election was ordered to determine which town would be the Mills County seat. Goldthwaite won over Mullin by thirteen votes. Pegtown received seventeen votes which would have gone for Mullin, and Mullin would have become the county seat. Pegtown died a natural death and everyone went to work to make Mullin a real city.

Dad and Uncle Newt Pyeatt moved their blacksmith shop from Williams Ranch to Mullin in 1885 and continued operating it together until 1889. At that time Uncle Newt sold his interest in the shop to Uncle George W. Burkett, a brother of my father. Dad and Uncle George operated the shop until 1900 when they sold the business. From that time until his death, Dad engaged in stock farming.

Father always took an active part in all civic and community affairs. We helped with the organization of the first school and construction of the first school building at Mullin. He was elected one of the first school trustees, a position he held many times before his death, serving as president of the school board a number of times.

Dad helped also, with the construction of all early church buildings in Mullin and contributed financial aid to all of them. His efforts to assist the unfortunate neighbors were unlimited. He was always among the first to provide food, clothing, money and other assistance for needy widows or other persons in the event of sickness, death, destruction of property or other emergencies.

Dad was one of the first peace officers in Mills County and served in that capacity for several years. His reputation as a peacemaker was well known. He served frequently on boards of arbitration for men who disagreed on business matters or other affairs.

Dad told his children about some of his interesting experiences during the early history of Mills County. One was his being among the men who brought John Morris in after Mr. Morris was killed by Indians. Another of Dad's experiences was his participation in the last Indian fight in Mills County. The Indian Chief proved to be a Williams Ranch white man killed by Bill Williams where the Mullin Cemetery is now. Dad experienced, also, many long lonely hours of horseback riding in the early days to find his cattle and horses which had strayed away because there were no fences around pastures and fields. We children will always remember the time he returned with a tiny blue maltese cat in his shirt bosom for us.

Concerning early day events, I remember that dad always valued very highly a post-oak tree, which stood in his front yard, because it was the tree that Big Foot Wallace used as an arm rest for his gun when he killed an Indian where the present school building now stands, about two blocks from dad's home in Mullin.

Dad often purchased books for his children. Some of the books were; **Life of Robert E. Lee; Apples of Gold in Pictures of Silver; Pilgrim's Progress; Bibles and Testaments.** There were many others. Dad encouraged his children and even his grandchildren to read clearly and fluently by asking them to read aloud to him while he sat by the fireplace in the winter or on the porch in the summer.

Dad particularly enjoyed singing while he worked as well as while he rested. He had an unusually good voice for singing. Among his favorite selections were religious songs, old ballads and folk songs. "There's a Land Fairer Than Day", "On Jordons Stormy Banks I Stand", and "Happy Day" were some of the religious songs that Dad sang.

My father died October 27, 1920 and was buried in the Mullin Cemetery. He was survived by his wife Della Catherine and ten children. Seventeen years later, 1937, mother died, then twenty six years later (1946) their daughter, Stella Mae, died. Still living are the other nine children; Mrs. Annie Jackson, Lubbock, Texas; George N. Burkett, Comanche, Texas; Edgar L. Burkett, Mullin, Texas; Floyd E. Burkett, Lometa, Texas; Lee. P. Burkett, Fort Worth, Texas; Mrs. Birdie Chambers, Mullin, Texas; Mrs. Mae Delle Goodwin, Blanket, Texas; Mrs. Gladys Hodges, Austin, Texas; John I. Burkett, Goldthwaite, Texas.

This biography was written April 5, 1962.

* I was told by Aunt Birdie and Aunt Mae Delle several years ago that Grand Dad Burkett died of Stomach cancer.

Enza Dell Burkett Wilson, 1995

October 27, 1920

" Uncle Joe Burkett is dead"

When these words flashed over the wires Thursday morning, a distinct shadow was placed over every home in this section. A good man had been called up higher to a place of eternal rest. He was a true-blue friend to all mankind---a man whom everyone loved, honored, and trusted; a man who knew no enemies; but on the other hand, steadfast to all. But he passed on and he will be sadly missed.

If everyone whom he had shown some kindness could place a rose upon his grave, he would sleep tonight beneath a wilderness of flowers.

At eleven o'clock Wednesday night, October 27, his eyes closed upon earth. The end came a little unexpected, although for some time it was quite well known that he would not survive many weeks. But those nearer to him did not realize death was so close. He died peacefully without even a struggle.

The beginning of his illness dates back to early last autumn when he suffered a breakdown from which he never really recovered. He made a desperate effort to get well, but was forced to submit and a few days ago told his family that he must soon die and said he was fully prepared to go.

Mr. Burkett was in his 67th year and up to his illness a year ago had been a very strong and healthy man. He was one of the earliest settlers of this section; when a very young man he first lived at Williams Ranch long before Mullin was established. Nearly forty years ago he moved from the Ranch to Mullin where he continued to live up to his death. In various ways he was identified with the business interests of the town. During the last few years he was Vice-President of the First State Bank of Mullin and was a valuable officer of the institution.

Funeral services were held Thursday afternoon at three o'clock conducted by his former pastor and former citizen of Mullin, Reverend W.H. Floors, now residing at Lometa. The funeral procession that followed the remains were the largest ever assembled at Oak View.

We know the family have the sympathy of the entire community. May the Father's sorrow-healing touch rest sensibly upon those whose sorrow is inevitable and acute.

BIOGRAPHY OF DELLA CATHERINE PYEATT BURKETT

By Annie Burket Jackson

Della Catherine Pyeatt Burkett was born November 14, 1861, in Polk County Arkansas. Her parents were Henderson and Emmaline Forsythe Pyeatt. They were the parents also of Jesse Newton Pyeatt, two years older than Della. Emmaline Forsythe had been married previously to Aaron Marrs and they had one son, Martin L. Marrs, who became the half-brother to Della Catherine and Jesse Newton Pyeatt.

Della's mother, Emmaline, died in 1864, her father, Henderson Pyeatt, died a short time later in 1865. Della was three years old and Newton was five years old. Their half-brother, Martin Marrs was four years older than Newton, he was reared by his Grandfather Marrs. The two Pyeatt children, Della Catherine and Jesse Newton were reared by their mother's sister, Aunt Mary Forsythe Cox. She brought them to Texas in 1873, crossing the Red River on Christmas Eve Day.

The first year in Texas they lived in Hill County. The next year they moved to Mills County. About 1876 they moved to Old Fort Chadbourne, Coke County. Della and Newton were unhappy in the Cox home because they were required to do more work than the Cox children and enjoyed fewer privileges than their cousins. When Newton was seventeen years old, he ran away to Mills County, (then a part of Brown County) and worked for his Uncle, Bill Forsythe, in the Chessar Valley community until he earned money to buy two horses. The following year, 1878, Newton returned to Coke County to get his sister, Della, from the Cox family. He rode one horse and led the other one, for Della was to slip away from their Aunt Mary Cox and her husband. Della hid a bundle of clothes in a thicket. That night she and Newton went to a party for awhile, both riding on one horse to prevent suspicions, of their plans to slip away. After staying awhile at the party, Della and Newt started to Mills County. They rode eight or ten miles, then lay down and slept on the prairie that night. It required four days to make the trip, stopping for food, water and rest at farm homes along the way.

They lived awhile in the home of their Uncle, Bill Forsythe, where both worked, however, Della worked also for other people. She was working in the home of 'Uncle' Bill Williams (cousin to Joe Burkett) when Bill Forsythe moved to Oklahoma. Della continued staying with the Williams until she married Joseph Lafayette Burkett, June 11, 1882, in the Chessar Valley community. Della was twenty and Joe twenty-nine years old.

They lived first on the place now known as the Mexican John lease, (part of the Brinson property) in the Williams Ranch community. Annie Louise, their oldest child was born there. Later Joe and Della moved nearer the center of Williams Ranch community where Joe, My Father, and Uncle Newt Pyeatt had a blacksmith shop. Two more children, George Newton and Stella Mae were born at Williams Ranch.

About 1888 the Burketts moved to the new town of Mullin, Texas. There for the next forty-nine years, (until her death in 1937) mother was very active, being a devoted wife, carefully rearing her ten children, and helping neighbors or relatives who needed assistance in any manner.

Mother did all the cooking for her large family. She also canned fruits and vegetables and assisted Dad with the preservation of home - raised meats for eating. She always shared food with her neighbors, especially the needy families.

Mother did all the sewing for her family until we girls were old enough to help or any of the children started earning money to buy clothes in the stores. Her sewing included some of her grandchildren. An amusing incident occurred when my oldest daughter was trying on a dress being made by her grandmother; and Floyd, my brother, teasing Stella Bea said, "Now let's see you twist." Stella quickly replied, "I ain't got no twist." Mother made beautiful tatting, embroidery and crochet for decorative edgings and insertions on household linens and ladies underwear.

Mother frequently stayed with neighbors during illness and death. If she was unable to go, she sent one of us older children.

Well known for her western hospitality, Mother often opened her home and prepared meals and lodging for acquaintances as well as strangers.

When Dad was a peace officer and was unexpectedly detained from home, he sent a telegram if possible to allay mother's fears. She always anticipated bad news and dreaded seeing the messenger boy with a telegram.

Mother had a lovely singing voice and frequently sang to entertain us children. Among the songs were; "Gypsy's Warning"; "Answer to Gypsy's Warning"; and Shamus O'Brien". She also sang many religious hymns and songs.

When we children were small, mother often made candy, popcorn balls, and other favorite foods for us. Sometimes she roasted sweet potatoes by covering them with a wet cloth and placing them in hot ashes or coals on the hearth of an open fireplace. Mother's unusually long, thick, wavy hair is one of my cherished memories. When she sat in a cane bottomed chair, her beautiful dark hair reached the floor.

Mother had an unlimited fine sense of humor and enjoyed amusing situations or practical jokes more than anyone else.

A very devout, religious person, Mother faithfully taught us children to study our Sunday School lessons and read the Bible carefully. She taught us to search the Scriptures diligently for the correct answers to religious questions.

Mother and Dad both, were always interested in formal education and encouraged us children to study and learn our school lessons very carefully. Mother, herself, was an avid reader of books newspapers, magazines and the Bible.

Mother passed away June 11, 1937, after an illness of one week with heart trouble. She was survived by all ten of her children; Annie, George, Stella, (died in 1946), Edgar, Floyd, Birdie, Mae Delle, Gladys, and John.

Written April 7, 1962.

Mrs. J. L. Burkett Answers Last Call

Copied From Mullin Enterprise

June 11, 1937

Friday morning at dawn the spirit of Mrs. J. L. Burkett, age 75, went home to the Master, following a heart attack. Mrs. Burkett, nee Della Catherine Pyeatt was one of the early 1875 Williams Ranch pioneers. Her Christian life and influence radiated to all to whom she came into contact. Her cheerful hospitality and home entertained both friends and strangers.

Hers was a home by the side of the road and she, like Ben Adhem of old, A friend to her fellow man.; a friend who knew when silence was golden and a word fitly spoken like apples of gold in pictures of silver. Five sons and five daughters survive with a number of grand children. They have the assurance of the faithful who is now in another room of the heavenly Father's mansions.

Interment was Friday afternoon at Five o'clock at Oak View with Brother M. Eubanks and Brother L. J. Vann in charge. The pall bearers were as follows; Oscar Pyeatt, Russell Pyeatt, Willard Mosier, Bert Locket, E. A. Kemp, S. J. Casey. The honorary pall bearers were; Rev. L.J. Vann, Dr. J.L. Harrington, T. W. Cryer, J. C. Starns, J. A. Williams, Walter Fairman, Henry Ezzell, Charles Forsythe, Clyde Cooksey, O. E. Rice, L.T. Reid, Henry Williams, B.E. Chessar, R. H. Patterson and A.H. Daniels.

Mrs. Will Jackson of Lubbock, Lee Burkett and family of Stephenville, Arch Hodges and family of Goldthwaite, Mrs. Arthur Massey and sons of Hearne, J. N. Pyeatt and daughter of Clyde, T.D. Goodwin and family, Mr. and Mrs. John Burkett of Blanket were among the out of town relatives who attended the funeral of Mrs. J. L. Burkett.

CARD OF THANKS

With deepest gratitude we wish to thank our many friends for each deed of kindness, word of sympathy and the many flowers extended us in our recent sorrow. We will ever hold them in kind remembrance. May you have just such friends in your hour of sorrow.

The Burkett Family, J.N. Pyeatt.

AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF ANNIE LOUISA BURKETT JACKSON

I am the oldest child of the late Joseph Lafayette and Della Catherine Pyeatt Burkett. I was born April 24, 1883, in the Williams Ranch Community on Mullin creek about two miles south of Mullin, Texas. My parents at that time were living on the Brinson Property which was north of and adjoined the 'Grandpa' Huffman place, now known as the A. L. French place. I have lived in Texas all my life.

We, (my parents and three children, Annie, George, Stella) moved to the new town of Mullin about 1888. I remember the old logs and rawhide, and oak lumber of the house that was torn down, moved to Mullin and rebuilt for our home there. Later two rooms of new lumber were added to the old house when Dad brought his widowed sister, Mrs. Sarah Murray, and her four small children to live with us. A few years later the old log house was torn down, and a house of new lumber was built adjoining the two good rooms after Aunt Sarah had married again and moved away.

I attended my first school in the home of Mrs. Eli Fairman at Williams Ranch. She taught me and her own children.

My first school building was a log house with dirt floors and puncheon seats made of long logs split into halves with the flat sides turned up to sit on. Later a new building was constructed of lumber. It was used by all the various church groups for their preaching services, each taking it's turn. Political and other public meetings were held sometimes in the school building.

Some of my early teachers in the Mullin school were; 'Professors' Sharp, Sibley, Doyle, McAndrews, Alvis, (he came from Big Valley) and Miss Dollie Barton. I recieved a solid gold metal for perfect attendance one year when I was neither tardy or absent. I still have that metal. A new rock school building was erected in 1895 at Mullin.

The principal, now called supertendent, was 'Professor' Merchant, who recieved seventy dollars per month. The first assistant, 'professor' Warren, recieved forty-five dollars per month. The second assistant, Miss Mary Anderson, received thirty-five dollars per month. 'Miss. Mary' was the best loved teacher who ever taught in Mullin. Schools at that time were not divided into grades. We spoke of different classes as being in the first, third or fifth reader, or in Texas history; or United States history; or in another subject. Reading, writing, arithmetic, and spelling were stressed, particularly spelling. Our favorite entertainment at school were spelling matches. On Friday afternoons 'after recess' we also had our 'Literary Society Meetings' during which we gave speeches. They were poems memorized and recited. Sometimes we had debates. One debate I remember better than any other concerned Pleas Hulseys argument against going to school. While Pleas (maybe in third reader) read his reasons for not wanting to attend school, he used the word 'get a whipping' in almost every other line for three pages. He said if he were late to school, he 'would get a whipping', if he did not know his

lesson he would 'get a whipping'; if he did not obey the teacher, he would 'get a whipping'; if he had a fight with another boy, he would get a whipping'; His argument continued until everyone else in school were laughing.

My last year in Mullin public school was 1899-1900. I 'finished' in the spring of 1900. We did not have graduation. I had never heard of the word graduation until several years later. During my senior year in high school I studied general history, physics, trigonometry, geology, civics, (now called government), physical geography and Latin. I took private lessons in German from Mrs. Brice Stephenson at her home. Her husband was the Mullin school principal. My cousin, Selma Burkett, and I were the only ones studying German lessons. Selma was the daughter of my uncle George W. Burkett.

In the spring of 1900, I took the Mills County examination in the courthouse at Goldthwaite, Texas, for a teachers certificate. I was barely seventeen years old. The following winter I taught the Williams Ranch School which lasted three months for twenty-five dollars per month. I paid five dollars a month for room and board in the 'Shorty' Marion Williams home about one-half mile from the school building. Sometimes after school hours on Friday afternoon, I walked three miles to my parents home in Mullin, when my brothers, Edgar and Floyd were at Williams Ranch to walk with me.

In the summer of 1901, our cousin, Dollie Pyeatt, came to visit us. Later that summer, Mother with all of us children (Mae Delle being about two months old) went in a covered wagon to take Dollie home and visit her family at Clyde, Texas. Her father was my uncle, Jesse Newton Pyeatt, a brother to my mother. It took us two days to travel the seventy or eighty miles from Mullin to Clyde. We felt very brave making that trip without a man along. My brother, George, did the driving and caring for the horses. When we camped that night, Mother went to a nearby farmhouse and bought hot bisquits at so much per 'bakers dozen', explaining to us that bakers dozen meant thirteen instead of twelve--one extra for good measure.

After we returned from our visit to see Uncle Newt Pyeat and his family, I married that same summer. On July 28, 1901, Will Jackson and I were married in my parents home in Mullin, Texas. Will had come from Alabama to Texas with his parents when he was twenty years old. We had been married a little over fifty-three years in January 1954, when Will passed away here in Lubbock, Texas. We had eight children, four boys and four girls; but only two boys and two girls are still living. Our first two children were twin girls who lived only two hours. They are buried in the cemetery at Williams Ranch. J.W. our oldest son, was born February 14, 1904, at Mullin, Texas. Stella, our oldest daughter was born October 8, 1907 at Goldthwaite, Texas.

Our second son, Lawrence Herman, was born November 1911, died December 1911. He is buried at Williams Ranch. Our fourth daughter Callie Ree was born August 10, 1913, at Goldthwaite, Texas. Our third son, Addison Milton, born July 15, 1915, at Goldthwaite, Texas, died with mastoid (ear infection) in April 1925, two years after we had moved to Lubbock, Texas. Addison is buried in the Carlyle cemetery, a few miles west of Lubbock. Our fourth son and last child, Arthur Dale was born August 7, 1918 at Goldthwaite, Texas.

Now to resume the story of my own life, when Will and I were married in 1901 we moved to the Miller Grove community in Mills County, Texas, where we lived on a farm two years. The first winter I taught the Miller Grove School about two miles from our house, if I went the road; but only a little over one mile if I walked across the pasture. I did walk that way sometimes, being very careful to hold up my long skirt to keep it from getting wet with dew on the grass. It was stylish in those days for ladies to wear dresses to their ankles or even touching the ground behind their feet. The Miller Grove School lasted eight months that year. I received forty dollars per month, the highest salary paid at that time.

On January 1, 1904, Will and I moved into my parents' home at Mullin to stay until our first son, J.W. was born. J.W. was born February 14, 1904. As soon as I was able, Will, J.W. and I moved to Dad and Mother's farm two or three miles north of Mullin and lived there until July 4, 1904. This part of my story will continue after this paragraph.

During the Christmas holidays in 1903, my brother, Floyd, went to a party. Attending the same party were Fayette Stark's daughters who already had fever with the measles. About ten days later Floyd took the measles. A few days later, our younger brother, Lee and our younger sisters, Birdie and Mae Delle, had them. Just two weeks before J.W. was born I was sick with the flu and felt so wretched anyhow that I could hardly move, but Mae Delle, very ill with high fever and measles refused to let anyone else wait on her. She would'nt take medicine, water, food or even change her clothes for anyone else except me. The measles caused everything to taste so bad that Mae Delle ate or drank only small amounts at a time; but her fever was so high that she wanted a drink every few minutes. Of course she thought I was the only person who could get it or do other things for her. When I became a bed patient, Mae Delle, then able to be up, just ran her little legs off trying to do something for me--offering me a drink, something to eat, or something to look at. Her sincere interest in my comfort made me so ashamed that I regretted very much the way I had felt about waiting on her when she had the measles. I never can repay her for the many kind things she did.

As I mentioned earlier, Will, J.W. and I moved to Dad's farm in the early spring of 1904, while J.W. was still a very young baby. We stayed on that place until July 4, 1904, when we moved to Mercury in McCullough County, Texas. We took twenty

head of fine red cows which we owned. Bryan Smith went with us and drove the cows to the pasture which we rented near Mercury. Will worked for his brother, John Jackson, a building contractor, at Mercury. We lived in a lumber shack with dirt floors until we could build a large two room house.

While we were living on Dad's farm just before moving to Mercury, we planted some cotton acreage. Later Dad had the cotton picked and sent me the money to buy my first sewing machine. Words do not adequately describe my pride and joy over that new sewing machine. I sewed for my family and for the public.

We lived at Mercury one year, then moved in the summer, 1905 to the south plains of West Texas. There we bought a place near the present town of O'Donnell. It had taken us eight days to make the trip in a covered wagon. Shortly after buying the place, we learned the title was not good. Having our money refunded, we moved into a hotel at Big Springs, Texas. Will's parents owned and operated that hotel. While we lived there, I helped with the hotel work and Will drove a dray (delivery) wagon for a lumber yard. In February 1906, we bought a farm three miles north of Big Springs and built a large one room house on it. We lived on that farm six months, sold it for one thousand dollars profit, and moved back to Mills County. There we purchased the Bob Webb farm in the Rock Springs community about five miles west of Goldthwaite, Texas, in the fall of 1906; but we did not get possession and move to the farm until January 1, 1907. All of our other children; Stella, Lawrence Herman, Callie Ree, Addison Milton, and Arthur Dale were born on that farm. Some memories of our life there are pleasant and some are sad. During those sixteen years we worked very hard for a meager living and had very little money for pleasure. Although we raised some cotton and row feed crops which provided a small income for the fall and winter months, our spring and summer living expenses came from our garden, orchard, and melon patches. We worked from early dawn til after dark every day growing and harvesting fruits, vegetables, watermelons and cantalopes for the market as well as our home use. Early each morning we placed the most desirable products in the buggy or wagon and drove five miles to Goldthwaite where we sold them to grocery stores.

After the best vegetables were sold, I selected those next in quality for canning, taking much pride in showing off attractively canned fruits and vegetables. My children still laugh and tease me about refusing to let them eat the biggest and finest fruits and vegetables on our farm. Stella particularly enjoys telling of the time she and J.W. slipped into the orchard and pulled some extra large white peaches that I wanted to can in glass jars. In order to hide from me while eating the peaches, Stella and J.W. climbed upon the overhead water tank platform and sat down with the tank between them and the house, forgetting that their feet could be seen hanging below the platform.

I missed the children but soon found their feet. Having told them before never to endanger their lives by climbing upon the water tower, I rushed out to get them down and punish them for their disobedience. Yes, their punishment was much more severe after I saw them eating the large, rosy-white peaches.

Among other memories I recall some of those concerning our social life. On Saturday evenings we sometimes made two or three freezers of home-made ice cream with our neighbors either at our house or one of theirs. While the ladies mixed the ice cream and the men turned the freezers, children played all over the yard and house. In the summers we took our lunch and attended all day singings or preaching services about once a month. Another favorite diversion (after crops were laid by) was our family camping trip to a nice shady place by the Colorado River for two or three days each summer, fishing, boat riding, and playing in the water. Sometimes other relatives went camping with us.

One particularly exciting event occurred one afternoon about the time for J.W., Stella, Callie Ree and Addison to be coming home from school. I heard a loud clattering noise and rushed outside to see what caused it. There to my horror was 'Whitefoot' the little bay pony they drove to school, coming in a hard run with only the front wheels of the buggy. I started screaming and running along the road toward Goldthwaite (where the children attended school) but suddenly realized that I could not go very far, so I returned to the house and telephoned my sister-in-law, Mrs. John Hendrick, whose house was next to ours on the road, and asked her whether she had seen the children. She said, "Yes they are all right" She and her family happened to be watching my children coming along the road, in the buggy, when suddenly the front wheels went on with the horse and the buggy with the back wheels quickly dropped to the ground. The horse was frightened and ran away, the children fell with the buggy, but they were not hurt and laughed as they walked home. I was too frightened myself to think it funny.

One of the tragic experiences happened one night when we lost three hundred baby turkeys. While Stella B, Mother, Birdie, John and I were in Goldthwaite attending the high school graduation program for J.W. and Gladys, (my younger sister) Will stayed at home to keep the younger children and look after the farm. When a terrible cloud started coming up, he gathered the baby turkeys into tubs and placed them inside a building. That night big rats killed all three hundred of the small turkeys.

As the children grew older and were soon to be ready for college, we decided to sell the farm in Mills county and move to a larger town where better school facilities would be available. In March 1923, we sold the farm

to my brother, Floyd. We chartered a railroad freight car with Mr. Albert Wright for shipment of our livestock and household goods to Lubbock, Texas. Will came with them. A few nights later the children (except J.W. who was attending Abilene Christian College) and I came on a passenger train. That night in our rush to get on the train we lost Arthur Dale's cap. Thinking we would be socially disgraced if he had to travel bareheaded, I borrowed a cap from my brother John for Arthur Dale to wear. The cap was too large, but it permitted us to travel in style. I sent the cap back by return mail.

I'll never forget that cold, windy, dusty March day we arrived in Lubbock, 1923. For the next two years we lived two miles west of Lubbock on a farm rented from the Kelly family. We enjoyed that place because we had an extra nice large, two story white frame house; an ample supply of water stored in a large overhead tank for house use and in ground cement tanks for garden and livestock. After two years the Kelleys sold that farm because they were moving back to Indiana. While living on that place we made enough money to buy our first automobile, a Model T. When we drove it to Mullin, the trip required one and a half days. Now we have a V-8 model that makes the trip in five or six hours easily.

The next twelve years, 1925-1937, we continued living a few miles west of Lubbock while renting a farm from Texas Technological College which opened in 1925. We had a very hard struggle earning our living and educational expenses. Besides doing the farm work, we milked fifteen to eighteen cows and sold milk, both wholesale and retail. Will and J.W. worked for the college, Stella B and Callie Ree clerked in department stores. Arthur Dale worked in Piggly Wiggly and Furr Food stores. I must explain that all the children attended school regularly, but worked after school and during summers. Stella B, Callie Ree and Arthur Dale graduated from Lubbock High School. All of the children attended Texas Technological College and earned college degrees there. While we lived on the college farm, I enrolled in the college and received my B.A. degree in 1930, the same year Stella B. received hers, and J.W. received his M.A. degree, I really enjoyed my college classes more than words can tell. Part of the time J. W. , Stella B, and I were all in the same classes.

J. W. bought this farm east of Lubbock on the Acuff Road seven miles east of Lubbock County Courthouse. We moved here January 1, 1937, and we have lived here continuously ever since. J.W. was already married and living in Lubbock when Will, our other children and I moved to this farm. Since Will's

death in January 1954, I have lived alone here until February 1962, when Stella B, whose husband, M.M. McMichael, passed away in 1961 came to stay with me for awhile. She does not plan to make this her permanent home. I have been very active raising turkeys, chickens, and gardens. One year I raised six hundred turkeys and dressed most of them for special customers at Thanksgiving and Christmas. I keep about five hundred or more chickens every year and sell eggs. I also raise at least one hundred fryer chickens every year and dress them for J.W.'s family and my own use. Every summer I plant and raise a big vegetable garden for relatives, friends and myself. I usually can several dozen jars of vegetables and fruits each year in addition to those I store in a large deep freeze. I still do all my own sewing, making my clothes, mending and altering garments for J.W.'s family, helping Callie Ree and Stella B with their sewing when they visit me.

One of my greatest pleasures is reading. The children keep me well supplied with various books, magazines and news papers. I also pass many lonely hours watching Television on the set which the children gave me a few years ago. When ever I want to go to town or to see a neighbor, one of the children drives the car for me. They take me every Sunday to the Broadway Church of Christ where I have been a member since transferring my membership from the Church at Goldthwaite, Texas in 1923. I drove my own car until two years ago---when I was seventy-seven years old.

Thinking back over my rather long and active life, I am aware of many interesting changes in several fields, especially in fashions, education, entertainment, and transportation. Although I have "kept up with the times" in many ways, I still flatly refuse to ride in an airplane. All four of my children have traveled on airplanes for several years and think no more about it than I do about riding in a car.

My autobiography will be incomplete unless I add information about my children. J.W. is a college teacher---Professor of Government in Texas Technological College, a position he has held for thirty-two years, 1962. He received his M.A. at the same college. He also attended Stanford University in California and the University of Washington at Seattle.

J.W. and his family own their home in Lubbock, Texas. He married Miss Mamie Wofforth in 1935. They have two sons, Jan, born April 2, 1943, attends Technological College. Nick born August 7, 1947, attends Lubbock Christian College Junior High School. He will enter the tenth grade of Lubbock senior High School this September, 1962. J.W. and his family are active in political and government affairs.

J.W. volunteered for service in the U.S. Air Force and was commissioned First Lieutenant in 1942. He was in the Intelligence Division and was promoted

sucessively to Captain, Major, Lieutenant Colonel. He served four years in World War Two; two of those years in Italy. He had command of several companies of troops being returned to the United States where all were being seperated from the service in August, 1946. J.W. is still in the Air Force - Reserves

Stella B (Mrs. M.M. McMichael) is the Associate Librarian at the Lubbock Public Library. For several years she has been a professional librarian for high schools, colleges, and public libraries. She has both M.A. and M.S. degrees. Stella B's husband was manager for an oil field transportation for several years until heart trouble caused him to change employment. Then he became a car salesman and school bus driver for twelve years. He passed away in April 1961, with heart trouble.

Callie Ree (Mrs. George B. Cooper) a teacher in the public school of Moses Lake, Washington, is an active leader in the local, state, and national educational associations. She has two college degrees, B.A. In home economics and B.A. in Education. She will soon receive her M.A. degree from the University of Washington. She taught in Texline High School one year before marrying George Cooper in 1938. He is a supervisor for the U.S. Reclamation Bureau. They lived several years in Carlsbad, New Mexico; then transferred to Altus, Oklahoma, for three years. In 1951 they were transferred to Moses Lake, Washington. where they still live. 1962.. Callie Ree and George Cooper have three children; Austin Wayne, born May 1, 1942, attends Washington State University; Thomas David, born February 21, 1944, graduates from Moses Lake High School this month and will enter college this fall; Anna Louise, born May 13, 1954, attends public school in Moses Lake.

The Coopers are active workers in the Church of Christ. George is an elder and supervisor of the Sunday School. Both boys, Austin and Tommy, are song leaders for the church and active in the young peoples department.

Arthur Dale, an attorney for a large bank in New York City, is interested particularly in the import and export departments. His position requires some travel in foreign countries. In 1959, he stayed four weeks in Mexico City; again during 1961. During the fall of 1960 he stayed six weeks in South America, on a legal assignment for the New York Bank. Arthur Dale graduated from Harvard Law School. He completed his first college degree at Texas Technological College in 1938 when he was only nineteen years old. That same year he went to Washington, D.C. as secretary for the late Senator Sheppard. After the Senator's death a few years later, Arthur Dale worked several months in the Library of Congress. While living in Washington D.C., he attended George Washington University. Later he attended Princeton University in New Jersey.

Arthur Dale volunteered and was commissioned Ensign in the U.S. Navy in 1942. He was promoted successively to Lieutenant, Captain, Lieutenant Commander. He served four years during World War II, most of the time in the Pacific Ocean. Some of the war years he served special assignments in England, Switzerland, and other European Countries. Since the war ended he has visited those countries again. For a number of years Arthur Dale remained in the U.S. Naval Reserves.

Arthur Dale has never married.