**WILLIAM CARL FOX**

William Carl Fox was born November 9, 1858, at Licking, Missouri to Jefferson and Mary Ann Shanks Fox at the Fox home place on Pigeon Creek. His mother died when he was nine days old. One of her brothers took him and he lived with them a lot of the time even after his father remarried.

His schooling was all in Texas County, Missouri. As a young man he went to Arkansas and went to work for Mr. and Mrs. John Shelton and Cyntha Moon Chastain on Georgia Ridge near Dyer, Arkansas. A daughter, Lucinda Melvina Chastain, born 12 August 1860 was to become the bride of William Carl Fox. They were married at the Chastain home in Dyer, Crawford County, Arkansas, sometimes known as District 61, on 12 May 1880. The marriage was performed by R.H. Hatley, minister, in the presence of W.M. Daylin and others.

William Carl and Lucinda Melvina Chastain Fox began housekeeping on a tract of land close to her parents home that they either bought or the parents gave them. The fireplace was still standing in 1968 but the house had been gone for years.

At one time, when they had one child, Mr. and Mrs. Fox went back to Licking, Missouri and started a farm. One morning Mr. Fox went out and started work but soon was back in the house and said, "Let us move back to Arkansas, I have rolled the rocks around these hills my last time". By night they were on their way back to Dyer, Crawford County, Arkansas.

To this union the following children were born: John Jefferson, Mattie Cora, Cordia, Lonzo, Maggie Della, James Roy, Monard Edward, Mary Ann, William Herbert, Troy Carl, and Harvey Arthur. All were born in Dyer, Crawford County, Arkansas except Maggie. She was born at Tahlequah, Oklahoma, Indian Territory at that time. The Fox family lived there part of one year. The year was 1891 and they moved back to Dyer, Arkansas, where the last six children were born. William Carl owned several large tracts of land at different times. He was a farmer and a stockman. Lucinda Melvina Chastain Fox died 12 May 1903 and is buried at the Dyer Cemetery, just a short distance from where she lived.

William Carl Fox married Lizzie Jowers on 1 November 1903. To this union one son, Otis Everette, was born 21 March 1906.

This marriage ended in divorce on 9 November 1906.

William Carl Fox married Mattie Ann Easom Tobey on 7 October 1907. She had four children at the time of marriage. To this union was born Herman, Nolen, an unnamed daughter, Leona, and Nellie Pauline. They moved to Winthrop, Little River County, Arkansas, about 1919. While living in Little River County, Arkansas, William Carl Fox was plowing corn and a blade or cornstalk leaf sliced his eye out. He got on the train, went to Foreman, Arkansas, had his eye removed and was back home before anyone knew about the accident.

Around 1922 they moved to Fort Smith, Arkansas, and about 1924 they moved to Keota, Haskell County, Oklahoma. He continued to farm at each of these locations. Mr. Fox built a grist mill in Keota and in 1930 he sold that and moved to Stigler, Oklahoma. They lived there about one year and returned to Keota where he lived until his death in 1953.

A humorous incident was told of Maggie Delia Fox Wooley, a daughter of William Carl Fox, by him dealt with his sister Rhoda Fox. William Carl Fox neither smoked or chewed tobacco. His sister dipped snuff or chewed tobacco. She came to see him while he was ill. She leaned over to kiss him and her tobacco juice was deposited, on his face. Needless to say he was very mad at this affair. He was so furious he pronounced her name Rhoda as Rhod-ie.

Red hair runs in the Fox family. It wasn't bright red, just rust color. It's referred to as auburn color. Many offsprings from each generation were red headed.

William Carl Fox was a Republican in politics. His religion was Church of Christ and he was a member of the IOOF Lodge [***Editor***: Independent Order of Odd Fellows] at Dyer, Arkansas.

William Carl Fox ran for Tax Assessor of Crawford County, Arkansas, as a Republican about 1914. He got into a fight with the man who won, Mr. Pennywell, a Democrat. The fight occurred during the campaign at District 61 school. Mr. Fox broke his lantern over Mr. Pennywell's head. At a later time two of the Fox boys got into a fight. One said he was William Carl Fox and the other was Mr. Pennywell. They soon forgot their fight and remained brothers and friends.

William Carl Fox was a deputy sheriff in Crawford County about 1918. Someone stole a saddle and it was reported to Mr. Fox that it was a Mr. xxx and Mr. Fox believed that to be true and was so stating same. Mr. xxx approached Mr. Fox one day, confronted him about the accusation and proceeded to severely beat Mr. Fox. Mr. Fox had a pistol in his pocket but couldn't remove it. Mr. Fox thereafter wanted to kill Mr. xxx but to keep the temptation down; he always had a young son with him when he was to be anywhere Mr. xxx might be.

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