

SUMMARY OF 24 ANNUAL REUNIONS HELD AT LONG HOMESTEAD - 1948 - 1971

THE TOBIAS LONG DESCENDANTS STARTED A REUNION IN 1948. NAOMI PIERCE, EMMA KLINGLER AND LUCY AND CHARLIE LONG STARTED THINGS TO ROLLING TO GET ONE STARTED. THE LAST SUNDAY IN JULY WAS SELECTED AS A GOOD DATE, AS A RULE IT'S QUITE DRY AT THIS TIME AND THE WHEAT HARVEST IS OVER SO FIGURED THIS A GOOD TIME. THE FIRST ONE WAS HELD IN THE C. N. LONG HOME JULY 25TH, 1948, WITH TABLES STRETCHED ACROSSED THE BACK KITCHEN TO PUT THE HOT FOOD ON AND IT TOOK THE TABLES STRETCHED ACROSSED THE BIG KITCHEN TO HOLD THE DESSERTS. 130 PEOPLE WERE ACCOUNTED FOR ON THIS FIRST DAY. OFFICERS WERE ELECTED AND THE LAST SUNDAY OF JULY WAS SET ASIDE AS AN ANNUAL EVENT. C. N. LONG WAS ELECTED PRESIDENT AND DIAMOND KLINGLER AS SECRETARY-TREASURER.

AT THE SECOND ANNUAL REUNION HOMER RAMEY, OF TOLEDO, GAVE AN INTERESTING TALK ABOUT TOBIAS LONG COMING TO HARDIN COUNTY TO SETTLE. A MOTION WAS MADE TO TAKE THE REUNION TO A PARK BY MEL LONG AND SECONDED BY GUY LONG. IT WAS DEFEATED IN FAVOR OF COMING BACK TO THE HOMESTEAD. CARDS COST \$4.00 WITH 150 PEOPLE PRESENT. THE REUNION WAS CATCHING ON.

ENOUGH COLLECTION WAS COLLECTED OVER AND ABOVE EXPENSES BY THE THIRD REUNION TO BE ABLE TO BUY MATERIAL TO MAKE 3 BIG TABLES. TWO TABLES HAVE BEEN ADDED ALONG WITH PEOPLE BRINGING PICNIC TABLES AND CARD TABLES. CHAIRS HAVE BEEN BORROWED FROM THE LAWITZ AND HANSON FUNERAL HOMES OVER THE YEARS. CYRUS LONG PASSED AWAY IN OCTOBER OF 1950 LEAVING ONLY 3 BROTHERS.

IN 1953 OTTO LONG APPOINTED MILDRED BINKLEY, AND FREEMAN LONG TO GET MATERIAL TOGETHER ON THE TWO SETS OF CHILDREN. MARY MILLER AND NAOMI PIERCE ALSO HELPED.

MR. AND MRS. ALBERT CONKLE CAME THE FARTHEST FROM CALIFORNIA. MARY MILLER DRESSED AS UNCLE CLEM KLINGLER'S MOTHER AND MILDRED DRESSED AS GRANDMA MALISSA LONG. THE FIRST OF THE HISTORY AND ANCESTRY WAS BEGINNING TO COME IN.

PICTURES WERE BEING TAKEN AT EACH OF THE REUNIONS. IN RECENT YEARS NOT SO MANY HAVE BEEN TAKEN. LET'S NOT LOSE THIS ART.

LETTERS HAVE BEEN READ EACH YEAR FROM COUSINS WHO COULDN'T BE PRESENT. OVER THE YEARS THESE HAVE COME FROM THE LOVETTS, ROWS, LAHSERS, CONKLES, LONGS, METTLERS, RASKO, CHENEYS AS WELL AS OTHERS.

ONE YEAR THE REMARK WAS MADE BY LEWIS KLINGLER AS HE HAD HEARD IT GIVEN BY A REV. ASH, "HE WAS AFRAID OF THE LONGS, KLINGLERS AND THE RAGMEEDS TAKING THE COUNTRY."

A MOTION WAS MADE AND SUPPORTED IN 1955 TO HOLD THE REUNION AT THE LONG HOMESTEAD AS LONG AS CONVENIENT AND PROPER TO ONES CONCERNED. AGAIN IN THE NEXT YEAR THE MOTION WAS MADE TO TAKE THE REUNION TO A PARK. RAY LONG, HARRY KLINGLER AND IVAN RHODES WERE APPOINTED TO FIND A SUITABLE PLACE. IN 1957 ABOUT TIME FOR THE REUNION AFTER THE COMMITTEE HAD ALMOST A YEAR TO WORK ON IT, RAY LONG CAME TO PHILLIP AND RUBY LONG AND ASKED IF THEY WOULD BE WELCOME TO HAVE THE REUNION IN OUR FRONT YARD UNDER THE TREES? THE ANSWER WAS A VERY ENTHUSIASTIC "YES", AND IT HAS BEEN HELD THERE EVER SINCE EXCEPT FOR ONE YEAR, IN 1969 IT LOOKED RAINY AND THE FOOD WAS PLACED IN THE HOUSE OVER WITH MILDRED, FRED AND ELMER. MOST OF THE PEOPLE ATE OUTSIDE.