

**WILLIAM NEWTON  
"BILL" WAGGONER**

**(1851 - 1925)**

**And**

**MARY JUDSON HEAD**

**(1864 - 1925)**

## WILLIAM NEWTON "BILL" WAGGONER

(1851 - 1925)

Onie Irene Waggoner Todd



**William Newton "Bill" Waggoner** is the fourth child, third son, of **Washington Waggoner** (1814) and **Nancy A. (Smalling)** (1823). According to the US Census of 1860 information, Bill and his three Waggoner brothers, **George Calvin** (1841), **John Thomas** (1848), and **Zachariah** (1853), were in the household of **W.W. "Varmint" Gregory** (step-father) and **Nancy A. Gregory** (mother). William Newton, born 23 October 1851, would have been about 9 years old at that time.

According to US Census information of 1870, Caldwell Parish, Ward 5, the four Waggoner brothers were in a household with their aunt, **Manerva Smalling** (age 40 ☺). The oldest brother, Calvin (age 27), is listed as a farmer and is listed first, implying he is head of household. **John Thomas** (age 20), **William Newton** (age 18), and **Zachariah** (age 16) are laborers. We believe Manerva is the sister of Nancy Alice. As far as we can tell, Manerva never married. She was also born in Alabama.

Over the next ten years, three of the brothers married: George Calvin in 1873, John Thomas and Zachariah in 1878. The two older brothers, Calvin and John Thomas also had their first children. By 1880, William N. was the only male at home and listed as head of household. His mother, **Nancy A. Gregory** who had been widowed, and her two daughters **Emily Gregory** (age 19) and **Nancy Gregory** (age 16) were living with Manerva, and William Newton (age 34). Newton was a single farmer until he married his sister-in-law's younger sister, **Mary Judson Head** (age 21), on 19 February 1885 in Caldwell Parish. William's younger brother, Zachariah, and wife, **Elizabeth "Betty" Head** (1861) had married seven years earlier. Bill and Mary's first child, **John Franklin Waggoner**, was born on 31 Aug 1888 in Ouachita Parish, Louisiana. Over the next 17 years, the couple had six children.

By the US Census of 1900, William had established his own household in Ouachita Parish, Louisiana. He was still listed as a farmer and had five children

between the ages of 1 and 11 at home. At some point after that, William decided to seek greener pastures. The 1910 US Census shows William N. (age 58) and wife, "Head M" (age 45) living in Callahan County, Texas with five children. William is listed as a *farm owner*, and his four children between the ages of 17 and 11 were *farm laborers*. William's oldest child, **John Franklin** (1888), may have stayed in or returned to Caldwell Parish because he married **Eva Pearl Meredith Fisher** (1891) in December 1910 in Louisiana.

US Census information for 1920 is the last we located for William Newton. At the age of 67 he is head of household in a rented house, with his wife, Mary J. (age 55); son, **Sam** (age 24); son, **Jessie O.** (age 21), and daughter **Onie I.** (age 14) [See picture above]. William's occupation is "oil field laborer" and Sam is a "teamster in oil field" while Jessie O. is listed as "laborer odd jobs." The change in occupations is notable. We find one reference for William's son, Jesse Oliver, in a September 1918 World War I Draft Registration that may shed some light on this. Jesse listed his *Nearest Relative* as W.N. Waggoner of Broken Bow, McCurtain County, Oklahoma. Could it be that William learned his "oil field laborer" skills during a brief move to Oklahoma?

**Mary Judson Head Waggoner** died 7 February 1925 followed shortly by **William Newton "Bill" Waggoner** on 17 June 1925. They are buried in West Central Texas at the Breckenridge Cemetery, Breckenridge, Texas.

Children of William Newton Waggoner are:

- 1) John Franklin Waggoner (1888 - 1948)
- 2) Jennie Waggoner (1892 - 1969)
- 3) Sam Wilder Waggoner (1894 - 1957)
- 4) William Allen Waggoner (1896 - 1963)
- 5) Jesse Oliver Waggoner (1899 - 1950)
- 6) Onie Irene Waggoner (1905 - 1978)