

of Christie's prosperity it was a busy little place. The timberlands were producing fine lumber for shipment to the eastern states. (Each day the train hauled carloads of lumber, railroad ties, cordwood, and sawlogs out of the valley. The industry worked night and day. The Indians left their farming, hunting and fishing to work in the timber and were able to improve their lot for a while with wages paid them. But the good times came to an end with all the good timber was cut and hauled away. The railroad was taken out and the stores closed. One little store remains and a few people still live in the houses scattered about. The main highway up the valley goes about a half mile or so north of the village, which rather leaves Christie abandoned along its dusty dirt road.

After these many years now the timberlands have not recovered from the savage onslaught it suffered. Lots of young trees are growing as well as much underbrush, but it is doubtful this or the next generation will see again any of the big pines or hugh walnut trees that once grew there. Even in these present times it is not uncommon for a good walnut tree to bring \$100, which bespeaks of the worth that was once in the Christie country.

Mr. Rector remembers when his country was full of small farms, orchards, hogs and cattle and people were enjoying a good way of life. He recalls when his father had an orchard of about 50 acres, producing much fine fruit. Gone now are the days when each family had a large garden to provide much of their food. The many old two-story houses and log cabins still standing but abandoned to the brush and weeds testify that at one time this was a well populated country. Progress and circumstances have changed much of the way of life for the people of this hill country.

Most prominent of the early settlers in the Christie area were the Christies, Whitmires, Sanders, Littles, and Skinners. The whitmires were a large clan and farmed much of the valley in early times. The whitmires were the first to establish a school and to start a dedicated cemetery bearing their name.

Some of the old houses built over a hundred years ago and still in use are two of the Christie homes, a Whitmire home, and the old Scraper home. One of the Sanders homes dates to 90 years ago. In a way these homes stand as monuments to the quality materials and workmanship of a century ago.

Just over the mountain to the southeast is the site of the crossroads of Addilee. Named for Add and Lee Cole, early day merchants who ran the two stores there, Addilee no longer exists. At one time it was a trading center for the people of Lower England Hollow and Ben Knight Hollow. It was a stopping place for the Frisco trains. At one time there was a post office there and a little hotel. Sawmills, blacksmith shops and shipping yard for livestock and timber products added to the economy of Addilee.

Some four miles northeast of Mr. Rector's home is the site of the old Courthouse of the Goingsnake District. In its day it was the scene of much activity. In addition to the court trials, conducting Cherokee legal matters, and being the offices for Cherokee Nation District officials, it was also the scene of where opposing factions settled their differences with Winchester and Colts. One time a shooting left eleven men dead on the courthouse grounds.