

He tells of the different kinds of Indian corn he has raised. Flower corn and hickory cane corn was used to make the best hominy. Squaw corn, or Indian colored corn, was best for use in making corn meal. Flower corn was also used as popcorn as it was a soft corn. Squaw corn was parched and ground very fine to use as the base of a hot drink, perhaps somethin similar to present day instant drink mix. Now days, he reflects, you have to buy nearly everything in paper sack.

He says the squirrel is a smart animal. He burys lots of nuts in the ground after he has filled his storage places in trees. The squirrel can remember where to go to dig up a nut he has buried.

He says that there are still eagles on Grand Lake, which are now under protection. He says last year there was one prairie chicken. It used to fly over his house going west in the morning and back west in the evening. But this year he does not see him. He thinks somebody eat him. When his young says he sees smoke he sees lots of prairie chickens. Quail on the prairies, but no more. Around his hometown, he says he saw a couple of doves or quail (etc. etc. if this is you). He says he used to buy a box of black powder shotgun shells for a dollar a box, and .22 cents a box was 15¢. etc. etc.

He talks of the early school days at Cherokee School, where his Indian children attended. He remembers the Blackfeathers, Chouteaus, Locatis, Audins, Carrolbrys and other Indian children in the school days. South of where he lives is Mustang Creek. There many Indians lived in the early days. Mustang Creek ran thru the little trading post center of Okoee. The little village was long since wiped out, but at one time was a hunting place of Indians of the area. The village had two stores, a blacksmith shop, grist mill, post office, church, as well as an area known as Okoee Fair Grounds where community events were held.

He recalls a long ago Aug 18 Cloud Indian race in town with a jumping race. At one a large two-story log house, which was located over on Bone Ridge. After the Indians finally moved to Cherokee County, some Indians from the house hunting for what they believed to be hidden money.

He says when he was a boy he would sing to someone's home for dancing, singing, and fiddle and string music. He says the Cherokee boys were all musicians, as was Fox John and others, and they used to get times to their advantage when they had opportunity.

He recalls the old rock church in which his mother factory of oil chose, and old muli Stevens and himself in the listed singing. He likes to recall the pleasant sounds of the blacksmith hammering on the anvils in the daytime. He used to take his horses to blacksmith shop in Okoee to get shod. While waiting he says old Indian comer and roper-like friendly friend Claude August and his Dickerson would sit there and tell stories. Especially did he like to attend the fairs and other events at Okoee Fair Grounds where Indians would meet and visit with old friends and relatives.

Around 1927 he attended the Cherokee Orphans Home at Delina. He recalls he and four other Indians stayed with a relative while going to school there. The other Indians were Forest Luckrat, Billy Blackhawk, Abe Lowdermilk, and a boy known only as Tsi-ste (mouse).