

He tells of an Indian he knew long ago by name of Smith. Smith told him that when they went to gambel, he would always tie his horse where he could see it. He depended on the horse to advise him. When the horse was quiet and undisturbed, except for an occasional tail-swat at a fly all was in his winning favor. But when the horse became restless, then he knew some bads were coming, and it was time to quit. This he believed and acted accordingly.

Ned also has lived by signs and age-old beliefs. In the Cherokee version of the Signs of the Zodiac, much of the older Indians' way of life was governed. He cites as examples: If one is cut in the sign of Cancer, his chances of recovery are almost nil, but if cut during the sign of Virgo, the injured will get well. Then, if a hog is cut (castrated) in the time of Sagittarius, he will heal up almost without scar, whereas if cut in the sign of Leo, that pig will probably bleed to death. Ned says he has cut thousands of hogs and cattle and only lost one. One time he had caught a wild hog and was very mad at the brute. Getting the hog back home at night he went ahead and cut him, which was against the sign. However, he believes that in cutting he missed the "seam" and the hog got along well afterwards, and that hog's life was changed from Boar to barrow along with its social courtesies.

In the days of open range with livestock scattered over wide areas, a miracle of that day was how each owner knew the others' animals. But such was the case as a hog or cow, not seen for month, could still be identified. One time some neighbors told Ned that there was a hog near their place that belonged to him. Possibly an offspring from one that was identified, the neighbors so insisted that Ned finally went and got the pig. The Indians did brand their stock, dating back to time beyond recall. In addition to the conventional shoulder and hip brand, the Indians sometimes ear marked, but more often branded in the center of the belly. This latter method of marking was more permanent and did