He recalls in his early days there were great flocks of prairie chickens where he was raised. His father used to make cornstalk traps to catch these birds when they came into the fields to feed.

His family used to fish in Clear Creek or go farther east to the Neosho River. At one time fishing was good in these streams and they would meet Indians of other tribes there to visit and fish together. Sometimes the women would smoke or dry fish to take home.

Welch is an old settlement. He believes it was named for a family by the name of Welch who were Cherokees and were pioneer settlers. Before he knew them however they had moved on east across the river over into the Cowskin prairie country. He does recall when there was only one store in the settlement operated by a man by name of Wagoner and later a man by name of Copeland put in a store. With the coming of the Katy Railroad the town began to grow and to-day is a nice little country town. However it has seen more prosperus and busier days when there was lots of grain produced in the area. Big ranches and cattle ranges have replaced the wheat, oats and corn farming. Vacant buildings on its main street protest the march of time and the changes progress brings. At one time Welch was hearlded thru its local newspaper, the WELCH WATCHMAN, which later became the WELCH AMERICAN. The last newspaper was printed sometime in the late 1930s. The stock market, rail shipping yards, and elevators still operate much the same as they did years ago and draw trade from a wide area.

George tells that when the Delawares were being moved around, as well as migrating in the early days, there was one group that had attempted to settle in the area of Ottawa, Kansas, but after a few years moved southward to establish homes in northern Indian Territory. This group united with Delawares that came from other other places to be recognized in inter-tribal affairs of the olden days. Mr. Barker says that history records the fact that when Columbus came to America the first Indian tribe that he met were the Delawares. It can hardly be said that Columbus discovered America, a land that was already populated and being used by a people with established government, civilization, and a way of life though foreign to the whiteman.

George remembers also log ago when Whitefeather Adams, a Delaware Indian preacher used to come up into the Welch country and preach to the Indians. His grandmother Susie Anson, and an aunt, Maggie Racoon, could not understand English, and Rev. Adams would preach in both languages. Rev. Adams lived at Alluwe on the Verdegris River where many Delawares lived at one time.

He recalls during Indian land allotment, there were four wagon loads of Delawares from his area that went to Tahlequan to file their claims. They camped on the Illinois river and stayed a week while waiting on their land matters to be handled. They took advantage of the excellent fishing in the river, and he tells of catching fish up to two feet long. It was here that they met many Cherokees, Senecas, and Shawnees and remembers them all as most friendly. To-day very little land in his country is owned by Indians, as Texas cattlemen have come in and taken over all of the grassland country they can get. He says sometimes there are so many cars with Texas tags running around he dont know if it is still Oklahoma.

Long ago He recalls when some Texas longhorn cattle were first brought into his country. Many of the people did not want that kind of cattle here and many of the longhorns were shot and killed in protest. They were a wild breed and few fences would hold them. They were also dangerous to man and horse.