

so we couldn't skate. And one of the older boys said, "Well they're not going to stop us--we'll go down on the Washita". Well, we got down there in a little large pond not far from the Rock Island Railroad ridge and we begun to skate on the ice. We were having quite a time. Our feet got cold and one of the boys said, "Let's build a fire". And we built a fire on the ice and all of a sudden it begun to crack and we went in every direction to get out of the way. But we went back home and got warmed up again--we still wasn't stopped. We went back to the Washita and tried it again. That winter, one of the girls in the school and I were walkin across the garden when I got my foot tangled in a vine and I said, "Oh, wait until I ge out of this watermelon vine." And the girl spoke up and said, "Oh, that's a gourd. Oh, that's what I want." And I said, "What in the world for?" She said, "Oh, we're going to make a post office." And I said, "How can we--there's a post office down town." She says, "I know, but this is going to be our post office." And I said, "What for?" She says, "So we can write notes to the boys." Well it didn't interest me very much. I didn't care too much for the little mean boys. And I said, "What boys?" And she said, "Oh, all of them." So she took a saw and she made a slot in the gourd and cut off the top so that it could be lifted up and the notes dropped in. She told me how to make the envelopes--cut a ^{1/2} of a sheet of tablet paper and seal it together with water and flour. Well later, she put the old gourd in an old corn shucker and I'm quite sure that never in the history of all of Grady County was there a more interesting post office than the old gourd hidden in the corn shucker. But as summer came we had parties on the lawn and we went out to pick wild flowers and we had a literary society at the school house. Often there would be box suppers to raise extra money. It was understood at that time that the teacher that year had gotten a fabulous sum of \$40.00 a month for her services. And as we were down to the store one time and the men were discussing the school condition, one of them, a Mr. Madison said Teddy had been very liberal,