

He remembers when the town of Dewey was just a little village with dirt streets. When it rained the whole place was just a sea of deep sticky mud. In its early days a street car ran from Bartlesville to Dewey and afforded many their only means of transportation.

The early days of the Delawares they made their living by farming and hunting. Many of them fished on Caney River and on the many tributaries. One source of income was from trapping fur bearing animals, which were plentiful in the early days.

Fred recalls when he was a small boy several wagon loads of Delawares traveled some sixty miles to the Shawnee Hill country to attend a stomp dance and Indian meeting. He recalls that the roads just wound through the woods and across the prairies wherever it was the easiest to travel. It was a three day trip one way then. Trips to the Shawnee Hills in what is now Craig County was always enjoyable. The language of the Delawares and Shawnees is very similar and they are some of the few Indian tribes not bothered with language problems. Fred remembers best the good and plentiful food at those meetings.

In the days when the government made payments to the Indians for land and other obligations, Fred remembers going one time to the Delaware area near Nowata. This was the home of the Journeycakes and Barndollars.

Fred talks about the Indian foods of long ago. Corn was the main part of every meal and it was prepared in many ways. Pumpkin, squash, and beans also were much used. Table vegetables as we know them today were not widely used by the older Indians. Meat was the most important item of their foods and they used just about anything edible. Crawdads, eels, gar, turtle, muskrat, and eel prepared only as an Indian cook knows was a delight. Other things figured too, as it was related that once his little brother ate his fill of grasshoppers. On another occasion this same brother had somehow cut off a dogs tail and his mother later found him eating it.

He tells that as a young fellow he very seldom had any money, and that there was little need for the coin and long green then, as there were few places to depart with it. He recalls one time a friend of his had worked out on a ranch for several months. When one day he was paid \$150 in gold. His friend told that that was the first money he had ever had and often he would have to sit down and count the money to be sure it was there and real.

He talks about the old burial grounds of the Delawares. Many were located in his part of the country, some of which were the Falleaf, Lenns, (Stick Creek, Silver Lake, Curleyhead, Beck, White Rose, Day, and Thursday. He recalls that over in Nowata County the Delawares had a large cemetery called Bezion and another at Old Alluwe. He says some of the old Indian cemeteries have now been taken over by white people, and do not have to pay for a lot. Fred tells that the belief of the older people was that when a person was buried, that was the end, and they never went back to that grave. They believe that a person went back where he came from when he died. That may be the reason that there are so many unmarked graves. In more recent years the Indians have started marking their graves. He had heard his grandfather tell about never going back to visit a grave.