

At one time in his early years his family lived in the river bottom country near Alluwe. To get the use of some land, he and his father cleared timber off of some land one winter. Later the family had a short stay at Whiteoak, and while there he worked in the hay fields. He remembers that the hay field workers would gather in the railroad box cars when there was no work to snoot craps and play cards. Sometime the U. S. Marshall, Cap White, came around often to raid the games. One time he arrested 35 men and took them before Judge Preston Davis at Pryor.

When he was living in the Oglesby area one of his good and close neighbors was an Indian by name of John Hawkins who had an 80 acre farm which was his land allotment. John lived there until he died and was buried near his home in a little family cemetery. Time and development has removed all trace of the Hawkins home and cemetery. In those days Mr. Topping now wonders how they made a living as both he and Mr. Hawkins had large families. In the Topping family there were eight boys and two girls.

Some three miles north of Oglesby is the Hogshooter community. At one time there was a school there and several people lived close around. Both the school and the church were favorite meeting places for the community long ago, but people do not gather and visit like they did in other days. As far as Mr. Topping knows there are no Indians remaining in that part of Washington County, which tells again of our changing times.