

the Mefford, Partridge, Thomas, Hunt, Childers, Tiger, Wofford, Mantooth, Blackwell, Stark, and Williams.

Joel recalls when the town of Inola first started working on its streets to improve them from the rut-scarred trails into something better. He says he worked on the street improvement crew for \$1.25 a day, for plow team and hand. Before World War I most of the money used then was silver and gold. Then paper money came into use. He says two-dollar bills were also in circulation, but many people believed it was bad luck to carry one of those. Where or why the belief, Joel never knew, but he did believe. He recalls when paper money came into general use, and tells that the bills were so big they had to be folded to get them into a billfold.

He tells that horse stealing, cattle rustling, and robbing activities had their days in early Inola country. To combat those lawless activities an Anti-Horse Thief Association was formed in Inola. The Association work was not limited to discouraging horse stealing, but also concerned itself with cattle, range rights, and related matters. He tells of an old steer that roamed the countryside causing damage to fences, gardens, crops and was a general nuisance wherever he went. One day someone killed the animal. Probably nothing would have been said, except his hide was sold and the sale was reported from the Kansas City market. Those who killed the steer were found out and they left the county. Although not particularly concerned in their Association work, other activities in Inola were not always peaceful, such as the Inola State Bank was robbed five times in a short period of time just after statehood. It is told that the Daltons, Youngers, Starrs, and others of early day outlaws had been in and around Inola. Train robberies also took place in the Inola country, but Joel had never heard who the robbers were. Back in the early days of the Inola country there was a man by name of