

He tells that the Dalton brothers were friends of his fathers before they became outlaws. He says the boys probably turned outlaw because the government owed them \$1500 and would not pay, so they robbed a bank, drawing no lines about the money as long as they got their \$1500. From then on they were at opposite sides with the law and their long road of holdups and robberies made early Oklahoma history. He says that his father had visited with Emmett Dalton at his home before the gang turned against the government and society in general.

Of the early day personalities that he recalls was one known as Pistol Pete. Pete worked as a cowboy on the wide prairies east of Dewey in the early days. Sometime in the 1930s Joseph and his father went to visit Pete. He was about 95 years old then but very spry for his age and had never worn eye glasses. Asked if he was still good at fast draw with his gun, he demonstrated that he was. Earlier, Pete had been working cattle in the Blue Mound country and had been set upon by a mountain lion. He was cut badly but managed to kill the animal and make his way to the ranch house, but he nearly bled to death. Another of early day cowmen that he knew was Molla Goodnight, who was an old man in the 1930s, and Joseph tells of visiting him at his home in Guthrie.

Joseph tells of an account related by his father, about a family of Indians who had been harmed and harrassed by a group known as the Campo brothers. On learning that the mother and father had suffered at the hands of the whitemen, one of the Indian boys took up their trail. When the boy had returned home he told that he had found and killed all five of the men.

Joseph has visited the land in Kansas where once his people lived and prospered. In that Tongunoxie area of Kansas, it seems ironic that historical markers and plaques have been erected telling that this was once the home of some Delaware Indians. What is not told is how and why they were driven from their Kansas lands. He says that his aged Aunt Julia Hall was one of those driven from her home there.

Many changes have come to the Delaware people caused by the white man. Even their ancestral tribe name. In the beginning the Delawares called themselves "Leni-lenape", meaning "men of our nation". At one time a little settlement of Delawares were located on California Creek in Nowata and a village was started when the railroad came thru which was called "Le-NA-pe", but the whitemen even changed that pronouncation and now is called "Len-a-PAH". Also on the railroad line some five miles distant, another village sprang up which was called "Delaware". Both towns are still in existance, but few if any Indians can be found there. In the progress of time, Lenapah is now nearly completely occupied by Negros.

Joseph recalls when he was a boy that the Delawares used to have their tribal business meetings in the old Pioneer Hotel in Dewey, and if weather permitted they met at what is now the fair grounds. For their stomp dances, ceremonies, and rituals their meeting ground was near Caney river west of Post Oak. Joseph recalls attending those meetings when a boy, and looked forward to the tables piled high with fried bread, hominy, boiled dried corn, and barbequed meat.