

Moody's has seen its share of gun fights, shootings, and the settlement of disputes. Mr. Vann remembers seeing the night lit up with gunfire when factions of the Walkers, Proctors and others staged a gun fight. Several men were wounded and Eli Proctor was killed. Other fights occurred but he does not remember the details.

He recalls the operation of the Negro Seminary established by the Cherokee Nation, and recalls the beautifully kept grounds and building.

Jennson Prairie is a wide expanse of grassland beginning two miles north of Moody's. This was a favorite grazing ground for early day cattle owners. It also served a source of cutting hay for winter stacking. Today this Prairie is losing its identity by encroaching trees and brush.

His father, Jeff Vann, was the leader in the community when taking care of the sick, coffin maker, and burying the dead. He does not remember too much about his father as he died when he was a young man.

He says Indian squaw corn is no longer raised in the area, but that hickory cane corn is still raised for making hominy, cracked corn, and grits. He recalls the time when nearly every family had an orchard and berry patch, but these activities have passed.

He spent nearly all his life as a farmer raising corn, wheat, and headed feed. Put up hay for winter use in stacks, before advent of the hay baler. Remembers the harvesting process of using a binder drawn by three and four horses, shocking or stacking the grain bundles, and then waiting for the thrashing machine and crew to come through the country. Sorghum cane used to be grown by nearly every family, but that too has ceased. The only sorghum mill that he knows of today is in the Pegg's area.

He recalls that when a boy wild game was very plentiful. He remembers seeing his father walk out in the yard and kill deer at the edge of the woods back of their home. There were no woods east of their home then for half a mile and rabbits, quail and other wild life abounded there.