

He remembers going to the little town of Christie when a young man. It never grew to any size, but served as a small trading center for the area. Christie is located a few miles east of Proctor on Chourthouse Creek. The town was named for John Christie, a prominent Cherokee. The old John Christie double log house still remains and in use.

In the early days of his life orchards and gardens were kept by each family. In the late fall of the year his family would butcher nine or ten hogs for their winter meat. Meat was kept in smoke houses and the meat cured with hickory and sassafras wood smoke. Potato and root cellars were a necessity. These functions are no longer a part of their life.

Open range was observed up until a few years ago. Cattle and hogs ranged in the open woods and unfenced areas. The lead cow of the herd usually wore a cowbell to more or less keep the herd intact and to help in locating when roundup was needed. Cattle were lost on open range thru theft or by straying too far away.

Sorghum cane was raised in considerable amount in early days and sorghum mills were a common sight. These too have gone.

At one time cotton was grown by nearly every farmer in the area. No cultivation farming is done in this day. Mr. Whitmire remembers when as a young boy he hoed cotton for 50¢ a day.