

The early settlers and pioneers had some hard times, but they endured them. Gib. recalls seeing some school children go barefooted all winter long, snow and ice notwithstanding. Clothing was secondary to getting something to eat for some of the people.

They recall that there used to be drifters and travelers going thru the country. It was customary for people to take in travelers and strangers in those days without question, feed them and keep them overnight. It was also a custom to load up the family in a wagon and travel to some neighbors house and stay all day and maybe stay all night. This was a welcome treat for both families. Any entertainment to be had was that of their own making. Little money was to be had in those days, and the acquisition of materials came much by barter and trade. Gib relates that some one took some vegetables or fruit to a store to do some trading and in the process got back two tomatoes in change.

Gib recalls putting in his first crop of corn with a pair of mules which he had to break. He only had an old 16" walking plow and a broken down cultivator held together with balin, wire and boards. But he made a good crop that year and started his road to the successful farmer-rancher he is today. Now with tractors and modern farm equipment, he says he sometimes stops in the field and reflects on those early days with just a bit of nostalgia, spiced with a bit of guilt that he has had it so good.