

Wapanucka has one of the finest public schools in the new state and the Presbyterian, Baptist, Methodist, Christian Churches all of which gave the town a healthy moral influence.

In spite of this, gambling, boot-legging, and other unlawful things crept in, and a United States Officer was stationed here to keep law and order.

Wapanucka was surrounded by a magnificent farming belt, which produced without fail, large crops of cotton, corn, hay, and small grains. Land was divided in many varieties of soil, making it adaptable to growing apples, peaches, pears, and other fruits to perfection. There were many small orchards and a lot of fine fruit.

Wapanucka was at its peak, and during cotton season the streets were full of cotton wagons loaded with cotton, either before ginning or after being ginned. Several cotton buyers from out of town were on the streets during the cotton season. Bales of cotton were hauled to Caddo, Okla. for shipment.

During this busy season, a bank robbery was attempted at the Peoples National Bank, located at the time where our post office is now located.

The robbers blew the safe door off, which broke the plate glass in front of building and blew the front door off, hitting one of the robbers who was standing guard on the outside, he was slightly injured. Before they could get the inner safe door off, all the town was awake and men from every direction was closing in on them. (It was a beautiful moonlight night) the three robbers ran to the Rock Island R.R. where they had a hand car waiting for them, and escaped for the time. Later all three were caught and served their time in the penitentiary.

Some time later, some one dynamited the negro hotel, no one was seriously hurt, but the building was a total loss.

Wapanucka continued to prosper for several years, even after the First World War, through 1929. Then the bollweevil appeared, and the depression in 1930. People moved away, some businesses failed, banks closed, and things in general seemed to go from bad to worse. Many crop failures, then World War 2 which seemed to spell doom for Wapanucka. So many of the young people gone, some to the war, some to other places to hunt jobs in war plants. The older people not able to carry on farming alone, the community suffered the consequences

"The darkest hour is just before the dawn" - and Wapanucka seems to be waking up slowly, and who knows but what there are brighter days in store for Wapanucka. During all these years, there has been many fine people living in Wapanucka from time to time a good many of them have died--others have gone to other locations, and many have prospered. And all seem proud that once Wapanucka was their home town.

To mention some of the entertainments that we had through the years for all ages: Rook Club, Domino Club, Ladies Literary Club, Parties in the homes, Home Talent plays, opera house plays Chautauqua's, circuses, and out of town tent shows, picture show, skating rink, dances in the opera house, admitted by showing your invitation card, and dance music furnished by a paid orchestra, two and three day picnic's in the summer time.

For spiritual growth and uplift there was Sunday school and church every Sunday and Sunday night, midweek prayer meeting, choir practice once a week, Ladies Aid Society and to make money for church, ice cream supper's, dinners, and bazaars.

Our school motto was "A slow answer turneth away wrath, and harsh words stir up anger"

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