

OLD TIMERS REMEMBER

By Carl Langford

From the SA Archives 2 May 1920, the Brownwood Bulletin writes snow came in March and a killing frost in June. A cold wave of the past three days has, as usual, folks to talk of various times in the past, when weather changes of an unusual nature came to break the round of seasons. A couple of old timers of Brownwood were talking about the weather that occurred on 9 June 1876, a killing frost hit Brown County with nearly all the corn was either killed or badly injured,

One of the men lived in Lampasas county at that time, his corn was tasseling out, was not killed but was badly injured, when the sun came out the next day the corn looked if someone scorched each blade with a blaze of fire. The people got very upset over the situation but following this cold snap, good rains, fell over the west and a good crop year was had in this county. The crops were late but very plentiful and brought good prices. Folks raised various kinds of grain and meat.

Another old timer stated on 13 March 1866, he being eighteen with others, at the time followed some Indians from Comanche County to Brownwood, which was no town but just a store and postoffice. The Indians had stolen some horses and were trying to get the horses back, intending to do so or kill every Indian in the group. The Indians finding they were being followed, left several horses along the trail and made a get a way to the North, which at the time unsettled.

The pursuing party stopped at Brownwood and turned back towards home. Hardly had they started back, it began snowing and in a few hours the snow was 12 inches deep and waist deep in the valleys. The Old Timer telling of the incident, said the snow came down in great sheets like rain falls when it is falling in torrents. The men were several days in reaching home on account of the snow making it almost impossible to travel. In that year the people raised a good crop, because rain came on later, although the season was late.

Note Weather records 1920; January the wettest for 30 years and quite cold, but severest freeze damage to early crops reported on 29 February. And April with freeze nearly to the coast. On April 16 high winds over Spendletop oil fields, Jefferson County blew down 185 oil wells. From weather records.