

Letter, John Long about his boyhood and friendship  
with Dwight Eisenhower

“I will try to lay a picture of Abilene about 1901-1904. On April 23, 1896 Edison showed his first moving picture at Porter Hall New York City. The first moving picture that came to Abilene was shown at the Opera House and they showed the picture of the President.

The first moving picture field was taken over by the roaming Carnivals which had one starting point in Abilene because of the C.W. Parker Co. who made and sold Merry-go-rounds and no doubt helped outfit the tents where the picture shows were shown. The admission was 5 cents and did not change until the moving pictures went indoors.”