

3. Oklahoma should attune itself to the needs of the back-in-the-hills underprivileged Indians, in order that they can be provided means by which they can make at least a standard of living comparable with non-Indians in that area. He stated how much lower the income of these Indians was as compared to the others in the state. Mr. Belvin said that the need to provide these underprivileged Indians with a skill to earn a living is not restricted to any state, but is first the responsibility of the federal government and then the individual states.

Education and spiritual culture are among the saving graces of the Indians. They need an education of the right sort that will fit the individual and he feels that the education of the young will eventually do more to bring the Indian up to his proper level in the economic strata than anything else that we can do for the Indian group. Those things that are good in the culture and heritage of the Indians should be forever a part of the culture of this country. Keep this rich heritage that the Indians have contributed to the benefit of this country. Mr. Belvin pointed out that the state legislature has a committee on Indian Affairs and they are at the present time making a study of the entire Indian problem of Oklahoma and that he is sure that this conference can expect the cooperation of this group in any matters in which they might be able to give assistance. He complimented the work of the conference and expressed the hope that it could develop and enlarge its facilities and carry out the program which had been established at this meeting.

The meeting adjourned.