

SENATOR HENRY BELLMON

I want to say in the beginning that even after four years in the governor's job and five months in this job, I still always get a sinking sensation when everyone stands up. The impression you get is that you are all about to walk out. It has never happened yet but I know some time it will; and I am always nervous until you sit back down; but thank you very much for the honor you afford me here when you do that. I'd like to say I came here tonight to listen and I want to thank those who have spoken their minds, because you have given me a great deal of information. I tell you that will be helpful when we get down to the point of trying to resolve some of the serious problems that we have brought up here this evening. I also want to say that probably within the next month we are going to be writing the final draft of a bill which will go to the Indian Education Sub-Committee, which will relate to such problems as the ones at Chilocco which you talked about so much tonight and the one that Dr. Wall is so heavily interested in. I feel that it has already been indicated that a great deal of injustice was done at Chilocco. I am sorry to say that I do not know why it was done; I had my suspicions. I have no way of knowing exactly why the so-called evaluators took the position they did, and until we know, I think it is better not to add anything directly to what our suspicions are. But I do feel that when the new commission enter their findings on the report and when we can get a look at the report that the Bureau of Justice and FBI has prepared--which we now understand is in the hands of the Department of Interior, that a lot of the statements that have been made and a lot of the opposition that has been made, and some of the acts that have been taken, will probably be (inaudible) and I hope at least the record will assure us that Chilocco