

itical line, why, we all have that interest for our people and we work for the betterment and for the oil operation of the mineral period as far as it will proceed to go why we want to keep that interest up along with the county, the state, and the national politics as near as we can to, as I say, the betterment of our Osage Nation.

OLD TRIBAL CUSTOMS: DANCING AND KEEPER OF THE DRUM, BEING RENEWED

I've been active practically all of my life with the interest of our people and its ways, the traditions and the customs of our people that they have set down for us by the older tribal leaders. And I can recall around 10 years of age that I had begun my participating in dancing and in the line of dancing, well, we have what we call the drum keeper for each district; that is Pawhuska, Gray Horse, Fairfax area, and the Hominy district. Each district has their own drum keeper, and the committee is named which in each district the committee is named to participate with the drum keeper for the three districts, whenever they are called, which we hold our dances in June of every year. And this year the Pawhuska dances will be held in June, also the other two districts. The drum keeper is the keeper of the drum by someone of that family, preferably a son or a grandson, as they designate as drum keeper. My son, Eddie Jr. had been the drum keeper for four years and I - we - passed the drum to this last spring - to Mrs. Rose Hill, who is at the present time, is at Pawhuska with her grandson, R.E. Yarbrough - is the present drum keeper for this district. I can recall dancing in the middle twenties up into the thirties, and during that time there were several men, young boys at that time, participated and took part in the dancing in the three districts. But we danced in the spring whenever the dances were held, but yet we never forgot out education. It was encouraged through the school educational set-up that we have in the agency and we all took part. Some of the men, some of the boys were sent off to school. Some of them were sent to military schools, but I received my