

money to drop her a card or call her collect. Tell her if I want two hundred dollars or five hundred dollars and she'd send it. But I never have asked one cent of it.

NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS:

(How did you meet your wife?)

well, you know we established this National Congress of American Indians convention back in 1944 in Denver. Now we western tribes here, the Kiowas, Comanches, Cheyennes, Arapahoes, and Apaches--we got together and---I was Chairman of the Tribal Council and I was the spokesman. I tell 'em I was gonna go on my own expense to Denver. Then later on we'd call a second meeting in Oklahoma City. These eastern tribes--the Five Civilized tribes, and Poncas and Otoes, Osages, Sac and Fox--at the convention there in the Huckins Hotel. So no Cheyenne or Arapaho undertook to take any part in it, but I did. I said, "I'm going." Well, one friend of mine--he's a Chickasaw--lives in Davis, Oklahoma--he's dead now--"Jess," he says, "Be sure you won't go hungry while you're up there." He's a trustee at the Davis bank and has a lot of land. A cattleman and he's a empire (or umpire) of the oil companies around Davis, and he's affiliated with some lawyers. His name was Bill Short. Bill Short was close associated with Will Rogers and Tom Mix. Because they were all expert ropers. Ropers and trick riders. They had gone to South America and made a little money, and then they came back and he settled down and bought a lot of land, this Bill Short, and he got so much land and homes that he thought he ought to do something beneficial to other tribes. So he went out to New Mexico, Arizona and got a bunch of Navajo families and brought 'em to his country here at Davis, and provides them homes. Even sheep, cattle, hogs, chickens. Fixes everything to the benefit of these tribes, and sent 'em to school. Give 'em the increase of the hogs, sheeps. Give 'em cattle, you know--beef every year. So he made his name that way. Then when this National Congress organized we elected this N. B. Johnson--Judge N. B. Johnson--Cherokee--first president. And I'm a charter member because of that first meeting. I'm still a charter member. Then that organization's grown to such an extent that now it's nationally known. We have an office--headquarters--in Washington. And we appear in all Indian hearings affecting the Indians of the United States, in any of their problems. And that organization--a lot of Indian tribes gets their