

TRIBAL COUNCIL: PAYMENT OF COUNCIL MEMBERS AND ELECTIONS; DRUNKS VOTING:

(Do these people that are on the Tribal Council, do they get paid for their services?)

They get paid per diem. Some of them gets mileage, like those that come from Tulsa, Enid, and McAlester and other places, beyond the reservation boundary. They get paid mileage and per diem. Fifteen dollars a day and mileage ten cents a mile.

That's what they get. That's pretty near more than a state legislator used to get.

(Do people try to get on the Tribal Council?)

Oh, by every possible means! This last council, you know, in our own district here, two girls got on and a boy. This one girl got on honestly, and outright interest. She had the backing of her relations and her friends. But the other two--they got a whole bunch of these what we call "winos" --ex-young veterans that came back and are nothing but drunkards, you know, and their wives. And these parties that campaigned took them to beer joints, promise to give them all the beer and wine they want if they'll come up and vote before they got too drunk. Some were too drunk. The judges and the tab man that counts at the voting precinct had to get up and send them back. Tell them to stand back, away from the yard. I know one girl told me, she said, "I want up there. They gave us lot of beer and wine. Give us lunch. And we should have gone up there when we was all pretty sober yet. Some of them still wanted to drink so we just kept drinking. I was one, I guess--one of them that had a little too much," she said. "They brought one man out that wasn't qualified to vote. Then I walked over there. I just got up to the door when this man says, "Wiat, stop there." I stood there and he took me by the arm and says, "You go out. You're not gonna vote. You're too drunk!" Just like that. So that's how they got in. Same way at Canton. But this Committee two years ago established a system that the whole tribe wasn't in favor of--I'm not in favor of it yet, either--but the old system was that before the election, every two years, usually in November or October, they'd get together at meetings, you know, of the tribe in their community, and they set out plans, and after they established their plans, they'd submit that to the Committee--the Council Committee. And the Committee would formulate election plans--program--established and Election Board. All right. The time limit was established when all the names