

those things couldn't be transferred to another store, they have to be, all your business has to be transacted in one particular store you go to. Indians didn't have to chance to shop around like a white person would. You couldn't find bargain if you want bargain, you just couldn't do that because of the system they had. I used to, when I was small I used to think that was ridiculous 'cause maybe you saw a shirt over here in one store that's you want, that's maybe a little bit cheaper than the one you saw in another store, or a cap, or shoes or something, but this clothing order they gave you prevented you from doing that. You have to go in this one department store and spend all your order right there. Same way with groceries. You got to grocery order, you can't shop around for bargains; you have to go in this one particular store and do all your shopping there at one spot. I've always thought that was just a little bit ridiculous and so did the rest of the Indians but they couldn't do much about it cause they were under the thumb of the BIA. I guess, to some extent it's all right, I guess, say a drunkard or some Indian that likes to drink, why probably squander his money way in some bootleg joint, but they seem to put all the Indians in one category. If one's a drunk Indian, all the rest had to be drunk Indians too. I can't agree with that policy. Or if you want some hardware, I know a lot of these Indians at the time, it was in the horse and buggy days, say maybe they want to buy new harness for their team of horses. And they'd --they can't shop around when they give em just an order to buy maybe just a harness. They have to go to this particular store and buy all their hardware at this one particular spot, that particular order prevent them from shopping around for bargains. I think eventually it was done away with. I don't know if it's still practiced or not. 'Course as I grew older I didn't have too much to do with the BIA. Yew, I think there are some bad things about the BIA, I guess any organizations the same way. So I can't find too much fault with it. Although I'd like to change some of the policies they have. Maybe they have got a reason for doing it, I'm not going to criticize it for that. Maybe they did have some good points.

(I think you're going to have to go coach again so maybe we can talk about the Bureau again some other time.)

(end)