

is appraised and a value is placed on it. Then a bid, to be accepted, must be at least that high. Otherwise none of the bids are accepted.

(You mean, by being with the Office that you have to make an offer as high as they think it's worth?)

Yeah. You have to. The government is the boss of everything. Even if, just think, it's your own land but yet you can't do a dern thing about it till the government--the Office--has their say-so.

(Bonnie: Does that bother you?)

Yes Ma'am, it does some! I told Dad--we were--our loan was approved for seventeen thousand--my husband. And we were going to buy a home in town. After I seen it, well, I didn't want to because I've got too large a family. I came out and I told Papa about it.

STELLA'S PROBLEM CONCERNING AGENCY APPROVAL OF LAND TRANSFER FROM HER FATHER TO HER:

(Bonnie: says something too low to hear.)

No. I told Daddy and he says, "Stella, I've got eighty acres that's sitting here. And he said if you move here closer, it would be better for mother and I." So he brought me out here and he told me, "Anywhere that you want a piece of land, you pick it, you can have it. I'll give it to you as my daughter, with love." So I picked this and he was gonna give me five acres. We went to the Indian Office, and he told them, "This is my daughter and I want to give her five acres of my land to build a home." And he said, "She'll live there for the rest of her life and raise our children." He said, "It's MY land," and the lady just approved. She said, "All right, Cecil, I'll do it. All right, Cecil." And Papa, you know, is outspoken. We walked out of that office and came home and he was so happy everything was gonna be done. We got a paper from the office and they came in and said, "Stella, your Daddy's wishes are