

the Quapaws, the Peorias, and the tribes that came here prior to the Miamis coming were all friendly tribes and let the Miamis sort of move in anywhere they so wished for a little while until they could get straightened out and a tract of land be arranged for. And that was finally done. They bought the west end of the Peoria reservation, and 17,083 acres, and it cost, I believe, \$15,600. By the way, the Miamis were--had money. It was a matter only of changing from the Miami fund over to the Peoria fund, and they could not get this done. I've read many letters where the Miamis were writing to get the money changed over to the Peorias so their land would be paid for. By the way, ten years later, this was not done and the Miamis were being charged ten per cent interest. When the money was finally changed over, the Miamis had had all the time and wanting to pay for the land. It cost them \$23,000 and a few hundred dollars. (laughter)

NUMBER OF MIAMIS

And I've read a letter also where the agent here in what is presently Ottawa County. Indian agent wrote to the commissioner and said, "Well, three or four more generations and we can write the Miamis off. They will be an extinct tribe." This is definitely not so because today 1969, there are nearly some 900 western Miamis or Miami Tribe of Oklahoma on the roll. and when they allotted, there were 67 original allotments, and when they run out of land, there was finally 72 allotments. And they had a little land, some fractions here and there and one thing and another. And they were all lumped together and sold to a man that lived in Fort Scott, Kansas, and then he parceled it out to the settlers within the area. And then the long hard battle of just having a chief--mostly and making a living and educating their children and up until just prior to World War I, the Miamis