

distinguished person as the Senator of our community. Thank you.

Thank you, Mr. Black. We have another gentleman, Mr. Charles Lohah.

CHARLES LOHAH - OSAGE NATION ORGANIZATION

Senator Bellmon, ladies and gentlemen, members of ICA, and all of the audience here. I speak as an officer from the representative from the Osage Nation Organization over in Osage County. They have also asked me to read the following statements to you all and I try not to go overtime. The Osage Nation Organization sees some problems from a different point of view from the tribal council; we see problems as Indians not shareholders, although most of us are shareholders, too. We begin with the problem of land. We ask that this be made available to the Indians of Osage County; we are excluded from participation by law. The Osage Indians do not have priority in purchasing Indian land as this priority was established (Tape is inaudible for about two minutes due to static, background noise, etc.) ---- to get into the property. In many instances, persons granted competency papers are under guardianship and cannot be (inaudible) in less than a week. Many Osages, after receiving their certificates, are in dire need of help when their note is returned to them. We ask that the certificates be able to be revoked by the superintendent upon written request of the individual Indian. Under the bureau regulations, the widow of a deceased Osage is entitled an allowance of one hundred dollars a month and thirty-five dollars for each child. To receive more than this, permission must be received from Washington at great price at the time of greatest need. We ask for the superintendent to be given authority to set the amounts as needed at his discretion and larger amounts subject to availability of funds. We ask guardianships of restricted Osages be disapproved and the bureau then begin to exercise the responsibilities of supervision. That the post be established at the