

Nation. With Whites entering the Territory by the thousands, the problem of providing educational opportunities for their children became acute. The Indian Schools were for children of citizens only. The working White man could not go to school here in Eastern Oklahoma clear up beyond 1893. In fact, I think it was 1903 when the first White man was allowed to go to school with the Indians. If the educational problems had been all that was pressing, it's likely that the answer might have been found without revolutionary changes. However, the other problems as serious as the one pertaining to the schools had to be met and had to be solved. Somehow, the benefits of government had to be extended to the Whites. Somehow, they had to be given legal status. It was inconceivable that situation could long exist where a small number of Indians monopolized the land, the schools, and the local government. While thousands of Whites who had come to form the economic basis of territory and exercised none of the responsibilities of citizenship. In discussing this problem, Dale and Wordale in a book called the History of Oklahoma state: "Their position was truly an honest one. The Indian Government were notoriously extravagant and corrupt. The intruder problem was growing steadily worse. Repeated suggestions had been made to the Five Civilized Tribes be required to accept allotments of land in serverity. The idea which steadily gained in popularity. Thus, the coming of the Whites meant the ultimate disillusion of the tribal government. Their intrusion placed a fifth column in the midst of the Indian Nation. A column that cooperated with outside forces in bringing this issue to the head. Consequently, the Dawes Commission was appointed in 1893 for the purpose inducing the Indian in the Territory to take up allotments, and eventually relinquish the control of their courts, governments, and their