

how they treated the Indians out there. When he was getting his law degree, they said that in North Carolina that he could apply at the Bar any number of times, and they would never admit him to the Bar. He couldn't pass his examination because he was an Indian. He said that for a past time, he and different boys would go and they would find the girls that didn't look too much Indian, and they could slip into the restaurant and places where they were not allowed to go. He said, "I grew up in that kind of environment. I went over into Kingsfort, Tennessee and I didn't tell them that I was an Indian. I just went on about my law and passed the Bar and stayed there and practiced." That's what Mr. Brantley Blue told us. So when he was talking about this, Vess asked him the status of the Osage Claims. He said, "I understand that the Government has appealed it." And Vess said, "Yes, sir," he said, "they have." That's all he said; and I said, "Mr. Blue, you know, Vess's interest and our interest is that the Osage people at one time were the wealthiest Indians that you ever heard of. That is not true today. We have a lot of our younger people that do not have any money at all. Some of our families are on relief. This claim money is something that they are looking forward to. So many of our older people are waiting to be buried with this money."

"Well," he said, "Sylvester, when you came in, we were getting ready to go in to decide this case. Before you leave Washington, you call back or later in the day, and I will give you the status of the claim."

We went back the next day. They had it all, and they had turned the Government down. They said that they didn't have no reason to appeal.