INDIAN HOUSING PROBLEMS AND PROGRAMS

(Tape begins in the middle of a discussion about housing.)
It wasn't fit (the back porch of the Wheeler house). It wasn't enough place, it's just a back porch.
(What do they want you to do then? Do they have any suggestions?)
Well, it's up to the tribe, now. If they had all come and met like they should, they would have gotten something started. See, they were....after they got things started, they were going to help each other. Maybe one bunch would lay the foundation, then they leave it and go somewhere else and lay another foundation. This other bunch come in, put the frame up, everything. That's their job. Alright, they get all the frame up, they go to the next one. Then the next one come in, do the inside, then go on. Put the shingles on. You know, that's the way it was planned to do. But we're not getting nowhere, it's us ourselves. It's the tribe that's not responding like we should.
(The workers would be Indians?)
Yea, they would be Indians. We wouldn't have to pay the labor. Yea, see, we wouldn't have to pay no labor, because they all get together, go over there and help them. You know, do the inside, or lay the...I'd have to help them because they helped me. You see, we don't pay no workers, no labor bills. We just help one another. I thought that was good, but we do not meet.
(You say it's the tribe. But do you think if someone that came in from the outside, do you think you could work better together?)
I don't...my brother has tried different ways. Maybe if you put up a dinner or something, have cake. He tried that, well, a little bunch come, and that was it. It's the tribe, it's us Wichitas. Some of us will go. It's always the same bunch. But others got good homes, and they don't want to cooperate. Because they already got homes, and they think, oh well, I got a good home, I don't need to go. Let them others go, cause if they want a home, let them go and attend the meeting.
(Was this plan developed by the Indian office?)
Yes, in Washington, D. C. The Indian Affairs. It's not this office down here, it's the Indian Affairs.
(Was that lately?)