

"I'm sure not going to let the employee just rub it into me, and make me like it," I told him. "Well, if that's the way you feel about it, I'm just warning you." Well, by God, I went back to my room and packed up my suitcase, and I took out that night. I went, got on the Santa Fe and came to Oklahoma, City and I worked in I think it was a packing plant. Yeah, two weeks; and then I came on home.

(How old were you at this time?)

I was about 14. And I think I stayed home about a week, then the government official from Canton came out there and I told him the same thing. I said, "I'm going to take it a little further than that," I said, "I'm going to take it to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs." Well they thought I wouldn't do it, they thought. By God, that same night I wrote. There was a fellow named Sells, at that time. Well, he got my letter I guess.

(What did you say in the letter?)

Well I just told them the reason why I left school. I said I thought I was a human, I wanted to be treated like a human, do unto others as you would have for them to do unto you. That's what I put on that letter. And I guess the Commissioner forwarded that letter to the superintendent at Canton. They came out there. They told me, "Bill, you shouldn't have done that." Well, I said, "I want to be left alone," I said, "I tend to my own business. I get along with everybody." Well, they said, "Are you willing to go back to school?" "Yeah, I'd be willing to be back providing that they leave me alone, leave me along. I don't want to be treated like an animal, be pinched around, be kicked around, No." And he said, "Look, I'm going to send a letter to the Superintendent, superintendent Wise, and you get ready and you leave here Saturday." I told him, "Alright"