

respond," I said. That's the way I do now.

OKLAHOMA WELFARE ACT AND WRITING OF CHEYENNE-ARAPAHO CONSTITUTION:

(Back in the thirties when you were serving, did they pay the members for serving on the Council at that time?)

In the thirties we didn't organize. We had what they call a General Council. Every man had to pay their own way. There was about fifty of us. Chiefs, and headmen and educated men. We were all on that Business Council--General Council. We didn't organize till 1937, you know. When Congress passed the Oklahoma Welfare Act of June 24, 1936. after I appeared there at the Congressional hearings seven or eight times before the Senate and the House--I made a study of the act of Congress. Made a just a thorough analysis--study--of it. And that was from '36 to '37. And in '37 there was a meeting called over here by Calumet. I was Chairman then. So I presented the program--proposition that we ought to organize, establish a Constitution and By-Laws according to Oklahoma Welfare Act--whats called the Indian Welfare Act of Oklahoma. So the Indians took to it pretty actively. So they adopted that. So I made arrangements with the Indian agent at Concho, during the summer month's the boys' dormitories were vacant and we could occupy those--and we could eat at the school kitchen. There's a bunch of charity kids that always stay at the school. They don't have no homes and just stay. Some of them work around. They provide regular kitchen service for them. And we could eat with them and we could sleep at the dormitories for three or four days. Write out this Constitution and By-laws. So when the government--agency--accepted it, we sent out our notices, to all tribal members of the General Council to come in. So they came in. We got set with our dining room service and got our beds--nice beds--in the boy's dormitory. So we started our meeting. So they made me a constitutional secretary, instead of being the chairman--which I was chairman of the Council then.--they made me a constitutional secretary, to write the Constitution and By-Laws as the Indians wanted it. It wasn't the educated men that wrote the Constitution. It's the opinion of the old people, of their long expectation of our problems. What would be the best for the Indians. And so I worded it in English. They talked Indian and I worded it in English. And then after we'd write down certain sections as