

Cheyenne-Arapahoes. And those are the different problems. Here, 1937, when the Oklahoma Welfare Act was passed, 1936--passed Congress 1936--I gave that a thorough study. In 1937 I organized the Cheyenne and Arapahoes to establish a Constitution and By-laws. So because of my starting it, they thrust everything on me. I wrote the Constitution. I wrote the By-laws. Wrote them and read them to the Convention that was held at Concho three days there, section by section--full section by section. The only two subjects that were questionable--that were finally adopted was--that these Cheyennes want to ignore the Ethiopian descent by Cheyenne-Arapaho mothers, by either legal or illegal marriages, or unions. They oppose that. One man by the name of Alfred Wilson took up with this, in the words as he said it, if I remember "Now these children are blood relations. We love their relations and their relations are our enrollees. Naturally whatever quantum of blood they may represent, they should be entitled to be recognized as either Cheyennes or Arapahoes." We took a vote to that and he won that. The other one was about preparing this statement or oath. I said, "I swear--" and so and so. Some of these young Indians, you know--wild-minded, you might say--went and told some of these Indians we were using profane language, saying "swear,"--"I swear." Got them confused. So the question came up that we didn't want to swear--some of these church members. Old Indians that had never been to school--didn't want to be involved in the word, "swear," as a profane--as a profanity. Then I changed that word "swear" to "affirm." And I explained that and it was adopted. Those two were the only objectionable features of that Constitution and By-laws that I prepared. Course it was submitted to the Secretary of the Interior and he in turn approved of it, November--I forgot what month it was--1938. And that's what we're governed by. Based on the Oklahoma Welfare Act of June 26, 1936. And that's what all our enrollment is based on--all our problems--all our future business from that date up to the present time has made instrumental, to help us to recover all these abandoned reservations like Colony--twenty-four hundred acres. Cantonment thirty-two hundred and some odd acres--eighthundred acres. And Red Moon in Roger Mills--twenty-four hundred or two thousand acres, something like that. And at Concho--I was on that Committee then--all non-taxable--in the name of the United States for the Cheyennes and Arapahoes that they can have anything they want