

2,229 head-rights and they began to strike oil, here, there and then just about everywhere. Some very large pools, at one time I think the Burbank pool was known as the largest oil pool in the world at that time when it was first struck. And many many millions of dollars have poured into the treasury of the tribe, through these oil lease sales and through the production of oil. Col. Walters was the auctioneer, the early auctioneer and even all through the twenties and even into the thirties, was the auctioneer of these lease sales for the Osage tribe.

OIL BUSINESS IN 1920's - MILLIONS CHANGED HANDS

And I have been interested in the oil business, all my life since I was old enough to know anything at all and it seems like that that attracted me to-- something did to want to get into that. However, up to now I never did any good at it except just be interested in it. After attending a few of these lease sales and becoming interested, they used to have them at Kiega Theatre, used to be known as Constantine Theatre, first and was built as the Constantine Theatre. And when they would have a sale, they would usually close up the show in the afternoons, they would have a night show, but the oil men would come and here in Pawhuska we have a large hotel for our city and the men and the women would come and stay at the various hotels. The main hotel in Pawhuska was the Duncan Hotel and many visitors have been there and many oil men have come there and spent the day during the oil sale, which used to require more than one day. In the thirties, I was to a lease sale that Col. Walters was crying and he told us of an incident back in the twenties when the Osages had a large lease sale which brought a lot of money and they started a lease out at one million dollars and he said at the time--made the expression that "I don't believe it is going to sell for that", and it didn't. He said it brought I believe it was one million and close to two hundred thousand dollars for one lease. And at this time there was a little comeback in the 1930's and at this lease sale and I saw one lease sell there for over four hundred