

Well, I --they didn't seem to have any trouble, they adapted to the English language pretty quickly. Of course, they had dropouts then as we do today; the ones that kept on going spoke it pretty good, but the others, some that had dropped out can't speak it too well at the time, but as time went on, I guess they can speak it pretty well.

(You said it was your ambition to work in the Bureau and I was wondering if there was any special reason or motivation?)

Well, no, not really I guess. I was just a job and what I really wanted to do was work among Indians. As I grew older I liked to work with children and that was what I wanted to do; I was pretty active in sports and what I wanted to do was coach and help those Indian children in every way. Then when I grew up, when I moved here to El Reno I started working with the Boy Scouts--(speaks here about the youth programs that he was worked with.)

(I was wondering whether the Bureau had made some sort of impression on you while you were growing up that made you want to work with it?)

Well, not really. Because at the time, that's where most of the Indians I knew were working. But like I said the war changed everything. I never really did get interested in the Bureau since then, after I got interested in newspaper work.

(How did--)

'Course I had an opportunity to work in the Bureau, but as a printing instructor, but the pay scale was a little low I guess.

(How did your folks feel about the Bureau as you were growing up, do you remember any of their attitudes toward it?)

Well, most of the Indians I know of never were too happy with the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

BUREAU AND CLOTHING ORDERS:

It tried to control the lives of the Indians too much. Tell them what to do, how to spend, as I was growing up they wouldn't give them cash to spend, they'd give them a clothing order or grocery order or something like that. Like they were some dumb little kid that couldn't handle their own money; they give 'em a order to go buy groceries and that's it, no cash. If they want clothes, they give them a clothing order as they call it and they go to some department store, of course, those things