mortgage on property much less than that. It is believed that Dunlap, at the time, could not pay 10¢ on the dollar as there were judgements against him for large amounts. Dunlap lives in Ardmore and is a friend of J. S. Mullins.

Another loan of \$2,500 was made to Harold Wallace on his plain note. At the time it was rumored that Wallace was broke and since then he has become a bankrupt. Wallace lives in Ardmore.

Loans were made to several parties in Ardmore. One of them, Ben Champion is an attorney in Ardmore. These loans were made to Mr. Champion and another for the purpose of buying the girl's royalty. This amounted to between fifteen and twenty thousand dollars.

The guardian's final report shows that there should have been a balance of over \$7,000 but the girl herself told Mr. Finlay, Probate Attorney, that she had received \$500.00 at the time the final report was rendered.

Mr. Finley said: "As a general statement, I could figure out that \$151,000 was taken in for this estate but from the statement, I would judge she had received less than \$15,000. I asked her the question, 'Did you receive as much as \$15,000?' She said: 'I have never received \$15,000.''

Suit has been brought on that case by R. L. Disney of Ardmore, to cancel the lease.

# $\diamond \Delta \diamond \Delta \diamond$

Having heard a great deal about the tactics of County Judges. And having read many records of cases in the Court files, I naturally wanted to attend a hearing that I might get facts first hand.

By inquiry I learned that numerous cases were on the court calendars of the different counties of Eastern Oklahoma. I selected one in which I did not know any of the parties concerned or the nature of the case.

On November 19, 1923, I attended the court hearing of the Martha Axe Roberts, nee Washington, case in Osage County, held in Pawhuska, Oklahoma. Martha, a Shawnee and widow of an Osage, from whom she inherited one and one-half (1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>) shares in the Osage Nation, did not appear in person. She was represented by her attorney, Mr. T. A. Chandler a former Congressman from Oklahoma. It was surprising at the outset when her attorney, identifying Martha, offered a government record of her enrollment that the Court would not allow it. The continued protest of Judge Sturgill, attorney for L. T. Hill, guardian of Martha, made it next to impossible to give any evidence for the Indian woman. The court could not hear the story of her deprivations and poverty.

Though Martha had inherited wealth, it was so manipulated by her white guardian, L. T. Hill, of Hominy, Oklahoma, that instead of her weekly allowance of \$75.00, she was told she had no money. Mr. Hill let her have \$1.50 and sometimes as much \$2.50 as a loan from himself to his ward.

Dissatisfied and lonely, Martha left Hominy and went to live with her father and mother in Craig county. She moved her household goods to White Oaks among the Shawnee Indians. Her guardian went to Vinita, a nearby town, and there finding Martha in her Packard car, put her out on the street and took her car away under a writ of replevin. Martha got a conveyance, through the kindness of a friend, and went home only to find an empty house. Her household goods had been taken by her guardian, even to the kitchen stove. For her and her two small children, there was not a bed nor a chair nor food in the house. Her "professional" guardian further placed a notice in the newspaper warning the public against giving Martha any credit. He wrote her a letter; told her she would get no money from him until she returned to Osage County.

During these troublous times her fourteen months old baby got sick. In her extremity Martha again telephoned to her guardian for money as she could get no one to attend her child except a negro doctor who, upon hearing of the notice in the newspaper, left the case. Mr. Hill refused to pay Martha any of her money.

This Indian woman of ample means in her own right was thrown upon public charity, while the court allowed \$1900.00 to her guardian, having replevined her property. Without proper food and medical care, the baby died. When Mr. Hill heard of the child's death he telephoned to his ward to hold the dead body a day and wait until he came when he would make all the funeral arrangements. So obstinate in not letting his ward have her money when the baby was yet alive and there [w]as hope of saving its life, — now, so ready to spend her money after the baby was forever lost to its brokenhearted mother. The Osage County Court could not hear this tragic story of the Shawnee woman whose identification it had refused to recognize. Like countless other Indians, she was but a fly upon the chariot wheel of her legal guardian.

Mr. Hill was represented by Judge Sturgill, a former judge of Osage County, under whom he had been appointed guardian of Martha Axe

#### ARTICLES AND SPEECHES

Roberts, nee Washington. The objections of Judge Sturgill to most of the evidence offered in Martha's case were sustained by the court and therefore stricken from the record.

The court stenographer forgot to take down the statements of Mr. Chandler, Martha's attorney, until he requested her to do so. Plainly, the court was dominated by Judge Sturgill. It is common talk that the present judge owes his appointment to the influence of this same Judge Sturgill, following his resignation. Whenever Judge Sturgill spoke, the Court's hearing improved and much went into its records about John Washington, Martha's father, being a worthless drunkard and also that Martha had no sense of the value of money, nor of right and wrong; that she was crazy. Within a short half-hour, the Court dismissed the case. Mr. Chandler gave notice that the case would be appealed to the District Court.

I felt an overwhelming indignation at the legal helplessness of a poor, rich Indian woman.

Yet, there was a question in my mind lest Martha be mentally unbalanced under the strain and humiliation of her situation — that there might be some foundation for this official statement against her that she was crazy. To satisfy myself on this point I went to Vinita [to meet Martha]. There I met a gentle, bright-eyed Indian woman. After hours of conversation with her, in the course of our visit together, I found her very intelligent, though unlettered.

I spent the evening with her, her little child, and her father and mother. Many things were told me of her guardian, Mr. Hill. She said Mr. Hill had a store in Hominy to which he limited all her purchases. He sold her faded shopworn blankets that had holes in them at full price and refused to exchange them when she protested. When she wanted to buy a Singer sewing machine, Mr. Hill told her she had no money. He bought her, out of her own funds, however, an expensive Packard car, and submitted to the Court a gas bill for eight months amounting to \$2750.00. Judge Sturgill, then on the bench, approved it. Mr. Hill's father-in-law sells gasoline. This item was later protested. Judge Sturgill is quoted as saying "I think it's a loan." Martha told me she never got any loan from this man.

Martha further said her guardian bought high-grade hogs paying as much as \$90.00 for a six months old pig when she was not interested in stock raising and only wanted a few hogs on the farm to use for meat. Now Mr. Hill is paying a man \$50.00 a month, out of her funds, to care for the stock she did not want.

Martha says her estate is being mismanaged by her guardian and, while he is not guardian of her person, Mr. Hill is trying to force her to return to Osage County. Her own desire is to remain in Craig County with her father and mother and to live [among] her people, whose language she speaks.

Martha has more than enough means for herself and child. She is to be admired in her wish to live with her father and mother who are no longer young, to make them more comfortable [in] their advancing age.

Her father, John Washington, is a brick layer and stone cutter by trade. He is a man well informed In practical business methods and has a keen memory. He did not deny the charge against him that he uses intoxicating liquors but he told me of many occasions, which he has not forgotten, when Mr. Hill, his daughter's guardian, supplied him with his whiskey in the name of friendship. It appears that Mr. Hill would make use of the habit he himself encouraged now to discredit John Washington.

I called at the Farmers State Bank in Vinita and asked the cashier, Mr. Martin, if he knew John Washington. He said "yes." Mr. Martin had been born and raised there and knew everybody. I asked him if the charge against John Washington were true that he was a worthless drunkard. He said, "I have never seen him drunk. On the contrary, I consider Martha and her father intelligent above the average Indian."

My conclusion is that Martha is not crazy but perfectly sane and her love for her parents, which draws her to them, is wholly admirable. She is a victim of exploitation.

Under the present bias of the County Court, where judge, ex-judge, and "professional" guardian combine their forces, the Indian is legally bound and gagged. There is no hope of justice so long as these conditions are permitted to remain. Legalized robbery of the rich Indian is an ugly practice and abhorred by all self-respecting Americans.

The human cry of this Shawnee woman is a call to America for defence [*sic*] and protection.

The smothered cries of the Indians for rescue from legalized plunder comes in a chorus from all parts of eastern Oklahoma. The case cited above, you will note, is from Osage County, in the extreme northern part of Oklahoma. And now follows another crime perpetrated under cover of a County Court in the southern part of eastern Oklahoma.

Little Ledcie Stechi, a Choctaw minor, owned rich oil property in

#### ARTICLES AND SPEECHES

McCurtain County. She lived with her old grandmother in a small shack back in the hills about two and a half miles from Smithville. They lived in dire poverty, without proper food or clothing and surrounded by filth and dirt. Ledcie inherited lands from her mother, including twenty acres which became valuable oil property. Other lands she inherited were sold by her uncle, Noel Samuel, for a consideration of \$2,000.00 which was deposited in the bank subject to control by the County Judge, who allowed \$10.00 a month for the support of Ledcie Stechi.

After the discovery of oil on the twenty acres above mentioned, her uncle, Noel Samuel, who was her guardian, was induced to resign through a combination of various tactics, force, persuasion and offer of reward which he never got. Mr. Jordan Whiteman, owner of the First National Bank of Idabel, whose attorney was instrumental in Noel Samuel's resignation, was now appointed guardian. At the time of Mr. Whiteman's appointment, July 1921, Ledcie lived with her old grandmother in the hills, and until 1923 they were in a semi-starving condition. Once a week the old grandmother walked to Smithville to buy food on the monthly credit of \$15.00 allowed them by Mr. Whiteman, at Blake's store. They had no conveyance. Sometimes she was too tired to walk back. Then she hired someone to bring her which cost fifty or sixty cents. During this period from 1921 to 1923, the guardian did nothing to make them more comfortable or to educate the little Indian heiress.

In the fall of 1922 the guardian attempted to sell ten acres of Ledcie's oil land which was producing at the time, and appraised at \$90,000.00, for a consideration of \$2,000.00. This attempt was defeated, and with the result that Ledcie Stechi's monthly allowance was increased to \$200.00. Still, throughout the following year, Ledcie and her old grandmother fared no better than prior to the \$200.00 allowance. In April, 1923, they were brought to Idabel, the County seat. The rich little Choctaw girl with her feeble grandmother, came to Idabel carrying their clothes, a bundle of faded rags, in a flour sack. Ledcie was dirty, filthy, and covered with vermin. She was emaciated [and] weighed about 47 pounds.

A medical examination showed she was under nourished and poisoned by malaria. After five weeks of medical treatment Ledcie gained 11 pounds. Recovering her health, she was placed by an employee of the Indian service, Mr. W. J. Farver, in the Wheelock Academy, an Indian school. Mr. Whiteman, evidently fearing to lose his grasp on his ward, demanded the child, and Ledcie Stechi, child of much abuse, was returned to the custody of her legal guardian. The last time the aged grandmother had seen Ledcie, and only for a few minutes, was on the 12th of July.

A month later, on the 14th of August, word was brought to the hills that Ledcie was dead. There had been no word of the girl's illness and the sudden news of her death was a terrible blow to the poor old grandmother.

The following day, at dawn, before the corpse had arrived, parties of grafters came to the heretofore unknown hovel in the hills and harassed the bereaved old grandmother about the future disposal of Ledcie's valuable properties.

Rival speculators went over with the body of Ledcie Stechi. Some of them sent flowers to be placed on the grave of her, who though but a child, had known only of poisonous thorns. The floral offerings were too late for the child of sorrows, but they were made by hypocrites who hoped thereby to play upon the heart of the aged grandmother, who was now the sole heir to Ledcie Stechi's vast estate.

Greed for the girl's lands and rich oil property actuated the grafters and made them like beasts surrounding their prey, insensible to the grief and anguish of the whitehaired grandmother. Feebly, hopelessly, she wailed over the little dead body, its baby mouth turned black, little fingernails turned black, and even the little breast all turned black! In vain she asked for an examination of the body, believing Ledcie had been poisoned. "No use. Bury the body," commanded the legal guardian.

Mystery shrouds the death of little Ledcie Stechi, girl millionaire, as she lies buried in the silent hills of McCurtain County, and rumor has it that the Commissioner of Indian Affairs intends to have the body exhumed.

The Court has already appointed a guardian for the grandmother, against her vehement protest. She, too, will go the way of her grandchild, as sheep for slaughter by ravenous wolves in men's forms unless the good people of America intervene immediately by remedial Congressional action. Such action is the duty of all loyal Americans for the protection of America's wards.

Near the center of eastern Oklahoma, in Tulsa County, Millie Naharkey, kidnaped [*sic*] a few days prior to her reaching legal age, is now awaiting the court's pleasure in her case. Though wealthy in her own right, she is living upon charity, in the home of Indian friends, while her property is tied up in litigation through no fault of hers. This excerpt from THE PHOENIX, of Muskogee, Oklahoma, dated November 2, 1923, gives the story as follows:

"An amazing story of a conspiracy to defraud Millie Naharkey, 18 year old Indian girl, out of oil lands valued at \$150,000 is contained in an information filed in the United States District Court yesterday by Edwin Booth, special assistant to the attorney general seeking to revoke the attorney's license of Robert F. Blair, prominent Tulsa lawyer, and disbar him from practice in the Federal courts.

"Blair is charged, with malpractice and conspiracy in the written request presented to and signed by Judge R. L. Williams which came after an investigation covering more than eight months by operatives of the Indian service and the Department of Justice. Blair is given 20 days to file an answer.

"In the information the government alleges that a conspiracy existed between Blair, Grant C. Stebbins, president of the Gladys Belle Oil Company, and A. B. Reese, of Tulsa, to defraud the girl of her lands as soon as she became of age.

#### GIRL WAS KIDNAPED [SIC]

"Blair is represented as having been employed by Stebbins to assist in carrying out the scheme to defraud the Indian girl and at the same time the former induced her to sign certain Instruments empowering him to act as her attorney.

"In carrying out the details of the conspiracy and at the instigation of Stebbins, the girl was kidnaped and hurried out of the state by employees of the oil company and taken to Casville, Mo., where Blair procured her signature to a deed conveying to Stebbins for a cash consideration of \$1,000.

"In connection with the kidnaping it is charged that the girl was plied with intoxicating liquors, kept in a state of fear and prevented from communicating with her former guardian or Indian officials and was without knowledge of the contents of the legal papers presented to her by Blair to sign.

## **KEPT IN IGNORANCE**

"Blair is also charged with having appeared in the district court of Tulsa County claiming to represent Millie Naharkey and procure the dismissals of certain actions and suits there pending which had been filed in her behalf and later to have vigorously resisted the reinstatement of suits.

"He is charged, following the execution of the contract with the girl for the lands, to have met her in Independence, Kansas, where she was brought by Reese and to prevent her knowing of the fraud which had been perpetrated upon her.

"When the girl was found by government officers in Kansas City September 15, 1922, she was taken before the United States attorney and lawyers employed by Blair claiming to represent Millie Naharkey protested at the interference of the government.

#### MAY FILE GRAVER CHARGE

"In the final charge Blair is alleged to have aided and abetted Stebbins and Reese by giving them advice and taking such action as necessary to protect them against the efforts of the government to procure the return of the girl to Oklahoma. He is charged with having resolved compensation regularly from the Gladys Belle Oil Company while pretending to represent the girl as her attorney.

"The action of the government is believed to be but the first step in investigating the case. It has been rumored for several months that white slavery charges would be filed against the abductors of the girl.

"The investigation in this case has not been completed and it would not be proper to assume what facts may develop,' Booth said. 'Should investigation develop sufficient facts to warrant other actions they will be considered fully and taken if justified.'

"In the evidence on the case accumulated by Thomas P. Roach, special officer of the Indian service, a complete record of the kidnaping crime appears.

### FORGED CHECKS ON HER

"The report declares that early in June, 1922, Millie left the Chilocco Indian school and returned to the home of her mother, five miles south of Tulsa, and was induced to leave with relatives and men later identified as agents of the Gladys Belle Oil Company.

"The party first stopped at Casville, Mo., where Blair joined the party and secured the deed for the land from the girl. "At the time the contract was executed, she received \$2,000 in checks from the Gladys Belle Oil Company for oil runs from the land and turned them over to her half-brother, Foxie Red, and were in turn deposited in a Tulsa bank.

"Checks cashed on the bank payable to W. R. McNutt, one of her abductors, were later declared to be forgeries.

#### ALSO ROBBED FATHER

"After leaving Casville, the party moved on to Roaring River, Mo. a resort in the heart of the Ozark mountains. Many 'wild parties' with liquor flowing in abundance were here, the report declares, and the sworn statement of a watchman at the resort indicates that several 'nature parties' were staged on the hotel lawn by women who attached themselves to the kidnapping expedition.

"In connection with the filing of the information yesterday, it was asserted by the Indian officials that Stebbins was involved in a similar deal to secure possession of land purported to have been purchased from Moses Naharkey, father of Millie.

"Stebbins later gained a clear title to the land after prolonged litigation in which the case was carried to the Supreme Court.

"The case lagged during the final months of Victor M. Locke's administration as superintendent of the Five Civilized Tribes but soon after Shade Wallen was appointed to his post it was pushed with vigor.

"Commissioner of Indian Affairs Burke, upon receipt of Roach's report of his investigation, immediately sought assistance from the attorney general's office in prosecuting the case.

'The case is one of the most revolting in the history of the Indian service,' Superintendent Wallen said last night.

'It is hard to find a case parallel to this one. The conspirators not only attempted to deprive this innocent Indian girl of her property, but one of them, according to the evidence, made an unlawful assault upon her.'"

# $\diamond \Delta \diamond \Delta \diamond$

I personally met Millie Naharkey, and was struck by her smallness of stature, her child's voice and her timidity. It was difficult to believe that she was of legal age, for she appeared in every way to be a girl of only thirteen or fourteen years. She was decidedly immature. She talked English; told me she was in the sixth grade prior to the time she was kidnapped but now she was not attending any school.

After a long private conference with this little girl, I grow dumb at the horrible things she rehearsed, much of which is of official record at Union Agency, Muskogee. There was nothing I could say. Mutely I put my arms around her, whose great wealth had made her a victim of an unscrupulous, lawless party, and whose little body was mutilated by a drunken fiend who raped her, night after night. Her terrified screams brought no help then — but now, as surely as this tale of horror reaches the friends of humanity, swift action must be taken to punish those guilty of such heinous cruelty against helpless little Millie Naharkey, an Indian girl of Oklahoma. This is an appeal for <u>action, immediate action</u>, by the honest and fairminded Americans of this 20th century. We believe they are in an overwhelming majority over the criminal class, and the power is in their hands to redeem not only the helpless Indians, but a sister state of the Union from the petty thieves that infest her.

With all due respect to Oklahoma, and the good citizens in that state, allow me to call your attention to the important historical fact that the state of Oklahoma was formerly what was known as Indian Territory and Oklahoma Territory combined; and that it was the home of notorious outlaws such as the James brothers, the Dalton Gang, the Younger brothers, and many others.

It is a well known fact that outlaws, fleeing from the law, used to make a dash into Indian Territory. Then later on, the development of oil lands has been a strong magnet drawing all kinds of speculators to Oklahoma.

From the foregoing we can assume that Oklahoma is not made up entirely of the best citizens of the United States. It is no wonder, after all, that lawless greed is showing itself in her courts and other branches of the government of the state. Where the Indian has no friend at court, and where he may not be a member of the jury, there is no chance of real defense for him. He is a legal victim.

However, since the Federal Government is the permanent guardian of the Indian people, whether citizen or non-citizen, it is responsible for the protection of these Oklahoma Indians, and must intervene in behalf of its wards when state laws are so phrased that the person of the ward and his vast estates are being plundered under cover of state courts.

The Federal Government is made up of the United States, and any

## ARTICLES AND SPEECHES

responsibility of our government is a responsibility of the United States, of men and woman voters of these states. We all share in the crimes perpetrated against the helpless Indians of Oklahoma, who compose a third of the entire Indian population, when we fail to take action, through our American Congress, to ensure life, liberty and happiness to the nation's Indian wards.

From a careful survey of the fields it is obvious that a closed yet informal organization composed of bankers, mercantile companies, professional guardians, bootleggers, judges of the courts, and lawyers, is operating upon the rich Oklahoma Indians. So case hardened are they that it is believed "Indians, wards of the government" are their legitimate prey. They have taken advantage of the conflicting jurisdiction of state and federal government over the Indians and their property.

The cost of administering Indian estates is many times greater than that of white Oklahomans, far beyond any justification. To illustrate, I state in substance what a reliable informant said. If an Indian wants to sell a piece of [a] deceased [person's] land, he will go to a lawyer and get the papers fixed up. The regular price for this service is from \$10.00 to \$25.00 but the Indian is generally charged 10 percent of the sale price of his land. If a real estate man wants to buy land, he will see the Indian, the latter confers with the lawyers. The lawyer would probably say to the real estate man, "we will make this \$2,000.00 and pay the Indian \$1500.00." In this way the attorney gets a fee from the Indian and a liberal commission from the purchaser.

The marriage laws are in conflict with the age long customs of Indian marriage and manner of reckoning descent. Endless litigation and quieting of land titles are brought about, an almost hopeless entanglement of Indian affairs. To add to this confusion are those divorce promoters, out drumming up cases for their attorney friends. And again, some attorneys cooperate with flappers to ensnare wealthy young Indian men into matrimony, making free use of bootleg whiskey as an aid. Soon thereafter a divorce usually follows and the court allows a large alimony to the Flapper Wife, which she shares with her co-partner, the attorney.

In this frenzy for wealth, exploiters stop at nothing. There is the fraudulent will of Hilly Bear, whose thumb mark was secured by ghouls manipulating the thumb of the corpse. I read a fictitious contract which had been in operation some time where four years after the death of an Indian girl, she was designated by her Indian name and referred to as a boy whom the notary public swears appeared in person before him in the signing of the papers. The usual charge made against Indians in general is that they are most improvident and, therefore, incompetent. If administration of their affairs in Oklahoma had been left entirely to the Indians they could not have made a worse failure than did their guardians appointed by the courts, who exhibit improvidence and incompetency of the highest degree.

Last August when an Indian, Willis Berryhill, died, his administrator, the Cashier of the Sapulpa State Bank, demanded and received from the Federal Department at Muskogee, a check for \$57,477.02. This was money Berryhill had voluntarily deposited with the Federal office for safe keeping. After his death his money was dissipated by extravagant expenditures, such as funeral expenses amounting to five thousand dollars, including a solid bronze casket costing \$2600.00.

These deplorable conditions exist not only among the "Five Civilized Tribes" of Oklahoma but prevail among the Osage Indians also. The Martha Axe Roberts nee Washington case cited in the foregoing is of Osage County.

Here are some of the richest oil fields, bringing in an income averaging a million dollars a month and divided quarterly among the Osages. In the development of these rich oil fields, Supt. J. Geo. Wright has shown real genius, and, further, he has established a record of unprecedented integrity in the accurate accounting of these vast sums of oil money passing through his hands. The meritorious work of Mr. Wright is heavily overshadowed by the gruesome realization that it feeds and perpetuates a horde of white grafters, gamblers, and bootleggers.

The dual jurisdiction of the state and federal government promotes this illicit business, and fails completely to conserve the wealth of the Indians, indirectly permitting the deterioration of the health and morals of these citizen wards of America.

Here is the case of Gratomesahe, a blind and incompetent Osage Indian whose guardian, a former County Judge, transferred his \$2400.00 property to his sister-in-law in another state for \$1.00; she transferred it to the Indian ward for \$4800.00. \$5200.00 was spent by the guardian on this home and it cannot bring over \$500 at this time — this consideration being shown by the 50¢ revenue stamp on the deed.

There are many other similar records in Osage County, but for limited time and space let this one illustration suffice.

No court hearing was held on November 20, 1923, at Pawhuska, as I

had been led to expect. The case was to have been Mary Claramore, (an Osage woman) vs. Guardian. Upon inquiry I learned at the Court House that this case had been dismissed by the County Court. The attorney "to satisfy Mary Claramore appealed it to the District Court but never intended to carry it out." The necessary bond had not been filed and it appears she was betrayed by her own attorney. In this connection it is interesting to note that this Osage woman had three inherited estates.

In concluding my report of present conditions as found in Oklahoma, I wish to call attention to the fact that the 101,000 Indians called the "Five Civilized Tribes" of Oklahoma once "had their own newspapers and schools, and were highly developed. There was a certain percentage of illiterates among them and an infusion of negro blood, but the bulk of the Creeks, nearly all the Cherokees and many of the other bands possessed farms, good buildings, and were progressive."

With the discovery of oil, and the Congressional acts transferring the Federal supervision more and more to local state courts, conditions have changed sadly for these Indians. Today 75 percent of Oklahoma's Indian population are verging on pauperism.

These Indians are all citizens, but unorganized, and the most of them do not vote.

The following remedial measures suggest themselves to me:

- 1. Congressional Act restoring Federal authority sufficient to be an effective protection to the Indians against the local ring of grafters.
- 2. Investigation and reorganization of the Indian Bureau [serving within] the machinery of the Federal government, for better service to both the Government and its wards. The New York Bureau of Municipal Research, having made one investigation of the Indian Office in Washington, D. C., would be at this time the proper one to do it, together with the addition of one man, to be appointed by the Secretary of the Interior, who is thoroughly acquainted with the present Indian Bureau organization and its field system. I have this man in mind who is especially fitted by his integrity and ability, enriched by years of experience in Indian work, whose name I would like to suggest, if this plan wins favor. [He is already in the Indian Service as Inspector and would not involve additional expense or necessitate the creation of a new position, but if assigned to the special duty of aiding the Research Bureau, would be of invaluable practical aid.]<sup>2</sup>
- 3. American Red Cross activities to be extended to the Oklahoma Indians, to better health conditions and sanitation in the homes of the poor and

# HELP INDIANS HELP THEMSELVES

destitute, in particular.

4. To launch a practical educational campaign which shall teach the value and To launch a practical culculation which shall encourage the learning of a trade proper use of the ballot, and which shall encourage the learning of a trade proper use of the ballot, and the ballot, looking toward the enjoyment of their to couple with the use of the ballot, looking toward the enjoyment of their human and legal rights as American Indian citizens.