

Senator METCALF. I understand you, Mr. Schaab. Thank you.

Senator ANDERSON. Well, I will merely say, had they asked in the first place, there would be no compromise. The people who have been belaboring me, the religious crowd, say, "Why don't you let them have their church?" And we say, they have got another church. They say, "Oh, no, you have your church and swimming pools, and your forest lands, besides that, and we won't compromise," so you know you are really not trying. I don't believe it is in order to have a compromise of 48,000, when 30,000 was clearly indicated. I think that is a very sound position.

Mr. BERNAL. Mr. Chairman, Governor Romero states that he appreciated the opportunity of testifying.

Senator METCALF. Senator Hansen?

Senator HANSEN. I have no questions.

Senator METCALF. I have three major questions, and I will welcome responses from Mr. Schaab, or the members of the Council, or the employees of the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

I am concerned about the election of the tribal officers that come up here. Now are the tribal officers democratically elected? Let me add that we had a great controversy in America that has been settled by the U.S. Supreme Court, that in election of officials of the Government, or representatives of the people, there shall be one man, one vote. Now in accordance with that Supreme Court decision, are the tribal councils of your tribe elected with one man, one vote?

Mr. BERNAL. Mr. Chairman, I would like to take an opportunity to answer that question for you. May I?

Senator METCALF. Please. Anybody that can answer it.

Mr. BERNAL. Yes, Mr. Chairman, the Taos Pueblo is now exercising the self-form of government. This is old traditional self-form of government.

Senator ANDERSON. The what?

Senator METCALF. I didn't get that. The Taos Pueblo now—

Mr. BERNAL. The Taos Pueblo now, and have been, exercising the self-form of government.

Senator METCALF. Self-government, yes.

Mr. BERNAL. Self-form of government. This is our oldest type of government, which these people have been still exercising today.

The Spanish crown, the Mexican crown, and United States recognized this authority, similarly, and the Spanish-American government, by Abraham Lincoln, gave a cane saying, "I will recognize your self-form of government." That is what Abraham Lincoln says.

Senator METCALF. Well, now—

Mr. BERNAL. I would like to get into the detail—

Senator METCALF. Now let me ask a question, and will you answer yes or no?

Mr. BERNAL. Yes.

Senator METCALF. Are the members of the tribal council of the Taos Tribe elected by democratic, one-man, one-vote procedures?

Mr. BERNAL. I am unable to answer that question yes or no. I would like to explain how come the Taos Pueblo Council elects these, and where it is authorized, and things like that.

Senator ANDERSON. Could you also describe the fact that this council is a self-perpetuating organization? If one man dies, the members of