

SCHWABE - COLL

July 13, 1945

Mr. Laurence D. Hibbs  
4127 South Owasso  
Tulsa 15, Oklahoma

Dear Laurence:

I am just in receipt of yours of July 10th enclosing clipping from the Tulsa paper relative to the Indian curative title act which recently passed and became a law July 2nd.

I think this is a very salutary measure, and certainly was badly needed in our part of the State, especially since some of the New Deal courts had taken occasion to hold invalid the title to millions of dollars worth of property affecting the Five Civilized Tribes' land. I am a member of the Committee on Indian Affairs of the House, and we held hearings on this bill for many days and I did a tremendous amount of work toward the perfecting and passage of the bill, of which I am very proud. I think it will do more to stabilize our titles than any other bill that could have been passed by this Congress.

It is a pleasure to me to send you a copy of the Act, which I am herewith enclosing.

I anticipate that Congress will recess within the next few days, and that I shall be home the latter part of next week. Run up to the office some time and let's have a chat.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

George B. Schwabe, M.C.

1 enclosure

GS:lw

## TRUMAN SIGNS OIL TITLE ACT

Mid-Continent Operators Join the  
Tribesmen in Approving  
President's Step

Word came Sunday to a number of Mid-Continent oil executives that President Truman late last week had signed the act of congress which validated titles to lands in the Five Civilized Tribes of eastern and southern Oklahoma.

The validating law was required because both the circuit court of appeals and the supreme court had rendered rulings rendering unstable and questionable titles to many tracts of land in the Five Civilized Tribes area, and especially since Jan. 27, 1933.

Federal Judge Rice had held that lands purchased by members of the Five Civilized Tribes with his own funds free of departmental supervision were restricted in the hands of full-blood heirs, and the supreme court refused to review the circuit court of appeals thus leaving in effect the original judgment of Judge Rice. The action of the high courts surprised both the bench and bar and cast a cloud upon many titles.

Senators Thomas and Moore and Congressman Schwabe were active in supporting the bill by Congressman Stigler that validated the titles, and nullified the rulings of the federal district, federal circuit and federal supreme courts in such matters. The results are now that the tribesmen may dispose of such purchased lands, while their original allotment may remain restricted.

4127 South Owasso  
Tulsa, 15, Oklahoma

July 10, 1945

Hon. George B. Schwabe, M.C.  
House of Representatives  
U. S. Capitol  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Schwabe:

I shall appreciate it very much if you will send to me two copies of the law recently signed by President Truman which validated titles to lands in the Five Civilized Tribes of eastern and southern Oklahoma.

The passing of this act by Congress has been of benefit to us, and it has already been of assistance to me in closing the title on a lease. I should like you to know that I appreciate your efforts in helping to get this law passed.

I am enclosing a clipping from the World which I thought might be of interest to you.

With kind personal regards, I am

Very truly yours,

*Lawrence H. Tibbs*

LDH:MC