J. Maurice McCabe, born October 18th, 1923 at Tohatachi, New Mexico, bears the distinction of being a direct decendant of Barboncito, one of the great early leaders of the Navaho People, and one of the signers of the treaty of 1868. Maurice received is elementary educationin the schools at Tohatchi, at the Mission school at Ganado, Arizona, and at the mission school at Rehoboth New Mexico. He graduated from the Methodist Mission School at Farmington in 1941. Shortly thereafter it was discovered that he had tuberculosis and was sent to a hospital in Phoenix, Arizona for nearly two years. During this period he studied business and business law, and later when he was up and about entered a business college,finding employment as a bookkeeper on the side. In 1946 he was promoted to the position of office manager of the chemical company where he had been working,

in 1951

At the beginning of Sam Ahkeah's second term, Maurice was appointed as Navaho Tribal Treasurer, a position he held for many years, as the Tribal Government developed and he became more and more absorbed in Tribal work. In 1952 he won a scholarship award from the John Hay Whitney Foundation, but owning to the great need for his special services, he finally declined the scholarship in order to continue his work for the Tribe.

Following the election of Paul Jones as Chairman of the Council, he was asked to continue his services and to assist Mr. Jones in the business affairs which had greatly accellerated following the uranium, oil and gas developments during Mr. Jones's administration, affairs needing expert business administration. In 1957 he was named Secretary-Treasurer of the Tribe.

He sent for Remington Rand analysts to assist him in establishing a record system for the files of the Tribe, and introduced I.B.M machines. During a number of drought years, the U.S.Govenrment sent surplus grain to small stockmen on the reservation, and the I.B.M cards where used to keep track of the distributiion.