

claws.

Buffalo - had words to distinguish bull and cow.

Bear Dance - Tetons danced this. A bear is considered an animal that is dreamed of more often than any other animal. The reason of this is on account of bear's habits. One is that while he may have his chance to do harm to human beings he does not do it, showing mercy at times. Just as white people believe that the bear will not touch a dead body so do the Indians. A bear will go to extremes in killing our devouring animals. They are also very fond of wild fruit. The claws of a bear also used in medicine. Medicine men use that as a charm because with their claws they can cure diseases, digging up roots like a bear. Among the Otos there is a great deal of attention paid to the bear claws. Somebody has to make the bear dance who has dreamed about a bear. Generally a medicine man. This was a regular dance in a ceremony when a boy becomes a man, like the Santee dance. This was one of the peculiar customs they got.

Where SB is in the garb of a chief the hair might be a horsehair or human hair - scalp. The beads are brass. The men wear beads like women in this picture but women wear them in front. Men are supposed to wear long beads across. The otter skin was preferred because ~~that was~~ was the most expensive fur obtainable. It is not everyone who can wear those.

The otter is an animal you've got to be real careful how you kill. If you kill it in a certain way it will mean bad luck to you. You have to kill it on foot, not on horseback. It is a sacred animal among the Dakotas as among the Blackfeet. They don't eat the meat. One characteristic of the otter which is admired is that if you chase an otter on the ice (they generally seek refuge along water) it slides very swiftly on the ice and throws himself quite a way out. They are swimmers also.