

why we have Arapaho chiefs yet. (Note: This treaty does provide for election of tribal chiefs.--J. Jordan)

DUTIES OF CHIEFS: AN EXAMPLE FROM JESS'S EXPERIENCE

(Well, these chiefs that they elected for this purpose--did they have other duties besides just dealing with the government?) No. The chiefs are recognized for the deeds that they do to the tribe. Now, I'm a chief. I was elected when I was a boy--in 1903. But my duty was noticed--how I helped the old folks around. Like I get wood for some old folks, and maybe take care of their ponies, in some camp. Maybe I go out and chop wood for an old aunt or something like that--an old woman. Get her fire wood. Maybe even get another boy and go out and get a load of wood for her. Some days when they want to go to town and it's too cold we'd hitch up--my folks' team--and say, "All you that want to go to town, we'll take you along." Those duties of mine. And then when they want to have any Indian ceremony I'd haul their big tipi to where the camp's going to be. I take my wagon box off the wagon and set the old running gear and set those tipi poles on it and take them over there. All my duties. And I overtook one old man northeast of town here about five miles. It was getting sundown. It was February. His horse had gotten sick. I was riding a big fine horse. I seen the wagon going slow and it was about seven miles to Calumet yet and the sun was going down--February cold. I overtook him and rode up. "What's the matter?" He had a covered wagon, and was all by himself. He said, "My horse is sick. He's got scours." Well, I said, "It's getting late in the evening. Unhitch that horse." I said, "You're going to work my horse." So he unhitched his horse and I took my saddle off and took my horse down there--had to set some of the collar and all those--his horse was small and my horse was big. Anyhow I got the harness to fit my horse. And I said, "You go on. I'm going to stay and watch your horse till he gets rested up, and then I'm going to ride him slow to Calumet and I'll stay overnight there. But you go on," I said. So he started. All you could hear was that neck yoke, you know--he was gone in no time. So later on his horse got to breathing good. I got some dry sage and wiped the sweat off his horse,