

that when I was a kid. I remember that shell. Of course just anybody can crawl up there and get it if they want to after the dance. Anybody.

(So your folks didn't get it back?)

No, no, no. It's just a gift. Sort of a donation or gift, you know. Sacrifice, they call it.

(What else did they have for sale in this old store back there?)

Well, they sold deer hides. The Indians tanned them and they sell them there, and they sold tents, beaver and otter. These Kipwas and Comanches would come in and these Otoes and Pawnees. They always come and buy them. I got a blanket here--cloth--we call it "fancy list cloth." It comes from Germany. Worn by the German uniforms--Kaiser and them. It's imported. You see all of us wore them blankets--part-blue blankets. Has stripe at the end--the selvage end.

(Red and yellow border?)

Yeah. That comes from Germany. That used to be sold there.

(How much did you used to have to pay for it?)

In early days--I know I got blankets for five dollars a yard--fifty-six inches wide--but now you can't touch it for less than twenty-five (dollars/yard).

(I know it's real expensive now.)

The Plains Indians always wore that blanket. Men wears half-black and half-blue. And it was good. I like them myself.

(Is that the blanket you wore up there at Medicine Lodge? Yeah, that's it--I wore it every day up there. I tried to wear it here, but my nephew--my cousin--Warden--the one I had for a drummer up there--he didn't have no blanket. And I sent for him. You know I'm not supposed to dance this year on account of I lost my daughter. I'm not supposed to dance or have any joy like that for a while year. So I sent for my cousin and he came and I give him my blanket and put on my beads and my feathers, and he danced. That's James Warden. He's a good singer, good drummer. He knows all the Indian songs--for different purposes. He's my first cousin. Yeah, he'd sing you some songs sometime.