

Some personalities

T-521

Cheyenne Field Notes

June 21, 1969

I got acquainted this morning with Sophie Rhodes, Cheyenne. She is the mother of Leatrice Hawk and Norma Clark, Leatrice is chairman of this year's Hub City Pow-wow. Sophie is also the mother of Arlie Rhodes. There are three tents in a row here on the west side of the camp ground--the same family. She pointed out an old lady, Nettie Black Star, who is, she says, a direct descendent--a granddaughter--of Black Kettle. Nettie is a half-sister of Jay Black.

Leatrice is chairman of this year's pow-wow. They say she is having a hard time. She went to Norman this morning (Saturday) to be on WNAD (Indians for Indians), and is going after meat, too.

Sophie and Norma both talked to me, building up the Cheyennes and running down the Arapahoes. She said no one knew where the Arapahoes came from, whereas the Cheyennes were formerly one people. Said the Arapahoes came to the Cheyennes for protection and copied everything from the Cheyennes. Said even they didn't used to have chiefs, but copied this from the Cheyennes. Said they even had some Cheyennes as their own chiefs. Said Jess Rowledge was a kind of tribal historian but he had a one-track mind. They said Arapaho women were not modest like Cheyenne women. Said they would talk about intimate matters with someone they hardly knew. Cheyenne women don't do that. Said it used to be prohibited to marry Arapaho women because they had some kind of disease. Now they're all inter-married today. Said there were more Cheyennes than Arapahoes, but mixed-bloods outnumbered everyone now.