thus loosely structured and largely spontaneous, with every opportunity given the informant to tell his story in his own words and within the organizational framework which was natural to him. When the informants finished talking, the field workers usually asked some questions to clarify any obscure points or bring out relevant background information. It was found that this exchange of questions and answers often led to new topics of interest and the eliciting of further useful oral testimony. Several field workers worked intensively with a few extremely knowledgeable individuals, once good rapport had been established, to get detailed coverage of certain topics for which information would be difficult or impossible to obtain in a casual or first interview. Field workers have differed in their opinions as to whether Indian informants should receive a wage for their services. Most of the persons contributing testimony were, however, paid at the rate of $2.00 per hour, in conformity with long-established practice, in western Oklahoma, of paying Indian informants for their time.

Cassette tapes were used for most of the field recordings, and field workers were issued lightweight, battery-operated Norelco carrycorders for their assignments. Some field workers used more sensitive Sony reel-to-reel recorders to record singing and special events. The quality of the cassette recordings in the collection is generally good, and in some cases excellent, and variations in quality seem to be mostly a function of the skill and experience of the field workers in placing microphones properly, checking the recording level, and arranging to conduct interviews in quiet surroundings. In retrospect it would seem that, insofar as quality of recording is concerned, no experience is so beneficial to a field worker