

(This tape is continued from T-619

INTRODUCTION

(We are at the home of Bill Connor, who is Quapaw and Seneca and Bill is going to tell us some of the customs of both tribes. (Irrelevant words))

--Seneca, Quapaw, Osage Indian. What tribe was it--?

(Would you like to talk about the Senecas?)

About the Senecas. What part of the Senecas would you be interested in hearing about?

FALSE FACE DANCE AND COSTUME MASK

(I would like to know about the False Face Dance. I understand that the Senecas here in Oklahoma don't dance that dance anymore.)

That is true. We have sort of let that particular dance pass away from us, as well as our worship ceremony of the burning of the White Dog. A number of these tribal customs have been let go, and lot of us are sorry today that more of us didn't pay more attention to those things so we would know more about it at this day and time. For instance, the False Face Dance as we know it as--that it's known as, is a dance that we used to use for our doctoring ceremonies. More of a medicine dance in other words. The men in this particular dance--no women taking part in this particular dance. And this particular dance was strictly all men. And they were--are a clan. As you will know in the Seneca Tribe here in Oklahoma, this northeastern tribe, we have two clans. We have the north and the south clan. One is a Deer clan and the other is the Wolf. I understand that back in New York their two clans up there is the Turtle and the Deer. But here we also had a False Face Clan, as well as we had a Shuck Face. Well, the False Face Dancers were a particular clan and they were mostly the type for doctoring. At the time when this clan was in action, I was a rather small boy, oh, ten or twelve years old. So a lot of the song I don't remember. But I do know the men that made these masks