

legs, feet and hands. This first night all the dancers wore white paint (I think). Each dancer had a whistle made of the wing bone of an eagle tied around his neck by a leather thong. During the dance he would blow on this whistle, emitting a succession of short, high-pitched notes as each breath was exhaled. A downy white eagle plume was attached to the whistle.

There was almost no light in the lodge this first night and I could not see the ground. However at all other times when I could see, the dancers were barefooted, standing on a bunch of leafy sage stems spread out underfoot like a cushion. They carried their quilts to the places where they would dance and dropped them in a heap in front of them.

Each day the dancers washed off the preceding day's paint and were painted again by their grandfathers. Beginning on Friday their body paints were a solid background of either yellow or red. Some had hands and feet painted green or black, and most had designs applied to their chests, shoulders, arms, and faces with black paint. Among the designs used were crescents, zig-zags with dots, circles, etc. I did not take notes on the body paints and did not make any particular effort to remember the designs and colors. Therefore I do not remember much except the general effect. For a more detailed discussion of the paints and designs involved, I recommend consulting Dorsey's monograph which has an extensive section on this subject complete with photographs and diagrams. From what I could see and remember, there is little, if any, difference in the paints used now and back in 1903. The dancers were not, however, painted all alike. Some had background paints of yellow and some of red. Different designs were used by different grandfathers. Most of the dancers, perhaps all of them, had a crescent on their left shoulder. The co-sponsors, or Lodge Makers had multi-colored diamond designs on their arms, legs, and chests. The various designs and colors used all had meaning, of which I learned almost nothing.

During the dance on the first night the dancers carried nothing in their hands. I do not remember if they had bunches of sage tucked in their belts at this time or not. On Saturday and Sunday all dancers wore wristlets and anklets of sage,