

WAR BONNET SONG AND FORM OF WAR BONNET DANCE

(Sings one song.)

Now when this song is already finished in singing, there's war bonnets and spears that are hanging up. They're in a line where these chiefs go up. I think there's seven chiefs that goes up. And each one picks up a war bonnet. The first four chiefs, they pick up a war bonnet apiece, and they put that on, and they have to dance to the next song. And the next three men, they pick up these spears that you see. That's where the (Kiowa-Apache) Blackfeet dancers has borrowed those spears that are wrapped up (in fur). That's where those spears originated from--the Arapaho tribe. This next song is danced by the group.

(Sings one song)

I might note the chiefs' wives dance with them, because it's kind of a victory dance. The chief has come back with scalps. So that's the end of the War Bonnet song. And then we go on and we finish off with Squaw Dance.

HOW OLD DAYS WERE GOOD DAYS

(Sings a short song.)

That ends up the dance of War Bonnet songs at this time.

(Interruption) During them War Bonnet Dance songs, when they gather up at the camp, the camp mostly consists of tipis. At that time there wasn't very many of these square tents. Early twenties and in the teens most people, they had outside campfires. And those that wasn't lucky enough to be camped by a tipi, they made a kind of balloon type place to stay. They also camped with a bunch of people--their relatives--and they done their outside cooking. And mostly at that time, our Indians was sickly. They didn't have no kind of a disease. They didn't have no kind of arthritis or--because the Indians, themselves, they eat fresh fruit, dried fruit like plums and grapes, and they also outside dried their fresh meat, sun-cured, with preparing their meat with salt sprinkled over the meat and it's hung out in the open and the sun cures it. At that time the old people--old ladies and old men--they did not wear glasses.