(Then their tipi was right in front of hers?)

Yes, in front of hers.

TIPIS: MAKING OF:

(Now the tipis that you know about, where they all made with canvas?)

Yes, ever since I know. If a woman--My grandmother was making a tipi--I don't know which grandmother it was, but anyway it was one of my grandmothers--whether it was my father's mother or whether it was my mother's grandmother--And the way she did, they had the tipi poles put up. They were measuring the tipi poles to see how big she wanted it. Of course they couldn't read and write, and they didn't know nothing about like that. So they just--the way they did--they measure these tipi poles. Maybe they could be about 8 to 15 feet high. So they had to just measure the canvas how big they want it--how high they want it. And after they cut that out, she spread it on the ground. And then she had already spread the word that she was going to make a tipi. And someone was doing her cooking for her--her dinner. All these old ladies that came to help her sew her tipi, she gave them dinner. And they went back, sewing again. I don't know if she gave them supper, too, or not. And they get their tipis done that quick. They just notify the old ladies, and they'd come together and sew. That's the way they help one another.

(Gee, that's wonderful. Did you say you helped make a tipi yourself?)

Yes, I made a tipi. One of my preachers didn't want me to do that because it was a kind of religion like. He didn't want me to do that. See, that's worshipping other gods, if you go through something like that. I wanted to make a pretty tipi--something that I could have--something that I could use. No, he wouldn't let me. So I got to inquiring around--how could I get a tipi made. So different ones told me how I should have it done. They say "Get one of these tipi makers, and you finish everything, and she'll make it for you." See, you have to pay the teacher --the one that's marking your tipi for you. You have to pay them for her working time and her material that she uses. And then, she's the one that prays. See, I prayed them. And this woman that made the tipi for me--I had to pay her too. That's the way I got hold of my first one. And this other one said, "There's nothing