

are just carrying the honor of being called chief. They don't do the real chiefs' duty like they used to back there.

(How do they get the title of "chief" or "headman" in this day?)

Well, suppose I'm very proud of my oldest grandson and I want him to be a chief. So when they have a dance he will be in the front and be seen and dance around and I'll get out and give away my prettiest shawl and announce my grandson's name. That's just what it is today. Way back there a man had to be just so. He had to come from a good father and a good mother and he must be a level-headed man and honest and not do anything out of the way. He was elected chief. Now it's mostly roughnecks that lives in beerjoints from day to day, and his mother is one of these woman that's got a lot of pride, and she says, "Elect my son to be chief--so I can be seen in front! With my pretty clothes!" And that's what it is today.

(Are chiefs still elected today?)

Just like I say--"Put my grandson in there." No. They're not elected any more. If you love your son so much and you got lots of money you can give your son to the chiefs. No. It wasn't that way back there. You had to be a good man. You had to be a matured man before you could be a chief. But now little boys are chiefs. It's just the "chief" (title) they want to go by. It's not that way any more.

(If this James Medicine Elk should die, then what people would get together to elect someone to succeed him--would your husband be called in on this?)

Yes, he'd be called in and the other man too. And they call in chiefs. Of course they're not big chiefs any more, but just so they