

ELLA OTHERS' STORY (REMINISCENCES)

I remember my old people, especially my mother. These young people do not like for me to get around now days because I am old and cannot hear too good. I saw the people have their dances, especially the sun dance, having a good time. They stand in the open and cry to the Almighty. My old man, Phillip Others, took part in these dances. This is what I know. These dances are all gone and all I do is to go where they gather and take part in their feasting. I know there is a living God and I pray to Him. Now we want our young people to know God. Now he made me sing ghost dance songs and he wanted to keep some history of old times. I don't know how to sing ghost dance, sun dance or war dance songs. I pray to God so that you see my children and grand-children in good health today. I do not know how the Poncas got the sun dance. All I know is that they put a tree with a cross on it and had a buffalo skull there. The dancers did not drink any water and some could not take the endurance test. He said that his daughter was white and wanted her to know about Ponca history. They had different dance organizations. There were the chiefs daughters, no head, bitter drinkers, and the soldiers dance women, and the orphans. There were eight officers in each organization. Tony Knight and his wife came after me to be a charter member of the Legion Auxillary. I told them that I did not have anybody as a warrior or in service but they told me I was mistaken and that my brother Newman Little Walker was in the service of the World War I and that I was eligible to be a member. This tape was made by Sylvester Warrior. It seems to me the old lady has forgotten everything that has happened and she did the best she could in trying to interpret the tape which Sylvester has taken.