

T-164

JESSE ROWLDGE, ARAPAHO
INTERVIEWED BY: JULIA A. JORDAN
TRANSCRIBED BY: JULIA A. JORDAN
DATE OF INTERVIEW: 11-14-67

GENERAL SUBJECT:

INDIAN DOCTORS AND WAYS OF DOCTORING

PARTICULAR TOPICS DISCUSSED:

DOCTORING CLANS, PREPARATION OF MEDICINE, ETC.
"WHITE ROOT" MEDICINE
USE OF PUFFBALLS (FUNGI) AND SPIDER WEB AS MEDICINES
LEARNING TO DOCTOR AND REPTILE POWER
DOCTORING SNAKE BITE
CONFLICT OF INDIAN DOCTORING WITH WHITE DOCTORING, AND EFFICACY
OF PEYOTE AS A MEDICINE
MORE ON DOCTORING CLANS AND THEIR SONGS
FUMIGATION OF OBJECTS USED IN DOCTORING
LEARNING TO DOCTOR
ANECDOTE ABOUT A WOMAN DOCTORING A PATIENT WITH HEMORRHAGE

BACKGROUND OF INFORMANT:

Jesse Rowldge is between 82 and 84 years old and is a well-known and respected leader among the Arapahoes. He is fairly well educated and articulate, and has travelled extensively on tribal business, having visited Washington, D.C. a number of times. He has been active in tribal politics for many years and has helped the Arapahoes in pressing their claims cases against the government. Nevertheless, Jesse is well-versed in the traditional culture of his tribe and anxious for at least some parts of it to be preserved. He is one of the two surviving members of the StarHawk Society, one of the old age-grade warrior societies. And has often expressed hope that this organization would be revived in modern times. He is a peyotist, as well as a member of the Baptist Church, and feels that the peyote ceremony has given him some of his greatest personal fulfillment as well as inspiration. Jesse is no stranger to the role of teacher-informant in communicating knowledge about Arapaho culture. He has known and worked with such people as A. L. Kroeger, James Mooney, Morris Smith, Sister Inez Hilger, and Fred Egan.

NOTE: This is a continuation of the interview begun on T-163. Side B of this tape is genealogical information and is not transcribed.

DOCTORING CLANS, PREPARATION OF MEDICINES, ETC.

(Could you talk about what a man would do when he wanted to be a doctor--as far as joining this clan is concerned?)