saddle when they're moving around. They're packed full of meat or whatever food they want to carry. And they were painted. Nice work, you know--colors--painted work and on the back, here.
(You said they were about twelve or fifteen dollars--would the Indians get credit for that?)
Oh,yeah. If they didn't owe, they got the cash money. But if they owed our bank, then we gave them liberal credit for some of those things. And those round clothing bags, all beaded, you know. They fix them like this, only they was round and they lace them. For shawls, blankets, shoes, beadwork and beaded clothes. And the comb cases, of course--I've got an old case here somewhere--my daughter's case, that we've had for years. It come from Wyoming. "Comb pouch," they call them, or "toilet case", for comb, brush and paint for their faces, you know. And porcupine quill brush fixed in such a way that it's just like a natural brush.
(How much would you give for those round beaded clothing bags?)
Oh, about twenty-five or thirty-five dollars. Tobacco bags brought about fifteen or twenty dollars, depending on the amount of work on them. And fringe, you know--long tobacco (pouches). Fifteen to twenty-five dollars. Or if they had good procupine (quill) work on them, they'd sell for more--maybe thirty-five dollars.
(How much for those comb cases?)
About ten or fifteen dollars. They're nice work.
(Did they ever get any clothing items like buckskin dresses or anything?)
A few. Men's shirts and moccasins were sold. They got about thirty-five dollars for a shirt. Ten or fifteen dollars for a pair of moccasins. Bows and arrow of the old time war period--age--they got about thirty-five dollars for a bow and arrow.
(What about shields?)
Shields--very few. There's some that were modern, of the different societies of the Arapaho--like the Tomahawk, their Girdled Belt Society, and the Crazy Lodge--Fire Lodge. "Fly Moth," we call them. Their articles, they were not salable. Oh, some few sold them, but I don't know what they got for them. And a few buffalo hide blankets--you know--robes that had porcupine work--