GIVING AWAY FOR NEW FOX MEMBERS

(Did you all-when you joined the organization did you have to pay anything or give away anything?)

No. No. Oh, once in a while during the dance your parents would come over and say, "Now, we're going to give away for our son here. He's in here." Two boys, maybe sometimes three boys. They give away ponies for us. Blankets. Maybe beef. Give away first to people that are visiting--Cheyennes or other tribes. They give away for us, on account of respect. But the--otherwise they were not compelled to. It's just an honor. They want to show that their boys are in that organization.

(Did they give--did they call out names of people that they wanted to give these things to?)

Yeah. They'd have an old man--just like I'd see this old man sit there and say, "Call so-and-so. Call so-and-so. He's a visitor. He's a Ponca, or Pawnee, Otoe, Cheyenne, Kiowa. They give those things to them. Money, you know.

(Did they ever give anything to other Arapahoes?)

Yeah, they could. Like, Geary people give to Arapahoes from Colony, or Canton, or to Cheyennes.

(When you first went over there and became a member, was there any kind of ceremony that you had to go through?)

The beginning. There's always a beginning. I don't know--just that Fox--it's just a plain beginning. You go in there and sit down. And the drummers go to the drum. The drum always sits south of the door there in the tipi. Then they start singing songs. Some songs you don't stand--you don't dance by. Just slow, meaningful sounds of some kind. Then when there's a certain songs, "Now this is what you're going to dance by." And they dance a lively one. Of course you all get up and dance.

(Let's see--you said there was a fire in the middle?)