

Oh yes, yes. To know what the buzzards do and eat, it would be hard to believe that they would use such feathers, but they use buzzard feathers to swab the wounds.

(Was it a tail feather?)

Wing feather. They see an Indian wearing a buzzard feather why it's considered that he's good wound doctor.

(Usually the old timers, then if they saw an Indian wearing a buzzard feather they would immediately know he was a doctor?)

Uh-huh, yes.

(Do you recall any stories, Mrs. Johnson, about medicine men?)

She said she remembers many of them but because the reason she remembers all of that is because that's the only thing there was. We didn't have the pills and the doctors as we have today.

(Does she remember anyone who was saved, whose life was saved by a medicine man? Would she give me some names of those? He was? (Mrs. Johnson had indicated her son Charles had been saved by a medicine man--by his uncle.))
Yes.

(Can you tell me about it?)

Charles: I had a--I used to sleep with my grandmother and one night I went to bed with her and she woke up with her back wet, and come to find out why I had a bad case of trench mouth and my, instead of--the thing that caused her to get wet was that my teeth, my gums had been bleeding. And they said that my case was a hopeless case, too but my uncle Abe doctored me and stopped all my trench--cured the trench mouth.

(Who said you were a hopeless case, the white doctors?)

No, the Indians knew that trench mouth was something very uncommon in those days and my mouth started bleeding and they thought why I'd just bleed to death.

(Do you remember how he treated you?)