

DECORATED TIPIS (CHIEF'S TIPIS)--YELLOW WOLF'S TIPI

(Could you tell me some more about these chief's tipis? You said they used to have them in the old days.)

Well, it has pictures like these--like things that happened, like that. Some principal events. Let me see if I can find a picture in here--might be. (looks in his book). They'll have a tipi,... a story of what happened to those early warriors on the war path. And instead of writing them on a dilly paper, they put it on the tipi, so people could see the picture and the stories told them. That's the way of spreading their events that happened. They put them in the tipi. And something like this-- I don't see it in here. It might be, but maybe I'll think of a story--I think you might have that story. It's something like this. Yellow Wolf was a warrior. And he was attacked by I don't know how many men. But they surrounded him. And he was shot at with arrows from every side. And he dodged and dodged and went around and around and shot back. And every once in a while he'd kill one of them. But they never did kill him. And after it was over and he came back, at the gathering of the Sun Dance, they had that tipi made. And on the flaps of the tipi, where it's a smoke stack, I saw that tipi--and right where the smoke flap is was this picture. Circle, like that, and arrows and men all around, shooting at him, and he was in the middle. And you could see that. And then...that's Yellow Wolf. When Yellow Wolf was surrounded by the enemy.

(When was it that you saw that tipi?)

Oh, it was years ago. Mooney had lot of those pictures made before he made this book, at Mount Scott. He'd tell of the events how the camp of the Sun Dance camped. And he had those old men to make little tipis and set them just how the camp sets. Little tipis, just about a foot high--two foot high. He furnished the canvas and paid them to work. And how each chief's tents was painted. And... there was not only one old man, but about ten old men working,