

quirts and all that. Some of them like your bridle or your quirt and all that. Some of them like your bridle or your quirt or your spurs. And when they get a little pay, they give you a little bit for some--just have a little change, all the time, but we didn't spend--oh, they gambled there, all right. Them older ones. But we young ones, we didn't--just--

(What did you do with the money that you were paid--like you said you were paid eighteen dollars a week?)

Well, I didn't draw mine till the final. When I started the last week I got one whole check. Usually when I'd come back to Watonga I'd try to cash our checks at Watonga. I know one time--1899, I believe--we came back and I think I had a hundred and two dollars. I wanted--these cowboys used to wear these corduroy pants. I bought me antelope-tan corduroy pants and something else. The tight-twist ropes, you know. They didn't become available till about 1895. The rest of the time they used rawhide ropes that the Indians used to braid for the cowboys. Lot of Arapaho and Cheyenne were expert in braiding those lariat ropes out of rawhide. But even then, the best rope that came out was a tight-twist about 1895. And we practiced roping--steer roping.

(Did you get pretty good at that?)

Yeah, I got pretty good. I'm still good.

(These hair ropes you were talking about--were they suitable for roping?)

No. Oh, they were pretty stout, all right, but we couldn't trust them for pull, you know. That cowboy life, I still like it. When I go to Wyoming I'm on horseback practically every day I'm up there.

INDIANS TRADING RAWHIDE ROPES TO COWBOYS

(You said that Cheyennes were real good at making those rawhide ropes and that the cowboys used to get them--did the Indian sell them to the cowboy?)