

They're elected chiefs. Just so they do their duty to the tribe, you know--observe and uphold the old tradition of caring for the tribe, members of the tribe, in their various difficulties.

(Is it possible for a man to become a chief without going through this public ceremony?)

No. There have been men--outstanding men and good warriors--recognized highly--but were not chiefs until they were publicly elected. Everything must come through the old chief element by the recognition of what they have done that is beneficial--that they have done for the tribe.

INITIATION CEREMONY WITH A BROTHER SUBSTITUTING FOR A PERSON WHO IS ABSENT:

(What would happen--or maybe you've heard of something like this happening--if they elected someone to be a chief but they never showed up on this public occasions. What if they just stayed away, either on purpose or maybe didn't even know about it?)

Well, those things have happened. But they eventually take care of it some way later on. I don't know of any particular case now in mind but I know one fellow in Wyoming--seems it was around 1899--it was my cousin. He told me afterwards and I learned when I worked up there at the Smithsonian--that he had left there in October. That he had left there in October--on an old-time train--steam engine. Come and got off at Darlington, north of El Reno. Used to be a mail hack that would meet that train. So three or four of them came down from Wyoming. He was one of them--the youngest one. So there was a big camp at Darlington. When he got to the Darlington store there was a lot of Indians there, so the northern Arapahoes established their relations--"He's my nephew--he's my--" So they took them all to camp and took care of them. Well in the meantime, two or three weeks after that, he learned after he had left that he was elected one of the leaders of an organization that he didn't know nothing about. So he had four brothers--two older and two younger--so because of his absence his brother said, "I'll substitute for him, till he gets back." So his brother replaced him. So when he got back he took upon himself the full authority, he was recognized. That's the only one I know of. He's living