

take those hides and we'd go up the side of a hill and sit down and push that thing, and slide down, you know. Make a sled. And that would take some of the hair off. Not all of it. Yeah. But--

(Well, would it take very long with one of these elkhorn tools to get the hair off?)

No, not very long--about an hour or so. In fact women sit around together and visit and talk while they're scraping that hide.

(After they got the hair off, then what did they do?)

They just let it sit around a while until they get big chunk of brain--beef liver--or two or three sets of brains. And then they'd cook that liver and smear it all over the hide--the hair side. And let it kind of half dry--enough so that that grease that's in that liver works in the skin. And later on they get maybe two or three pieces of brains--beef brains--they cook that, too, and smear it all over. Let it set for a day or so.

Then they take and put up a pole--say, about six or seven feet high and that big around.. Just so--they can either sit down by it or stand by it--and they tie a rough rope, or sometimes they twist any kind of a wire--baling wire or something like that--they tie it or wrap it around there and they tie it alongside of this pole and fasten it down here--nail it--whatever it is to keep it straight. And then they put this hide through there, after it's soaked with brains and liver. And they work it by hand. That stretches clear from end to end and from side to side. Then they let it dry out again.

(Now is this before they take off that flesh and stuff?)

After that. After.

(When do they take off that stuff?)

After they take the hair off the hide. And then from there on the hide's good--unless you're going to have sole leather--you just scrape the hair off--