

that's where I got converted into it.

ARAPAHO GHOST DANCE : BELIEFS ; PARTICIPATION OF JESS'S FAMILY

(Did you ever participate in this Ghost Dance yourself?)

No, no. I've dance in it--just a boy's foolishness. At nights, you know.

But what it was all about-- Of course there was old people that they believed that there was going to be a judgement. They believed there was going to be a resurrection. Some Indian in Utah or Idaho taught the Indians. He evidently learned it from a white--early missionaries. And then the Plains Indiass got hold of that and brought it down here in Oklahoma in 1890. I think there's a book on that by an anthropologist--James Mooney. I had that book but I loaned it to an Indian woman and she went way up to Oregon and forgot to bring it back. And she died. You can still get a copy of that. I think it's a 14th Annual Report, Smithsonian. (Annual Report, Bureau of American Ethnology, 14, pt.2, 1896)

(Was it very strong here, the Ghost Dance?)

Oh; yeah. Yes. I went without meals sometimes all day, outside of breakfast. My mother and them--her sisters--and the men, would go over there and dance and sit around. Dance and they'd go into trance and see--they claim they saw visions of the other world--their dead relations come back alive and talk to them--all that. Transition, you know, go into trance. Of course they forget us kids. We had to eat dry bread and piece of salt bacon we cook, and this and that, and get along until night time. We had to take care of the ponies. That lasted for three or four years.

(Did your dad ever participate in it?)

Once in a great while. My dad wasn't no convert. Oh, they gave him some recognition, but he's one of the outstanding chiefs, but he didn't participate in anything like that. They gave him plumes and such as that, you