

certain dishes. And then, there was the punkin that we dried along with the corn and the beef. And punkin was prepared in many ways also. More or less a dessert. It was prepared in many ways after it was dried. And there was much fine eating during the winter months. So, oh--

MODERN METHODS ARE USED MORE TODAY - OSAGE PHILOSOPHY

(Mrs. Unap, this drying of food, is it still carried on among the Osages? If not, can you tell us why it isn't?)

Well, I call my age group and older of, ah, we're the younger generation, and as the passing years went by I don't believe we do much of this anymore on such a large scale as our parents did. And, I guess you can attribute this to well, nowadays, that we have moved to the cities, and we are working. We're working in the cities with jobs and we have just more or less moved away from the country. And you can attribute a lot of this doing away with preserving our food, the old Indian method, is today's modern way of preserving our food such as freezing it, and canning today well, you can step into a supermarket and buy your dried corn for instance. So, you can see now why we don't practice the old ways and I'm glad to have experienced that old Indian way of life. Ah, my father and my mother taught me the meaning of the way of life that we could appreciate the meaning of these ways. And although, the richest blessings were bestowed upon the Osage people, they never forgot to be thankful and to utilize this blessing in many ways and they had to share it with everyone and to, not to, ever forget the meaning of it. And I was just relating the ways we had and a passing era which I was lucky enough to be part of--a wonderful way of life. And I'm trying to pass it on to my children and my grandchildren. I want them to know what I knew and what my father believed in, and what he told me and that it was a great and wonderful life. In conclusion, about the only way we carry on any part of this tradition of--in the food, is the feast, in today's modern time we butcher a beef and prepare it for the feast table, and that is about all I