

We just can't live up to what the old people, the rules that they set up. We're just unable to conform to them, but like I say they, it's nice that they perform their ceremonies every spring and they set their dates, and invite the other drumkeepers. When they ate all this food they say is great among our people and they're even announcing it that way. They put food on the table and tell the people to come over, partake of this food. The drumkeeper announces his intentions to his head committeeman and then they have to know that you, get their approval. And the committee is supposed to approve nearly all these things before the drumkeeper or head committeeman can go and take any steps toward dancing. Supposed to be with the approval of the committee. 'Course now days they don't conform to that too much, but that's the way their supposed to and they tell, they go and they have the whipman to go around and tell these people. It's one of his duties. And he, he come and all and set their dates and make their plans, financial and all the smaller duties that have to be done. And announce all the financial arrangements have to be set up, the ground prepared and then they have to let the whipman to the two other drumkeepers. Tell them that, when they decide to dance. So, that's one of the things that goes along with this Osage dance. 'Course it's lot more can be said in detail what goes on. These dances that they do now days they, kind of getting out of the Osage, like I said before, the Osages kind of vanishing.

SELECTING SINGERS

In olden times the Osages had their own singers. Each district had their own singers and, Osage singers, but there's very few Osage singers. The Osages rely on the Poncas. We inherited, they gave it to us or one manner or sort. We all dance in more or less the same traditional dance, so we have called upon the Poncas to help us in this singing department and they have been good enough through the years to come over and help us participate with this dance. They like it like us Osages carry it on through all these years and, without interruption the dance has been carried on, and every year they have it. So, it seems that the dances seem to be getting, at one time there were very few participating and as of now it growing in popularity. As it grows in popularity