

been here added recently. Seem like in the olden days each individual camped or would have their own and they would have their leader or chief more or less all the leaders of each camp would have a chief. And he would perform the duties of the, placing the headdress on the youngster and even later on they got the custom where a certain family would want to introduce his son into the dance organization. He would put on a dance himself at his home and he would invite the chief, chief of the Osages, to come down and it was in his authority to start this young person on and introduce him into the dance. He would place this roach on him and that would give him the right to dance any of these places that he cared to. It was the chief, you might say, his authorization to let this young man go ahead and dance anywheres and 'course they don't carry that on anymore. They just go ahead and they have the ceremony done at the beginning of each dance and when they give the, put the roach on the young man's head and cried his name, well then he in turn is supposed to pay for this ceremony. He is supposed to more or less, he's prepared to do this and he gives the drumkeeper a gift, gives the head committeeman a gift and whoever he wants to. He will, more or less, pay for this privilege of dancing. This is the way the organization is set up and it quite a little story all this and whether I've told it in a manner that can be understood well, I go along and then I think of something I've forgotten. It seems like I--the--I kinda didn't think of the singers. Like I was telling you before, like I was saying before that the Osages had their own singers and they had a certain number of singers. I don't recall just what the number was at this time and down through the years they have had their own songs, their own singers. Like all these songs that the Osages knew at one time, they more or less have diminished in importance and you might say that hardly any of the older songs of the previous century that we had sang I would say there is hardly any that we carry on now. Such as the Poncas, they have retained all their songs, but we haven't, but we have been continuing with our singers and got the Ponca singers to carry out the duties of the singers, more or less, we'd forget these songs they just aren't sung anymore. Nowadays when they pass the drum, you might say, they would always have