

WHY SITTING BULL WEARS A WHITE EAGLE FEATHER AS A HEAD ORNAMENT

By One Bull

People seem to have the idea that Sitting Bull was nothing but a common medicine man in his Tribe and that "he did all his fighting on paper." This accounts for the fact that they do not know him personally.

Among the Sioux Nation as well as other Tribes of the American Indian, no Indian ever attained distinction unless he complied with all requirements and customs of the Tribe.

One of the things all warriors considered great was for one to go on the war-path at an early age -- young volunteer and few had that distinction and Sitting Bull was one of them.

At the age of fourteen years, he joined a way-party in quest of Crow Indian scalps or horses. There were ten with Sitting Bull in the party. All of them except Sitting Bull were young men who had already been on the war-path before and gained all sorts of experiences. The boy-warrior, Sitting Bull, proved himself an important factor in the party. His parents and relatives raised a great deal of objection to his intentions but he was so determined to go that nothing could prevent him going.

The Tribe was camping on the Powder River about this time. The war-party left the camp and started toward West. They had been eagerly watching to see some loose Crow Indians on the way but failed. The Crows were not the only ones sought for, but any enemy to the Sioux that may come their way.

On the third day just as they passed over a divide, they spied a war-party of about twelve Crows on horseback standing together in conference down a creek of running water.

The leader of the Sioux warriors gave order for immediate charge upon the Crows. This they did and a bitter fighting was encountered. Singling out what appeared to be the youngest Crow warrior, who, instead of defend-