

All the Indian chiefs or warriors who had been influential were favored with judgeships or positions. In spite of all that SB had done for the tribe he was never given a chance to use his influence after he came on the reservation.

Election of a Chief - Its mostly in the hands of the councilmen. There were about four old men, no longer active warriors. These old men are in direct contact with their band and so they know the situation of things in the tribe. If the Indians favor a certain man for chief they know it. Their direct contact enables them to act wisely. These councilmen represent the tribe. If there should be a vacancy in a smaller band the members of that band or the most influential ones would try to decide who would be the proper one to fill the vacancy. The same with the tribal chief or the head chief. They all have to agree. It is unanimous. SB's uncles were considered to be very prominent at that time. The councilmen made up their minds to select SB as chief and went over after him. They would perhaps offer him a smoke or a peace pipe and then deliver their message. They would say, "We want to make you head chief", then bringing him over to the headquarters or chief lodge they would proclaim him. The actions of the four councilmen are final. They, of course, derive their powers from the tribe. SB probably made a speech on that occasion.

Derockbrane lives at Little Eagle.

Qualifications of a Leader Possessed by SB:

1. Quick to see what people were thinking.
2. Quick in decision. Up to the time SB was under the agent's authority he was free to act, knowing that whatever he did he was careful about it and the Indians had the greatest confidence in him. After he felt that he was under some other authority and things were new and he was kept in ignorance about things he was apt to make mistakes and he was not so free to use his influence as formerly. That was a disadvantage after he came under someone else.
3. He could make other people pull together, not only among his own tribe but among other tribes like Cheyenne, Arapaho, Nez Perces. Everybody knew and had heard of SB and if there was any time that these tribes wanted to join SB's tribe and act with him