

of the tribe that has passed during that year, or if they can, possibly they have these adoptions in the spring. And sometimes this last year, it seems like we have adoptions about every month, sometimes we have to double up on the adoptions and which you can't do that. And that's to keep the bereaved ones--that makes them feel better and then they will just go ahead and then they are ready for all their good times. You can't have a good time or go to any dances, or participate in any dance until you have to have this--these ceremonies of adoption. And then after that, you are free to do what you want to.

(Is someone adopted in place of every person that dies in the tribe?)

Right. And some of them has already named the person that they want adopted in their place. And then they never know until the time comes. And then some of them, the ones that they have named has even out lived them. So that was then after just kind of wait and see. It was a little bit premature, I think.

(Are there special songs or do you use regular songs in the ceremony?)

Oh they have regular ceremonial songs that the men sing, but they are never sung only at those ceremonials, so I don't even know any of them. Except at those ceremonials. Some of them are really sad. You can't help but cry when you hear them. But they all have a meaning--they all pertain to God, the Great Spirit. And Indians are really religious. Everything they do, they do it religiously. But nobody knows that only those that is around them. The Indian people--it's been like that ever since the beginning of time because they was raised that way.

(Where do they have these adoptions?)

Well, usually they have it at some head man's home. Most of ours, around Shawnee--Sac & Fox over there, they usually have it over at Ed Macks. But then there's others that lives around that has it at their home. But most