

Jess: Tom Morgan, wasn't it?

Ralph: No, it's not Tom. This man, I met him at Anadarko. We were talking. Well, every tribe's got their custom. Different customs. They were talking about their fathers and their grandfathers and a pipe (?). He said they had a pouch. You know, like we seen that medicine pouch. There was word left not to open that medicine pouch. There was certain time for that thing to be open. And he said, "I don't know what's in there. I don't know what's in there." He said, "There's some things in there that--we understand the Cheyennes, they are looking for them Arrows." I was talking with him down at Anadarko during the Exposition. He said, "Nobody has opened that pouch yet." He said, "Probably them Arrows are in there." Well, you can't --everybody's got different custom, you know, and I have no right to go over there and try to tell them, "Open it up." I can't do that. And he said, "When the time comes, the only thing the Cheyennes can do," he said, "They're going to have to give away to the Pawnees." That's what he said. That's the nearest I could get.

ARAPAHO SACRED OBJECTS

Jess: You know the Kiowas lost their doll. They had a buckskin doll (the Taimé). It's their symbolism--their emblem (most sacred tribal object). The Utes got hold of that during a raid. They lost it. And the Kiowas don't have no ceremonies now, only what they imitate from other tribes, especially the Cheyennes and Arapahoes. And the Comanches lost their cloth and their beads but they still use imitation. They go out and get ~~that~~ "yellow root," they call it, out there by Fairfax. That's real hot medicine. A little tree grows about that tall--the root of it. I guess you heard about it. Mary and I and a bunch of us went down there one time. But the Arapahoes got their complete Pipe (the sacred Flat Pipe), ear of corn, and turtle. They are all petrified. And a duck's bill--all in one bundle yet. Complete yet. The Pipe is petrified. So is the turtle shell and the duck's bill and a leaf. It looks like an olive leaf. It's several hundred years old. They still use that, Arapahoes.