

cousin--your brother--" there's no word for 'cousin' in Arapaho--"Your brother's coming in," they said. "All right. Tell me when he comes." I rode in there and I tied my horse to a blackjack tree. I walked over there and sat down in the arbor. So they picked him up and brought him over to me. "Here's your brother." So he felt of me. In the old Indian way when you pray for help you always put your hands on your forehead. So he done that to my head--just like I was a big man. I was just a boy then. Then he said, "Brother, you know my situation." He said, "I beg you for the love of your sisters and your brothers and your children to help me go through this lodge this year." I couldn't answer him. I didn't know how, then. So then they served dinner. So then that afternoon they sit down in a circle, the chiefs. All them big men--Cut Finger and White Shirt, and Little Raven. They said, "Now let's hear some discussion." Two or three of them spoke. Then they call on me. I got up and took my hat off. I said, "Well, all of you know I'm just a young man. I never participate in any of these ceremonies, but I believe in them. I intend to go out and camp with you folks. All that. And I'd like to see these things kept up of the old Arapaho traditions." So I said, "If you'll excuse me without saying anything further, I'll go back home to my home. Tonight whenever I go to bed I'm going to think the thing over. See what I can do for you--if anything at all." And so I said, "By tomorrow you'll hear what I have done or didn't do." He said, "All right." So this old man--my cousin's wife, she said, "Jess, I've got some good sliced meat. I want you to take it home to your family." So she had a pole there. She took down some meat, nice-sliced meat, and put it in a sack. Give it to me. Tied it to my saddle. So I went on home. So they all been turned down all over--by the Commissioner, Secretary, President, Congressmen, Senators, all those. They all been turned down from having that Sun Dance. So I got home. I ate a little lunch. So I told my wife, "I'm going to go to bed early." So she went in the other room and I got to thinking, "How am I going to go back there and help these people with this problem of having that Sun Dance this same year--July 27th