

they attend the churches, they attend all the other functions as a normal, average American family, but sometimes it seems they don't get in touch with their older customs, tribal customs, as much as they would like to and I know that they miss that. It has been instilled in them and whether they can instill that, in their children, remains to be seen. I have high hopes that they will instill that, Indian. Its just a small drop of Indian blood goes to my hopes that they will remember that they are Indians and remember their older people and come back. We do retain some sorts of our ways such as our tribal dancing is gaining in momentum and of course we don't have our own singers as we used to have. We only have a few Osages that sing, I mean, that sing around the larger drum around the ceremonial dances. We only have a few of the, we don't have any of the town crfers anymore. It seems like the tribal dances are struggling for existence. A few that want to retain the older ways but the newer generation imposes their--their ways. They want to change which in some instances are better and the younger people want to continue on and it seems that they are increasing in numbers of dancers. We always have great faith in younger generation that they might see some of our old ways and retain some of them regardless whether they practice them or not that they will know them.

I just might like to mention that at this time a few years ago there was an elderly Osage lady. She isn't full-blood Osage, but she was Osage. She had an idea to me was an excellent, wonderful idea. She had the backing to go ahead with this--proceed with this program that she had sought out. It would have been excellent thing for the tribe. I'm speaking of Mrs. Letitia Shankel and she attended the Osage Boarding School with my mother and she's quite elderly and she knows the ways of the Osages