

SEPARATION OF TRIBES AND EARLY LIFE

(Did your tribe back there, you know, when they like Nebraska, they didn't all live together, how big was that tribe back there? Did anyone ever tell you how big or how large the number they were?)

Well, the, when they were in Nebraska, north and northeast and north of Nebraska and part of South Dakota, well, my father used to tell us and other people used to tell us that they were, when they were at home, and they lived in teepees. And they said that there was three rings. Now the distance, nowadays like I remember in 1906, '07, '08, '09, I was just a little boy then, but I remember how big a ring used to form. They used to camp out here north of Marland, they reserved there three hundred acres. Camped out there for Sun Dance and they made a pretty good size ring, the teepees formed. And they said back there they had three rings, one in the center, ones like that, too many they can't stay like that. And finally, they separated that is, they did not, but they, there was so many, many close together. Some lived in the northwestern part of Nebraska and the other was on the western and there was so many of them, you know that it was hard for them to get together to, just like when a scouting party comes, and they were telling how the land gets really high and there was creeks and how the land is, how it's broken up. You have to be careful, you know. You know, they tell about it so they know what to do and what to think, how to go through. So, that's the way two men, that's the reason the half the tribe to move to, on the west. So, they have to do their own hunting over there and these people can do their hunting here. And I don't know you can imagine yourself just how many there were. There were a lot of them. But since then, you know, I don't know what happened, I don't know. They got sick. Most of them died of fever, I guess. And, then,