

and pity poor people and all that--that way. But I don't really know what all they have to ask.

(How did he get the authority to be held in respect like this?)

I don't know--it was way back before--maybe before I was old enough to know anything. I don't know how he--and I don't know where he got--they said they got these bags from some mountain over here north. On this side of Medicine Lodge. Somewhere there. They got that. The earth open and this Little Raven was caught and that's where he got it from. I don't know. It's kind of hard to talk about this because I don't know nothing about it. Just what I used to hear or just what--how I used to watch my mother-in-law take care of it. That's all. And I never did touch it. Never did go in front of them when they handle it.

(I was wondering--would you say Little Raven was sort of the main chief--?)

He was the main chief. By rights he was the main chief. He was even the leader of the war. That's how come they call him "head chief." I believe this part you ought to see Jesse Rowledge about it. He's older than I am and that Little Raven was supposed to be his uncle. And I think he would know more about it. Because I don't know very much about it and I hate to lie.

(I understand how you're feeling. I was interested in the things you knew about him, too. Because I think women have a different viewpoint sometimes from the men. And you said he was the head of the war--what--?)

He was the leader of the war when they went and fought Custer.

(What part did he play in that?)

I don't know. I don't know how they went at it.

(Were there some chiefs that were sort of under him or took orders from him?)

Yeah. Well, he was the leader--they had to take orders from him.

CHIEFS: QUALIFICATIONS & DUTIES

(Do you know the names of some of these other leaders?)

No. I don't know them. I don't know their names--who all was a chief as the same time he was. And this generation, the chiefs--I hear lot of people that's old and they don't know nothing about chiefs. They just think they're chiefs when they go pick one another. That's not the way they used to get them. That's not the way a person become a chief. A person--older person over there--had to be a warrior before he's a chief. That's what they always say. John Blackman always say that. And these you got here is just like they're just playing with it. And he said there's just him and--John Blackman--and--I think that Johnny Sleeper--his folks--they were chiefs from the wars. They were all warriors. That's about the only main chiefs should be, they always say.