

or behind the person being honored. Agnes Hamilton, the Treasurer's wife, had hoped there would not be too many specials because they take up so much time and prolong the afternoon program. She hope people would give away by placing a shawl or blanket on the shoulders of someone dancing so that the person receiving the gift could take it off their shoulders and thus the dance itself would not be interrupted. Although many people gave away in this manner, there were still many specials Sunday. Agnes gave away three shawls Sunday afternoon, putting one each on the shoulders of Walter (her husband), her son-in-law, and Charles Hamilton (her son).

The most spectacular giveaways consisting in giving away whole tables of goods. Soon after the opening of the Sunday afternoon program some ladies began to set up card tables and folding camp tables on the southwest side of the arend, and load them with things to be given away. Gift items included such things as plastic clothes baskets, cooking utensils, enamel serving dishes, coffee pots, plates, bowls, bedspreads, blankets, sheets, lengths of cloth, plastic utility vessels, fresh fruit, canned foods, crakerjacks, cartons of soft drink, shawls, pendleton blankets, etc. Sometimes a plastic clothes basket was filled with gifts and placed underneath the table. Gift items were arranged carefully on each table. After a table was loaded a fine blanket or shawl would be spread over everything. The goods on each table were given as a unit to a single person. The tables themselves were not given. Four of the tables were set up by Imogene Fisher, a northern Cheyenne who lives in Oklahoma. Other women helped her set up her tables. It took several songs to arrange all their goods. When they were given away, it took several people to help carry away all the items. This giving away of "tables" (a table-load of goods) is supposed to be a northern Plains practice.

The Gourd Dance costume for men consisted of pants, shirt, blanket, rattle, fan, strings of mescal bean beads and silver beads, moccasins, and perhaps a vest decorated with beadwork or applique designs, beaded bolo tie, long silk sash with beaded and fringed ends. The blankets are half red and half dark blue, being made of lengths of red and blue wool broadcloth sewn together with a center seam. The blanket is usually further decorated with one or more beaded medallions and ribbon trim on the back, or ribbon applique. The trousers are varies--blue jeans, or regular slacks. Shirts are varied also. Some are short-sleeve white shirts or colored shirts. Many are in bright colors. Some shirts are especially made pow-wow shirts of bright or shiny materials with ribbon trim and worn outside the trousers. Most moccasins are beaded all over, but some are Kiowa-style with beaded bands in V-shape over the instep and metal tinklers and heel fringe. Two strings of beads are worn by most dancers in bandolier fashion--across one shoulder, and under the arm. The two strings would consist of one string of mescal bean beads and another string of silver-colored round metal beads. A silk handkerchief with Indian perfume tied in it would be attached to the beads at the shoulder. Rattles are usually made of a condensed milk can or other small can, painted and set on carved or beaded wooden handle. A few men used Mexican maracas or other kind of rattle--some of gourds. Rattle is carried in the right hand, and fan held in the left hand. Many dancers wear dark glasses. Most wear light-colored straw western style hats. Blanket may be worn either around the neck with both ends hanging down in front, or diagonally, crossing the right shoulder and coming down the back and check with the ends secured in front with left hand, or ends passed through crook of the left arm.