

MYRTLE HELPS DELIVER HER GRANDCHILD

(Did they have any medicine they'd give you for pain if it hurt very much?)

No. No medicine. They used to just press you on the back over here, you know--just kind of press it like--hold you over here--kind of stand like that--that's the way they used to do. I guess we all got different ways. Indians has got ways. But these Cheyennes--twice I know a woman sick--they have a man to wait on a woman, these Cheyennes! (In scandalized tone of voice) Yeah! You know what I did? I was over here and we were having hand game down there. So we come back home that night. Here a car come in. "Myrtle, we come after you. Your daughter-in-law is sick," they said. This Imogene--Rosie Jean's mother. (Meaning Rosie, Myrtle's granddaughter now living at Seiling). So I went. I went with them. Took some things over there. I had some baby things that I'd been buying. I took them over there. I went in and boy, there was Black Bear and John B. Deer and Red Bird and then there was another man--what's his name--Meat, I think it was. There was four men and they had drums. And oh, she was suffering! I guess she had suffered all day, and part of that night. And I went in there and oh, her pain would start and oh, they'd start them drums. And this Rosie Whiteshield was there. "Say," I said. "You men!" I said. "Let's see you go out!" I told them. "There's too much noise, them drums!" I told them. "You go out. I'm going to see what I can do," I told them. They all went out. Then I told my daughter-in-law, "Imogene," I told her. "You must hold me around the neck. Get up," I told her. "Oh, I wonder if I could--" "Yeah, come on," I told her. They're just making you worse. They make too much noise. It makes that baby stop," I told her. "Get up." She got up. "Come hold me this side," she told Rosie. Rosie and I, we pick her up. We took her to one room. Then, "Oh! Oh! I think I'm going to have it! I'm going to have it!" "Just hold on. Don't close your legs," I told her. "Now, you sit down," I told her (probably this