

RABBIT DANCE

(Well, back when your children were little and you were living here on this place, did the Indians have many hand games back in those years?)

No. Mostly they used to have what they call "Rabbit Dance."

(What is that?)

Well, that's the "Indian Two-Step," they call it.

(You mean where a boy dances with a girl?)

Yeah.

(What would be the occasion for having a Rabbit Dance?)

Oh, it was just kind of a social, like, you know. Maybe a boy would ask his folks if they would give supper if he invite the young people. We invited lot of them when we used to camp down here. My boy used to do Rabbit Dance--he was a Rabbit Dancer.

(Which one?)

Lewis. Well, all three of them. And all these Fonda-Seiling Cheyenne kids used to come down. Boy, they used to have a big time. They used to dance.

(That's when you used to camp down here at the park?)

Yeah. They used to have Rabbit Dance. And even that undertaker's mother, she used to go dance, and oh, she used to want to dance with my boy! "I like the way he dances! I'm going to learn to dance with Lewis," ~~she used to say~~. She was a white woman-- Mrs. Haigler. And she used to go and Rabbit Dance--her and her sister. And a bunch of other white kids. They sure did like it.

(What time of year would this be?)

1931. And two, and oh, up until thirty-seven (1937). When my boy become a preacher, well, it stopped. They couldn't get to get him to go and run Rabbit Dance!

(That was Lewis?)

Yeah. He used to have services.

(Well, did they just have these Rabbit Dances in the summer time or could it be any time?)

In the summer time.

(Were they outdoors?)

Outdoors. They used to dance outside.\*

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\*See T-631 for more on Rabbit Dance.