

(When they would give them rations, was that enough food?)

I don't even know if that was enough. I was still a little girl.

ERECTING A TIPI:

(You said today that your mother had a tipi--)

Yeah, they used to have tipis. They used to have big tipis. I remember my mother used to have tipi. In winter times they open fire, burn wood, the smoke goes out. Used to have door, put canvas in there--they used to put that big canvas by the door. They used to put stick in there to hold it--that door.

(What were the tipis made out of?)

Canvas. Way before, in my grandma days, they used to make them out of tan--hides--buffalo hides. In my grandmother's day. But in my mothers they used to have canvas. They used to buy it in the store--canvas.

(How many poles did they use?)

I don't know how many poles. Some of them use more, and some of them don't have many. Three poles they tie them, and then I use to see my mother, she used to tie three poles--two over here and one over here. (three poles tied at or near tips, side by side, middle pole about a 45° angle to others) And then she used to--long string--used to pull that string and somebody used to hold that--and pull up. And they put this one this way. And they put them over there. (While several persons hold but ends of poles in place, someone pulls rope which is tied to junction of the three poles and raises the three which are then formed into a standing tripod-like affair) And then they tie tipi one pole in back.

(Did they tie it on the canvas cover on there before they pulled it up?)