

Well, there's--each man had to have a place to stand--there's maybe four on the west side--maybe six. And one on the side, here. He was the one that's the leader of that dance. And the womans dance on one side. And they to go through certain movements in order to complete the dance. And these, as far as I know, the men that's dancing on the west, was the men who were initiated--who put that lodge up ...benefit. You'd get better understanding and better knowledge from the person who went through it.

(What age is John Blackman?)

He's about my brother's age--older--pretty close to his seventies. He stays home quite a bit. He lives northeast of Geary. You know where that hill is, east of Geary--when you go toward Calumet, well, after you get down in that creek, you turn north. About four miles north or something like that. On the east side of the road there's a bungalow and a barn. That's where he lives. Someone in Geary would know where he lives.

HOW POW-WOWS IN CANTON AREA GOT STARTED, AND WAR DANCING

(I thought you could tell me a little about the history of the pow-wows in this area today, too, and how this War Dance came in.)

Well, originally this War Dance, they call it Crow Dance. But I don't know who gave it the name of War Dance. I don't know where the name originated from. As far as I can know the Indians--the Arapahoes danced this dance years back. I started in when I was about five or six years of age. Finally I got so good that I went off--I went all over the United States. Went to Wyoming and danged, and Kansas. There was a number of good dancers in my time. Three of my brothers danced and I was taught when I was about five or six years old by my brothers. And when there was any Indian gathering, such as Colony group that would come up here to visit the Canton Arapahoes, they would have to call the Arapahoes in Canton together in order to give the dance and give presents to the Colony group. They do that and go back and forth. Each one would get certain partner to claim as his friend so they could exchange gifts. So that way