

just don't like you just a little bit--suspicion that they don't like you--they'll just beat that drum any way to knock something out of tune, and you get all the credit (blame). They have played me that way.

(Isn't this business of having two or three or five drums something recent? They didn't used to have that back before World War II, did they?)

No. They didn't used to have it. We used to always just have one. But it's got so to where there's so many other tribes, they want to sing in my group, or in my head drumming business. They all bring their own drum. "Now, Jim, we heard you're head drummer at Colony pow-wow. We're going to bring our group over." Somebody else come, "Well, Jim, will it be all right if we bring our drum?" "Yeah, go ahead. Bring your drum." I invite everybody. I don't carry no partiality. Then if they decide they want to sit on the outside, like the northern people do, like them people--you was there last fall--well, them northern Cheyennes, they had theirs (their drum) on the west side. Well, there's a little complication there, where I have to run over there and then run back over here and then they call me on the loudspeaker and I have to go back over there and run over there. There for three days, each day I think I ate one meal! I was busy all day long. And even if there wasn't no dance, I had to go help these big shots prorate a program for that afternoon. And about the time they're going to feed me over there, somebody else call me somewhere else.

(Do you ever have the experience where somebody's not too good at drumming--or maybe he inexperienced or maybe he just doesn't have the talent--it's an open drum--?)

Yeah, he tries his best but he's an inexperienced guy. And I find that it's troublesome, but I hate to embarrass him. I hate to draw it down and I'm not going to do it. I take everybody equal--whether I know this guy--that this guy don't like me--I take everybody equal. I give everybody a chance. If they--they come there to sing. They come there to participate. They come there to enjoy themselves. "All right, everybody sing the song that you like." And whoever passes a song, you know he's not no