

way superstitious. The old people used...maybe the old man that announces...used to say, well, we going to have a ball game, certain day, everybody cook your dinner and bring it. See, we eat after it's over with. Course, you couldn't eat first, and then try to go out. They'd...the man that's announcing would say, we're having our spring ball game. The good Lord gave us this exercise...like...how did they put it. We going to adjust our joints. By exercising, so you won't be aching and ailing. Now, that's the way they had it.

They usually go by that, the man that's announcing, he used to tell us. That way you can be healthy and breathe the good fresh air as you running. All that. It was kind of sacred to them, in a way. That's the way I look at it. (Did the women do anything before they played the game?) Not that I know of. They used to, after it's after, tell them, take a bath and get the sweat off them.

(You were talking about the game, and that the Lord gave it. How about other things, like the crops?)

Well, she (grandma) never did mention that part. But this is first thing that...that God put in a woman's hand. Because he went and told her that this corn...when he hand it to her... is for your children. It's milk, and you can feed your children with it. In a way, he said that it was milk for the nourishment for our...everybody, then. But she used to mention the children mostly.

(What about the other types of corn?)

Well, they all come together. They all come together. It didn't say, it just says that when he put that ear of corn in her hand, it was white corn.

SHOULDER BLADE HOE AND POUNDERS FOR CORN

(When the Wichitas planted corn, you said they kept the different types separate. How did they do the actual planting?) They dug a hole. They used that very hoe I'm telling you about. Even to this day, if somebody,....when they divide meat up... or something like that, they'll say...they call it a hoe.