

handgame any time of the year?)

Yea. They usually play in winter times. You go in the house and stay in there. Now summertimes, mostly pow-wows, dancing, all going out.

(Can you play in the daytime?)

Anytime.

(Do the Wichita have any story about where the hand game came from?)

I never did hear. Somebody might know. I'm going to go see my cousin, see if he's home. I'll ask him some questions.

USE OF ACORNS AS FOOD

The other day, I said, there's a man come to my place, I said. I told him what I already said about our food. I asked him about the skunkberries. He didn't know. We always raised corn, squash, beans....never did go hungry. Did I tell you about acorn mush? That's one of our dishes. It's not all the acorns, it's the acorn that grows on the blackjack tree, and the acorn that grows on the red oak. Now we use these, those acorns. They have certain bitter taste of them. Now, you take these other acorns, like post oak and...oh, there's some kind of a brush like. I always say, oh, I wish these were them. Now these blackjack, they're little ones, it takes a lot. You shell them and grind it. You have to shell those acorns and we grind it up. Used to pound it, now we grind it. Fix it fine, just like corn-meal or something like that.

(Do you cook these before you pound them?)

No, we don't cook them. Just take the hulls off and grind it, and then after it's ready, put it in a small pan so you can put warm water in it. You put warm water in it, and you can stir it or let it set a little while. Stir it, and then get a piece of cloth that no grain will go through. That's the funny part of it now. My mother used to have one, it was made of sack. It was a flour sack, kind of heavy like, not too heavy. And she sewed it over again, so nothing would go through the seams. Well, she goes to work, and gotta be inside out with the sewing on the outside. Or you could have a plain good size tea towel,