

you come back.

(How long did it take to get soft?)

Oh, it don't take too long. You could fix one in the morning and have it done by noon. If you work fast on it like that.

(And then what did you do with it when it got soft?)

Oh, we just let it lay. I always put powder on it you know that talcum powder, it makes it smell good and then it softens it you know. Soften it real soft and smooth and then it gets real white, that's when you tan it.

(Did the Comanches smoke their skins?)

Yeah, you smoke it to make it brown, and that way when it gets damp it don't get stiff. But if you don't smoke it, when it's white it really get stiff around the bottom. When you step in wet place it makes it stiff around the bottom and then you have to scrape it like that and then put powder on to soften it or that white clay like that put something on to soften it again. But when you smoke it, it don't get stiff.

(Is there any way to clean smoked buckskin?)

Oh, you could put that clay on it. I'd rather have the smoked moccasins then the white because they get soiled too easy. They're pretty all right but they really get dirty quick but the smoked ones, you could paint yellow all over. It would be pretty all over.

(How did they paint them? What kind of paint did they use?)

I have yellow powdered paint, what I used to use on moccasins, but now I ain't got a one, I sold all my moccasins, what I got, but I made a pair, one was sold up that way, and I just finish them not too long ago, but I sold them.