

T-160

BIRDIE BURNS, CHEYENNE

INTERVIEWED BY: JULIA A. JORDAN

INTERVIEW DATE: NOVEMBER 9, 1967

TRANSCRIBED BY: LINDA BUTLER

TRANSCRIPTION CHECKED BY: JULIA A. JORDAN

GENERAL SUBJECT: COURTSHIP AND MARRIAGE; TIPI MAKING; STORY
OF RACE BETWEEN BLACK HORSE AND WHITE HORSE

TOPICS DISCUSSED:

HOW GOOD FAMILIES RAISED THEIR DAUGHTERS

FAVORED DAUGHTER

COURTSHIP: BOY FRIENDS

MARRIAGE BY PURCHASE: OBTAINING A WIFE

CEREMONY BETWEEN MOTHER-IN-LAW AND SON-IN-LAW

REFUSAL OF MARRIAGE OFFER

DESIRABLE CHARACTERISTICS OF A HUSBAND AND A WIFE

PLURAL MARRIAGE - POLYGAMY

MARRIAGE BY ELOPEMENT

MARRIAGE FEAST

DISPOSITION OF GIFTS AT MARRIAGE GIFT EXCHANGE

ADOLESCENCE: GOOD GIRLS

BIRDIE'S FATHER

SOCIAL DANCES: THE DOUBLE HEADER

RESIDENCE AFTER MARRIAGE

TIPIS: MAKING OF

MENNONITES

SOCIAL DANCES: THE FORTY-NINE

STORY ABOUT BOY WHO FOUND SKINNY BLACK HORSE AND FACED IT
AGAINST WHITE HORSE

BACKGROUND OF INFORMANT:

Birdie Burns was in her mid-sixties during the time of these interviews. She was born and raised in the Clinton area, by traditionally oriented parents and knows a great many old time stories and much information about the former Cheyenne way of life. Her father was Kias, a sub-chief or band chief. Her mother was named Sage Woman. Her mother's father (or her mother's father's brother) was High Backed Wolf. Birdie was raised in the Mennonite Church. Her father was a peyotist for a while, but gave this religion up when his son, Birdie's brother, died. Birdie has been married to Ed Burns for many years, and they have one son. She also has a son by a previous marriage. (2-23-72).

NOTE: THIS INTERVIEW Continues on T-161 and T-162.