

(You mean it's her cousins and brothers that say that?)

Yes uh huh.

(Could she accept the food from more than one boy at a time and have more than one boy friend?)

Yes uh huh.

(How old would a young man be that started looking for girl friends like this?)

Well, they never let their children way back then marry young. No, he had to be where he can learn to hunt for food and take care of his horses and like that. Otherwise they wouldn't let their children marry without knowing anything yet.

DESIRABLE CHARACTERISTICS OF A HUSBAND AND A WIFE:

(Well, what would a young woman or her family look for in the boy? What kind of man would they want him to be?)

Well, he had to be a good hunter. He had to come from a good family. Someone that was interested in having pretty horses. They know that he was going to make a good husband. Their way of life was way different from ours today. The boy that knew how to bring in food--like huntin' deer and turkeys and buffalo--

(What about his looks? Would it make any difference if he was good-looking or not?)

No. That didn't make any difference.

(What would a young man like for his girl to be?)

Well, she must know how to tan hides. Know how to embroider with porcupine quills. Know how to make tipis. Know how to cook. Know how to dry meat. Know how to take care of it. And she must be a good girl.

(Did he ever look for somebody that's just pretty, or did that count very much?)

Well, I never did hear anybody say. But way back there I guess they were all nice looking. 'Cause they didn't use anything that would ruin their faces, like now.

PLURAL MARRIAGE--SORORAL POLYGyny:

(Back in those days, too, sometimes a man had more than one wife didn't he?)

Well, further back. My grandmother use to say--way back there when they use to go on war path--this brave warrior would have to do something great before he could win his father-in-law, in that respect. But when he returned from somewhere well,