

Some tribes joined in this dance, about three or four Otoes, some Pawnees, and Cheyennes. These people were honored but the relatives got their gifts and put them away for them until after the dance.

There were other attractions such as horse races, foot races, or Joe and Bill Pickett were giving bull dogging exhibitions. The 101 Ranch had their big top up or a stand and beef was given for the four days. Everybody had meat drying in the sun to take home after the Sun Dance. The visiting tribes were all given beef too. There was no water on the tribal grounds. Water was hauled in a barrel on a big wagon with a table cloth on top and a barrel ring to hold the cloth in its place over the barrel. Most of the water was taken from big wooden wind mills from the 101 Ranch home. The Indian boys watered the horses by driving them to the river. There was a pond southwest of the camp but it was kept dirty by the Indian boys, all the time, because they went swimming every day.

EXPERIENCE RIDING A RACE HORSE

Here is an incident that is typical of Indian life. Albert Waters and I went to see the horse races about 10 or 12 in number. We went to where they were starting. We saw a boy there by the name of Snake. He told Albert and I that he was afraid of the race horse he was on. Crazy me, I said alright, I'll ride him. I was 12 years old and my dad had gotten me a gentle horse and a good saddle. So, I didn't have any business on a fast horse. This horse looked like a 15 or 20 story building when I was riding on top. Well, he told me to watch the man by the camp--when he twirls a blanket and drops it--go! I was afraid a little when I saw older boys on the other horses. Finally everybody shouted get ready. We got in some kind of a ragged line and I heard someone say everybody keep your eye on that man, when I looked, he dropped the blanket. Everybody went so I joined in. Boy, this white race horse was fast. Before I knew what had happened I was in the lead. Boy, if you are young and hear the thundering hoofs back of you, you are going to look back, which is a mortal sin in racing as I found out later. I saw the