

them to tie their hair with, you know. Skins, you know, with beadwork in it. And these Kiowas, Comanches, and Apaches, they had good horses, because they raided in Texas. They had good blooded horses. They stole ponies down there. And then they come and bring their ponies up here and trade for one otter skin--one horse one otter skin.

(One otter skin?)

Yeah. Because the Arapaho women done that fine tan-work, you know--buckskin, and otter and beaver (tanned hides). Oh, they're just velvet side soft, you know.

(Was this in your day that they trade one otter skin for a horse?)

Oh, yeah. Yeah. The Kiowas sometimes need two horses to come down here and trade for two otters down here among the Arapahoes. Because the Arapahoes usually trapped when the fur got good--after the frost, through the winter months. Sometimes they'd sit on the bank and camouflage themselves. Bow and arrow. A beaver come out there, they shoot it with bow and arrow. Otter same way. But they didn't want to tear the hides any more than possible. In trapping them, they didn't hurt the hides. Oh, they didn't hurt the hides much with bow and arrow, but they're real fine pointed--steel-headed arrow. But those were--

HOW ARAPAHOES MADE SADDLES

And then, our tribe used--Arapahoes made saddles--"squaw saddles", we call them. Go down in the fall and winter. Three or four women go down to the river where there's big willows. Tree willows. And locate some that had good forks, you know. And they'd cut the whole willow down--about that big a tree. And they cut them limbs where the forks are--nice forks, about that big around. Pile them up, about five or maybe six forks about that long. Just about that long. Above the fork was about that long. They pack them home. We'd pack them home--the children pack them home to their folks. Drag them home or something like that. Then they'd let them lay around the camp until they got dried out. Of course they was dormant. And I seen my mother--sometimes they'd start