

stirrups gonna be. This saddle--where the sidepiece gonna come under. They didn't drill, hoes--they just burn holes. They take steel rods. They know what steel was--from iron. (Jess is ^{probably} talking about how Indians would alter qualities of metal they obtained by heating it and hammering it. In other words, there may have been some men who were smiths, but Jess speaks of this as making steel from iron.--jj) They'd always have steel rods of some sort. They'd burn holes in that saddle, front, back, and this other piece. When they'd got all through with that, then they'd soak the hide--a young beef hide. Scraped. Hair scraped off. They soak it two or three days and they cover that front cantle--(I mean the fork (pommel, probably). Same way with the cantle--the back. This hide was just so--it was soaked good. You could stretch it any way you want it. And they cover it up--just to the edges. Then they'd sew it with buckskin. That horn's covered, head and all. Then while it's wet they'd make little holes and run the buckskins (thongs) through there for the fringes on the saddle--for the top, you know. The same way with the back, the cantle. And then of course after they made holes in that wood, and covered up, they know where the holes are and all they have to do is just punch a hole through there, and they'd string the saddle together, right. The side pieces fit on there, like the horn, tight. And then they soak it and they (unintelligible word) it together. The saddle's finished. And then they cover it up with hides--buckskin or something like that. Beadwork, or something like that. And those Comanche, Kiowas, they'd come over and buy these saddles from these women. Pony against saddle. They had a trade, them women.

(Trade a pony for a saddle?)

MAKING OF BRIDLES WITH GERMAN SILVER DECORATION

Yeah. And then the men made bridles. They had silverwork. Stamped. German silver work. But of course the leather was ordinary (probably talking about commercially tanned leather or plain manufactured bridles which the Indians ornamented with German silver--jj) but they put the silverwork on top of