

Cheyennes and Arapahoes are just like--for hundreds and hundreds of years they've intermixed.

MEDICINE LODGE PAGEANT: RATIONS ISSUED TO INDIAN CAMPERS

(In former years when you went up to Medicine Lodge, did the Indians get more money for going--or did they come out any better financially?)

Well, expenses were cheaper then. But they had better food service. The four or five times that I've managed the Arapahoes--because the old folks living at that time, they always like the entrails--they know how to cook them, you know. The tripe and paunch and liver and all those. Well, I used to go out there and kill our own beef. I'd pick out our own beef right out there in the pasture--at Medicine Lodge--and we'd skin it, you know, and cut the meat up and bring it to camp and give the old folks those entrails, like the heart and all those things. They lived that way years and years, you know. They used to like it. But now there's no old folks living now. These young folks, they don't care to go to that trouble. So we just got our meat in a locker. And a lot of Indians complained. They said, "There's no fat on any of the beef they give us." They always like fat, you know, when they cook their meat over the fire. They like to have a little suet or fat to cook and eat with their meat. There was no fat. And one fellow went up to the locker himself and asked for fat. "No, we ain't got no fat." And here I can go to any locker or butcher shop and ask for fat and they'll give it to me--a couple of pounds or something like that. Any time. Now, what kind of beef they gave us, I don't know, but they gave us a lot of beef--big chunks. There's one thing, they gave us plenty of meat. But very few of us has our little old portable ice boxes, you know. My grandgirls had theirs, and they brought three chunks home to their mother in El Reno. But the expenses are high nowadays. They gave us potato chips. For breakfast they gave us milk, cream, eggs, bacon, and sometimes they'd bring out whole boxes of jelly rolls and doughnuts and pie and cake. Through the camp. And sometimes they'd bring out melons and canteloupes