

WHISKEY TRADING AND GAMBLING IN INDIAN CAMPS

(Well, back in those days, did they have much trouble with people selling whiskey to the Indians?)

No. Those travelers, they trade with those Indians, a lot of times, for different things. But a lot of them trade a bottle of whiskey for a pony. Not too many of them (Indians) drank whiskey, but a few of them do. And they had a lot of trouble with them. They said sometimes they get it in kegs--small kegs. And then whoever buys it, they'd carry it to the village and they have a smoke. They say, "We're calling everyone to come over, all you men. We'll smoke in my tent." They go in there. That's like a club. They go in there and tell jokes, and tell their war experience, and they drink! And some of them get so full---drunk--and sometime they have a fight. They said that Sun Boy was pretty good bad for that. He was always drunk. He liked it and he secured it. He know where to get it. Anyway he had it. He seems friendly with some of them nigger soldiers, that knows where to get it, and they help him get it.

(When they were in the tent like that, were there just Indians there? Or would white men be there too?)

Just Indians. There were no white men allowed to live with the Indians. And if they see a white man living with the Indians, they're supposed to report it to the government police. And take him before the Indian Agent. And Indians do nothing but gambling in those early days. The colored soldiers learned them how to gamble, and the cattlemen and everything. I have lot of those pictures where they are gambling. You saw them. Early day gambling.