Well, whatever symbolism he wants to adhere to as a doctor, he goes to that particular clan--the leader--and he tells them his wishes and desires. Naturally, of course, he's accepted, and from there on he has to sit in with them in all their rituals, whether they're doctoring or going to fast--which they have to fast, especially when they're preparing their herbs for the year--the ensuing years--the necessary supply they think they have to have. In the meantime all these herbs are gathered and made available. Sometimes they compound them, you know. They have one or two herbs or maybe three, sometimes. Mixed up for a certain remedy, or purposes. And whenever these elders are actually doctoring he sits in with them and observes them, listens to them--what they say and watches them--what they're doing. Their method of procedure. And sometimes it's thrust upon him by his elders to go ahead and do the doctoring himself, after he becomes competent. Those are the methods I know are commonly adhered to.

(Did you say that every year they make a new supply of herbs?)

Yeah, every year they get together at a designated place, and whenever the herbs are ready--matured--they work them up. Pulverize them, and combine them for certain purposes. But they meet annually at some designated place.

(And you say they bless the herbs?)

Yeah, they bless the herbs and they fumigate them, and they distribute them in very little bags, usually buckskin that's cut around that big around and about that much of those herbs--enough to last a year or maybe a little more. Some are a little larger. They tie them up. Each man of that clan gets a share.