

RETIRED CHIEFS

(Another thing, when they left their position after being in for ten years, would all four of them be leaving at the same time, and four new ones come in?)

Yes, all of them if they want to. If they don't want to, they remain. Now my husband has been appointed chief. He doesn't want to (accept). Because I told him my father said that's just retirement when you become a chief. My father used to say, "Just like an old work horse, and he's worked all his life, and he's ready to retire, this old work horse. All right. You take him to green alfalfa field and just turn him loose in there." He said that's the way this chiefship is. He said, "You're just good and lively up to sub-chief age," he said. Like his age. "Beyond that," he said, "It's just retirement when you become a chief." See, all the older men were chiefs.

(Does that mean that the chiefs didn't have much work to do?)

No one worked at that time. There was no work to be done. No one plowed. They didn't know what plowed ground was at that time. No one knew what earning money was. And they didn't know the value of money.

DUTIES OF CHIEFS AND QUALIFICATIONS

(Well, did they quit their hunting and these kinds of activities that they'd been engaged in--before they became chiefs?)

Well, they could still do anything. Chiefs could still hunt. They did everything. That didn't keep them from doing anything. That's when they're supposed to do more good, when they become chiefs. If they get hold of a good horse, they'd say, "Now I heard about that widow losing an old horse. Tell her to come after my horse."