

ARROW KEEPERS AND THEIR PIPES

(What was that man's name--do you remember?)

Mower. There were several of them that I remember, that were keeping the Arrows, but this main one, when everything was still running the way it should, was Old Man Mower. He was named after those mowing machines. He's the one that came and asked for me in my first marriage--his wife. Yeah.

(Why did it sort of break up after him?)

Well, after he was gone, it seemed like they never did find the right man to carry on like these in the past have. They just-- just so they keep them and just so they're called the "Arrow Keeper" that's all (they care about). But way back there this Arrow Man used to be to himself, where he won't hear anything that's not good. And where he won't say anything that's no good. He was just wanting to be a perfect man--him and his wife would sit together somewhere. And if there was a dance or feast going on, they'd take food to them and feed them over there. They'd look on from way off. He wasn't in there in the bunch. Every time, wherever he'd sit, he'd lay his pipe down. That's as far as his authority went. He had all the authority. He represented the Cheyenne tribe. And in between the pipe and in between in there they couldn't cut up. They couldn't just be drinking and quarreling and fighting--no! See, from where he is to the pipe, he wants it to be perfect. Wants it to be just so. Be good and clean. And beyond that, it was free for all. Because if you did something bad between the pipe and him, no telling what would happen to you.

(Would the pipe be very far away from him?)

No. Right by him. Or else if he didn't have the pipe, he'd just