

my grandpa, he's a king to this old man, he said, "Hand it down to me I'll take care of it, and it goes with the Sun Dance. I'll go wherever the Sun Dance is and I'm going to pay for this, so he paid it. Give horses and some other stuff to old man and he got that bundle and got that silver out of it and gave it to my grandpa. That's where it come from, so right now he still got it. He gave it to my father and my father doctor us and my grandpa doctor my father so we kept it in the family. And whenever my brother Charley--the oldest one, grew up he gave it to him. And when he had it, he kept it and now he give it to Scott. So Scott's got it in a case there you know. (Scott is Alice's son). It just kind of sacred like.

OLD BELIEFS

We keep it in a black handkerchief and when we got fever or something always left (silver disc 4" diameter, 1/16" thick is pressed flat to patient) leave us it's cold, you know. We get all right. My niece had penumonia one time and he cured it. He cut him with something they use, you know and then he get the cow horn and sucked the blood out. It's like taking a splinter out. Right up the next day she was up. Her father doctored her and he used that crow feather and fanned her with it and he got all right.

(What did you say was the reason for using the crow feather?)

They claim that it scare the evil spirit away and keep them and give them good luck you know. Nothing harm them and--

(That's because it's the enemy of the owl?)

Yes.

(What is the owl--?)

Indians don't like owls. They claim it brings bad luck you know when they come around. They superstitious you know. They don't like them. They use crow feathers. Peyote people they use sage, you know, that grows