

like. And then sometimes they'd come in and just take a cup and drink it.

(Now this ni' aetae' --what season of the year would they be finding that?)

Well, it was usually along in Wyoming--I don't know what it would be in Oklahoma if it grew here at all--I never knew of anyone that knew it grew here--they could plant it and grow it here--it's a longer season. Probably it would mature earlier. But up there it's along about the first part of August.

(Have you ever gathered it yourself?)

Well I went out with a cousin of mine. He located it. But somebody had been out there and we only found two little ones--they were about as big around as that. Either bears or something else had been after them. There was quite a lot of dirt, you know.

RITUAL OBSERVED IN GATHERING PEYOTE

(When they find it, is there any special way they have to gather it?)

I don't know about that. But the doctors, they may have some ritual they may observe. Like this peyote. The first peyote they find, as many of them as are there on the grounds when they find the first peyote, it seems to happen all the time--they go around and they find one peyote. All right, then they'll call each other. Then they sit around and they offer smoke and pray before they dig that. And then they put that smoke down, they dig that herb. It seems--I know it happened to me once or twice --after that you can find a whole cluster of them. But you don't find that at the very first. You don't find no cluster first.