

with making it or fixing it when you're getting ready for the meeting?)

I don't understand--

PREPARATION OF ALTAR:

(Like who would fix the crescent--?)

Anybody. It'd be mostly to the man who's gonna conduct the meeting or the man that's going to help, or somebody that's had that part before. But I fix them before. I fix two or three moons. But I rather have somebody else fix it.

(Is there anything special that you have to do?)

No.

(What happens to that moon after the meeting is over?)

Oh, well, the old timers, they don't haul dirt. They dig in. They dig in that shape. They dig down about five inches and throw that dirt back and use that moon. And they clean it and kinda slope from here toward the west end and kinda slope it. Take all that dirt and kinda slope it shape of that moon. And when they fill that up with ashes down there, well, next day they push that dirt back over the ashes. That's the way it's supposed to be, but they don't.

(Is there meaning to that?)

No, it's that--you got to keep the ashes down. Sometimes they fly and catch the pasture on fire. Well, it's just like fire is hazardous, you know, the Indians know that too. Like a little fire will catch fire on pastures and stuff like that.

(Another thing I just thought of, I think a while ago while we were talking about feathers that you mentioned some people using crow feathers in the meetings?)

Well, any kind of feathers that goes in there. But I never seen anybody use owl feathers. I never did. (laughs) it's because owls is a night bird. They don't like it. But them Siouxs, they use it. Yeah, they put it on a bustle and they dance with it. They're not superstitious--I mean of the owl. But the Apache are real afraid of the owls. I know. I am to an extent, I'm not exactly afraid of 'em, but just to hear 'em make me have chills. Sound weird, you know. I have to go down there about this time they start hollering down there. I have to chop wood down there. I could hear 'em hollering. Say, "Got to go--it's getting dark."