

JESS ROWLDGE, ARAPAHO
 INTERVIEWED BY: J. JORDAN
 TRANSCRIBED BY: J. JORDAN
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GENERAL SUBJECT: CHIEFS AND POLITICAL ORGANIZATION: GIFT EXCHANGE

TOPICS DISCUSSED:

PIPES, DANCING WITH
 CEREMONY FOR NEW CHIEF
 TRADITIONAL RELIGION: TERM OF BLESSING RECITED IN PRAYERS
 WHY JESS NEVER JOINED CERTAIN SOCIETIES: CONFLICT BETWEEN TRADITIONAL
 CEREMONIALISM AND CONDITIONS OF MODERN LIFE
 CHIEFS
 INITIATION CEREMONY WITH A BROTHER SUBSTITUTING FOR A PERSON WHO IS
 ABSENT
 REFUSAL OF INDIVIDUALS TO JOIN A SOCIETY: AVOIDANCE OF MEMBERSHIP
 BY FLIGHT
 RECENT TRIBAL ELECTION: GETTING VOTES BY BUYING LIQUOR FOR VOTERS
 TRIBAL CHIEFS ON TRIBAL COUNCIL
 CONTEMPORARY POLITICS AND PERSONALITIES
 DUTIES OF TRIBAL COUNCIL MEMBERS: SCHOLARSHIPS
 CHAIRMAN OF TRIBAL COUNCIL: HOW SELECTED
 TRIBAL COUNCIL
 CHARITABLE ACTS IMPORTANT FOR MAN RUNNING FOR TRIBAL COUNCIL
 SUPPORT OF RELATIVES: RESOLUTION OF CONFLICTING INTERESTS BETWEEN
 RELATIVES
 IMPORTANCE OF ABSENTEES AND ABSENTEE BALLOTS
 VOTING REQUIREMENTS: DISQUALIFICATION FOR FELONY
 PRESENT CHAIRMAN LIVES OUT OF STATE
 ARAPAHOS AND CHEYENNES LIVING IN WICHITA AND OKLAHOMA CITY
 RAISING COTTON: USE OF THE PROFIT FOR HOLIDAY FESTIVITIES
 CHILDHOOD: CHILD'S FAMILY GIVING AWAY ON CERTAIN OCCASIONS
 GIVEAWAYS: PERSONS GIVEN TO
 DISTINCTION BETWEEN GIVING AND TRADING
 GIVING TO FRIENDS: BESTOWING OF A NAME
 JESS'S FRIENDSHIP WITH APACHE BEN: ARAPAHO RELATIONS WITH KIOWA-
 APACHES

BACKGROUND OF INFORMANT:

Jess Rowldge was born in 1884 and is a well-known and respected leader among the Arapahoes. He is fairly well educated and articulate, and has traveled extensively on tribal business, having visited Washington, D.C. a number of times. He has been active in tribal politics for many years and has helped the Arapahoes in pressing their claims cases against the government. Nevertheless, Jess is well versed in the traditional culture of his tribe and anxious for at least some parts of it to be preserved. He is one of the two surviving members of the Star Hawk Society, one of the old age-graded warrior societies, and he has often expressed hope that this organization would be revived in modern times. He is a peyotist, as well as a member of the Baptist Church, and feels that the peyote ceremony has given him some of his greatest personal fulfillment as well as inspiration. Jess is no stranger to the role of teacher-informant in communicating knowledge about Arapaho culture. He has known and worked with such people as A.L. Kroeber, James Mooney, Morris Smith, Sister Inez Hilger, and Fred Eggan.