

sense, just like I said, in the early days than we have now. Just what ever they laid down, why, that was it, just like a law, nobody contested it. Once that was a rule, well, why that was it. And they the one's that made the rules and everything. In order to camp and everything. They used to camp at Montisha, and when they move, they have somebody look at the ground, so look at the camp, that is why, that's where they camp. Their chief had all authority. Just like white man, he got senator and representatives but there's just one chief, they all got together and settled it once and for all. They was all. It means non-salary. (laughter)

(What other special privileges did Birdchief have, besides just being chief. Did he have any other special privileges or customs in the tribe that he received? For example, was he ever allowed to have more wives than anyone else?)

MARITAL CUSTOMS

Why, they could have as many wives as they want in early days, there was no limit. But these headmen, they was a little below them, just like these House of Representatives, these senators or what you call these chiefs. And one thing, when they quit, why they just quit. There was no such thing as divorce. All they did, see, they just walk off, get you another woman, and she'd get another man. That's the way it went, see.

(Was there any formal marriage ceremony that a chief went through when he married? He just said I want that woman and that was it?)

Yeah. Sometimes they used to, when a certain woman, later on, they'd keep and want that woman; they'd give 'em so many horses to accept. . . . come on a little later. But those days there was no, you could have as many wives as you want. Like Blackkettle, he had 5 or 7 wives. Blackkettle.