

(Well, did she put the grease right on the bone?)

On the bone. And then they heat it and that grease or tallow, whatever it is, it's so hot it cooks it.

(Well, had it already been sharpened before she put that on it?)

Yeah, it was sharpened. Get them all ready and when they sharpen them they put them on the wood. They make a little hole on the wood and they put that needle right in that hole and then they put it in the fire.

(What do you mean they put it on the wood?)

They put that needle, that wood--that bone needle, put it in like that, see? Have a long stick. That stick, it's so hot, you know, that's how they protect their hands. They put it over that stick and then they put it on top of the fire. Keep turning it. Then when it just get that color, certain way, they know. I don't know. And then when they get that color and then they take it off and put it in the water. That won't break. They just do that so it won't break.

(How would they sharpen those bone needles?)

Well, I saw my mother--took them needles are round and she ~~just~~ take a knife, sharp knife and just keep a-working. Work on it just like this. Like that. Work it till she gets it sharp. That's the only way. They don't--sometimes they get a rock. About that big around and about that long. And sometimes it breaks off that bone, you know. Work it like that and sometimes they use that. I saw my mother using that.

(You mean to sharpen the bone on a rock?)

On a rock, yeah. Just like a--something like that one but take that and just use it that way. They've got to get this end small