

with the Church and they always built around in the same area that the Church was. They would take these rocks and heat 'em outside and they would bring 'em inside and they would pour water on these rocks and they would get this heat from them and the steam. Rather it would steam the bodies -- of course the Indians that would participate in this ritual, they would have on moccasins and loincloth and a blanket. In this way they would sweat this -- all these old impurities from the body. And they would drink some kind of a water with, mixed with certain roots and herbs that would more or less cleanse their physical being, their bodies. They believed it would be clean -- purified -- before they came into the Church. They was very strict about that in those days. They more or less a must, you might say, before you went in -- a rule that you had to perform before you went in to these Churches. And nowadays they don't perform that ritual. And so that was one of the rituals that I remembered that they perform. They had this Church House. Most Church Houses were right close to a good creek and had good water and all that. And these sweat baths were performed rather early in the morning, regardless what time of the year it was -- in the winter, spring, or what season was it -- always performed very early in the morning. And afterwards they would eat their breakfast that would be prepared by the host Indian that had been appointed to conduct these services or rituals in that particular camp. So these "sweats", as they called 'em in Osage, they, we called them, they were what you might say would be considered nowadays as you might have to have them before you were allowed to enter into the Church.

DUTIES OF FIREMAN

So at that time we were out to this man's place and as I was saying before, my father was the first fireman at that time and he was, his position -- the first fireman was -- he more or less took care of all the little services that the conductor of the meeting, -- anyway he was just the main helper of the service, and he was at all times was supposed