

can help somebody through my voice and my songs, I enjoy doing that. And I feel good over it, that I can be of some help to somebody through my Lord. The blessing, the talent that he has given me, to help somebody through my voice. It makes me feel good, Mr. Maker.

Now, about that drum that we sing by. Our old people say when the drum is brought to you--when you accept the drum--it's just like adopting through Court as of today, another member in your family. You've got to be good to other people as they were good to bring you the drum--you got to take care of the people that brings the drum to you and everybody that's connected with it. Now that's the way our old people thought about the drum. That's the reason why there's a lot of times our old Ponca people, they have a dance. In those days, they didn't have no automobile, no telephones to get around. People would go about, on reservations, and they see a flag up. That flag meant something. They say that organization is going to have a dance. That's the way--It's just like the old white man says, it's a "smoke signal". Now that's just the way our flag was. When its raised up, they are going to have a dance. And the word got out and everybody come. And that's the way we got our dance started. By people going around seeing a flag at a certain house, and some organization that's lodged there. The drum keeper is going to have a dance--he puts the flag up and everyone knew what that flag means--they're going to have a dance there. Then when the dance starts, everybody that don't feel good, sometimes they come and sometimes they can't get there. But them that do come there, they feel good. Real good and I don't know that I ever did hear of them complaining about having a bad time. They was always havin' a good time.. Even as of today, when we go to a certain place, why we have a good dance. We don't know what bad is. These Indians--Real Indians--don't know what bad times are. Its always something good--good time. We have a good time. That remark has been said many times. I've heard a lot of--"We had a good singing". "We had good dance. We enjoyed the dance". They thank the