

would learn a lot from each other by getting together like these games. Whenever a person got an idea or something that they wanted done, well, this was their way of inviting them and calling all their people together and discussing what particular things they wanted done. At that time, maybe, oh, something may come up about tribal affairs and that was one way of getting them together. And while they discussed all these things, why they played this game. That was, I would say, one of the reasons why they had these games. Was to get together and know what was going on. Not only with our people but with local merchants and everyone in the towns and what was taking place. That was their way of keeping up with what was going on around them at that time. Other games that were played at that time was shinny, and then they had this other stickball game, and of course, they had card games. But the reason for all this was really to get together and exchange ideas and to learn to know each other a little more and that was their way they-- that was the only way they could get together and talk things over informally. They had a lot of problems at that time with their agency and learning the new ways of, I would say, the white ways, that they had to change from the old ways to the more modern times. That was usually the main topic of the day at that time. They had to learn to live under the government and learn the rules and they had to learn the regulations of the office. That was their way of getting together. But, of course, they always had to eat and play the games. But that's the only way they could. The people that came to these games were usually older, influential people among our Osages. The younger people that came mostly just sat in on these talks, and they didn't have too much to say, but they listened. The older people usually