

the dances, in these days, but in the olden days they just had a song which marked the end of the festivities. The head committeeman told them that was all and so they just concluded the dance, and as we go along these dances have been danced for many years and a great meaning to all the dances that the Osages perform. They have, they are highly dignified in the way that the older ones carried on at the time when they had the drum back there. The dances were, you might say, they were carried on traditionally and as a custom as it was supposed to and they had rules that they were compelled to follow and the older persons saw that these rules and regulations, you might say, were followed to the T, but course in later days as we go on it seems that the, oh you might say, the tribe or the full-blood is more or less vanishing. As they vanish so goes their, all their real traditions and custom that they were following. Like now days they don't adhere to the rules as closely as the older ones did. Like the dances, they meant something to the old people. They say it was, it was good to get out there and dance. The way some people interpret these dances, that I heard that these dances were performed at certain times during the year and they would--the dances would be held, it seemed like they, what I'm trying to say is when they danced they had a meaning for this dance. It was, they say that they put on their best when they go out there. Seem like they, one time or another, they say there was some kind of medicine in this drum, they say. 'Course that's little before my time, but they say it was great power in this drum in the dances. That's how come they performed it, back in those days, they just didn't get out there and dance any old way and being without any disregard to the rules they had a way back there. 'Course now days they don't conform to any of these rules like they used to. 'Course' it's nice the way they perform now and the younger children are more or less getting or following the ways. 'Course the Osage tribe itself, the full-bloods is more or less vanishing and it's more or less the mixed-bloods and the tribal or inter-marriage. It's still regarded as tradition, traditional and as far as the real tradition it just isn't there anymore. It's like you say, it's just gone and can't recapture any of the old, olden times cause we're not the people to do it.