

LUMPMOUTH, DOUGHTY (Mrs.)

INTERVIEW

#8746

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(MRS.) INTERVIEW 8746
LUMPMOUTH, DOUGHTY BIOGRAPHY FORM
WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
Indian-Pioneer History Project for Oklahoma

Field Worker's name Augusta H. Custer

This report made on (date) September 24, 193 7

1. Name Mrs. Doughty Lumpmouth

2. Post Office Address Geary, Oklahoma, R. I

3. Residence address (or location) Fifteen miles southwest of Geary

4. DATE OF BIRTH: Month _____ Day _____ Year 1876

5. Place of birth Oklahoma

6. Name of Father Red Eye Place of birth Oklahoma

Other information about father Arapaho Indian

7. Name of Mother Armie Smith Place of birth Oklahoma

Other information about mother May be the daughter of Captain John Smith.

Notes or complete narrative by the field worker dealing with the life and story of the person interviewed. Refer to Manual for suggested subjects and questions. Continue on blank sheets if necessary and attach firmly to this form. Number of sheets attached 5

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Augusta H. Custer,
Interviewer,
September 24, 1937.

An Interview with Mrs. Doughty Lumpmouth,
, Geary, Oklahoma.

Mrs. Lumpmouth is an Arepaho Indian above the average in intelligence . She and her parents were born in Oklahoma. The Lumpmouth family live in a four room frame house and the women have the habits of white women more than many other Indian women. here They try to do as the white families around them. She is the mother of six children, one by her first husband who was named Smallrib, and five by Lumpmouth.

It was in 1894 when the Government was giving us rations at the Mission on the South Canadian River. We had gone down there to get our share of beef and clothing.

The soldiers from Fort Reno would come up and camp somewhere near the Mission, and it so happened that they had been camped near our place for several

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days, perhaps a week. They would hunt quail and wild turkey. We had a big crop of Kaffir and Maize that year and had cut most of it and had big long stacks near the house, with a wire fence around the stacks to keep the horses and cattle from eating it.

The children loved to play around the stacks. They had been left at home as Mr. Lumpmouth was cutting more feed in a field near-by. Then they saw me and some others coming home. Ellenjo started to crawl through the wire fence around the stacks and come to the house. Her dress caught and there was a soldier standing there who had a shotgun with a load stuck in the gun. He kept trying to get the load loosened and pointed the gun at my little girl. The shell went off and the shot went in her face and neck. We counted eighty holes. Some went in her eyes others in her neck. We thought for a long time that she would not get well, and all the shot was never

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taken out. She has been blind since that time. We never got any money from the Government for that. Just the last year she has received a pension for the blind.

My mother told me that when her children were small she did not have diapers to put on her babies, so she used soft skin from the flank or belly of the buffalo.

At birth the naval cord was tied with sinew of an animal. This is the strongest thread known for its size. Tiny babies were wrapped in the tanned hides of buffalo calves. These hides are as soft as velvet. ~~The hair was sometimes left on,~~ and these were used to wrap up the babies or to make clothing. Babies were wrapped in blankets of buckskin, or put into a bag of this skin with the hair left on.

Baby carriers or cradles were made of buckskin and beaded. Some times a triangle piece was beaded and fastened to a board and a piece of cloth was

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attached to the hood or triangle and the baby would be wrapped and placed on the board where it could be stood up alongside a tree or wall. The baby was tied to the board quite firmly and all the exercise the baby had was the movement of his head.

The women of the Lumpmouth family have just completed two beautiful pair of moccasins, beaded in an old Arapaho design, three wide belts for men and a pair of gloves with beads on the deep cuffs. They are preparing to go to an Indian convention or ceremonial. The men will wear these articles and if someone becomes interested in them they will sell them.

This summer Mr. and Mrs. Lumpmouth went with their son and his wife to visit another son in North Dakota. They went by Taos and Rattoon, Trinidad and Denver. Mrs. Lumpmouth thought it was

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foolish to spend so much money to take a trip yet she enjoyed it and admired the scenery, and mountains. Her ancestors used to make those trips during the summer but would take many weeks and have all their possessions with them. The Taos and Northern Indians were friendly and invited the Lumpmouth party to eat with them. Mrs. Lumpmouth thought it would be nice to stay all the summer where it was cool, yet she is modern enough to appreciate her home and to know that she has a shelter, and food in the cellar. This family has three hundred jars of fruit and vegetables canned for winter.

Mrs. Lumpmouth has the old dressing tool which her grandmother owned. This tool was used for removing the hair from the hides. Sometime when she gets a little older and cannot use it herself, she will give it to her eldest daughter. It is made of an elk horn and has been described before.