- Very brief description of the criteria for choosing a chief. This man is the same one as I talked with at Duck Lake. He is a non-treaty halfbreed living with his cousin who is a treaty Indian. He is blind.

Joe Wolf said that he lived with Chief Mistawasis for two years, being hired by the Indian Agent to interpret for and help the chief.

Mistawasis himself was a halfbreed. His first wife was Assiniboine on her father's side and Prairie Cree on her mother's side. Before Mistawasis was married he led two horse-stealing expeditions. On one of them they went somewhere around the Red Deer River (east of Medicine Hat). He couldn't locate any Blackfeet camps for a long time. Finally he got some horses at Buffalo Lake -- Mustus-ahihigau. He brought them back to Carlton, having been out for two months.

Mistawasis was a freighter for the Hudson's Bay Company. He was called either ukimaxkau or paskwa ukimau or ogihtcitau
ukimau(?). He had two wives at the same time. They were sisters. He once said to me, "I didn't kill many Blackfeet. I hate to kill a man. Any place I go, I try to do my best -- everybody likes me then and I get a bunch of young fellows to follow me."

Atahkaku-p's, "Star Blanket's" band were just the same people as Mistawasis's band. These two were the only chiefs of the House People at the time of the treaty but before they became headmen there were many chiefs. Star Blanket and Mistawasis would meet at Fort Carlton and decide what they were going to do. Mistawasis usually would hunt buffalo all winter on the prairie to supply the Hudson's Bay Company with meat for their men and dogs. He would range along the Saskatchewan in the winter. In the summer he would go south to the Red Deer. Long ago there were lots of buffalo even north of the North Saskatchewan. But in Mistawasis's day Blaine Lake and Bill Lake were as far to the north as the buffalo went.

Star Blanket hunted for furs all winter, usually around Eea-gahiguu, "Seal Lake." In the summer he would hunt buffalo. Star Blanket was a chief because he got lots of furs.

Mistawasis and Star Blanket would do all the trading for their people. The band never went into the store -- the chiefs handed out all the goods.

NOTE: This phenomena is a fact of much import, economically and politically. Among these House People, the standards of chieftainship must have undergone a marked shift. Among the Cree further south and east, it was the best warrior who attained high rank. Among these people it was the best hunter or the best worker -- the one who hit it off well with the factors of the Hudson's Bay Co. The Company subsidized the chiefs with gifts and insignia of office, in return the chiefs kept their people hunting, trapping and friendly to the Company.

The paskuxkupauwiyiuwuk would hunt with the House People. They would join with them in great encampments as a means of protection against the Blackfeet and Sioux who sometimes raided as far up as Carlton. At that time there were but few Savannah People. Mistawasis was chief of them all. Both these bands did not have much to do with the Cree to the south.

Mistawasis told us many times that this was once Blackfoot country. They were chased westward by the Cree to the country around Lethbridge, McLeod and Calgary. An old Blackfoot once said to me that his people were enclosed just as if they were in a fenced-in pasture. To the south were the Crow, Snake and Flat Head. These people rarely camp up to fight the Cree. To the east were the Cree and to the north there were Cree also. The Snake and Flat Head would band together to get Blackfoot horses.

NOTE: Note here the extremely favorable position of the Cree.
They were allied with two numerous people -- Soto and Assiniboine, and could throw their attack in one direction. Then they were the staunch allies of the Hudson's Bay Company and thus were nearest to the source of manufactured commodities. (End of note)

After a fight the Blackfeet and Cree would become good friends until some of the young fellows would start fighting again. There was a place called Wita-skiwiu "Good Friends," where they made such a peace.

Carlton was called "Meeting Place" because it was where all the Indians would congregate and wait for the supplies.

There was a chief pixtwas "Smoker" who lived a long way north, near Green Lake. He would come down to the prairies once every year or two to hunt buffalo. After the treaty he came down regularly to Carlton to get his treaty money.

After the treaty the bands were split up into smaller groups. Uktuwehau was made chief because he was well off, was a good hunter, and had lots of horses.

Mistawasis and atahkakop had about twenty horses each. They often had more but they would give their horses away. For doing this and giving other things away they would get a big name. I have seen the time when Mistawasis would be going along and he would come upon a poor old man. He would give the old man a horse and the old fellow would throw his hands up and pray for Mistawasis.

Note well that the giving of gratuitous gifts was an essential element of high rank among the Cree. The reciprocal exchange of gifts is another matter though under the same general concept. Gift exchange at the present is still an important factor.

The ogihtcitau in the old days could do anything they liked. In the summertime they would prevent individual hunting in the large encampments. If a man disturbed the herd, the ogihtcitau would destroy his outfit. One of the headmen under Mistawasis was his son iga-tigwapeu (no meaning) who died before his father.

When they would marry in the old days they would pay for the women. For one good fast horse a man could get a woman. But whenever they would see the girl's parents, they would give gifts.

Once a young fellow saw a girl and wanted to have her. But her parents didn't want to let him have her. One night he ran away with her and went east. There he got some horses and when he came back he gave them to the girl's father. Then everything was all right.

PROPER NAME INDEX
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INDEX TERM</th>
<th>IH NUMBER</th>
<th>DOC NAME</th>
<th>DISC #</th>
<th>PAGE #</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CHIEFS AND CHIEFTAINSHIP</td>
<td>IH-DM.28</td>
<td>JOE WOLF</td>
<td>133</td>
<td>2,3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-choice of</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CREE INDIANS</td>
<td>IH-DM.28</td>
<td>JOE WOLF</td>
<td>133</td>
<td>2-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-memories of old people</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRIMES AND PUNISHMENTS</td>
<td>IH-DM.28</td>
<td>JOE WOLF</td>
<td>133</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-hunting code, violation of</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>