

Stick Game Parities

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Rattle of sticks - clack, clack, clack -
camp fire between players - men of
each team kneeling in a row in front
a long board ^{on a blanket} - one side has the "bones"
and ringing, except for 2 who hide
the "bones" - all beat the board in front
with short sticks - clack, clack, clack -
fast like a ticking round. one naked
bone - one tied "bone" with a string
around it in the middle - one guesses
for the naked bone & the guesser tries
to fool the "enemy" - try to read his mind -
makes gestures - point to right - point
to left & to middle with palm of hand
up and out - 2 pairs of bones - point
to outside - both naked bones may be
out side - trying to remember other
fellows gambling habit - he hides "naked"
bones to his left, other player says "Ha Ha"
& he changes etc. argument starts - clack
clack and at it again - other team hiding
the "bones" and the other guessing - they
don't quarrel among themselves - they

ring and swing bodies from left to right with the ring - goes on endlessly one claps his hands and spreads them apart - brings together slowly & points to the middle - both "naked" bones inside - one shifts his "bones" - everybody laughs - then other team gets nervous & shifts their bones and says "Ita" & points with hand - both team throws bones across and a man bends over & pulls one marker and sticks in the ground on his team's side and so on endlessly.....

Year since I've seen it played 1913 - when we stopped to see Indian George - Mike, George Gregory & others - Happy Jack, all camped at China Gardens - off the Junction road - before coming to Darwin Wash on Darwin side, they were playing it and explained the game - later I read a description of it, some time ago and wrote down the description - this may differ from Owen's Valley Paiute game.

"Elm"

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