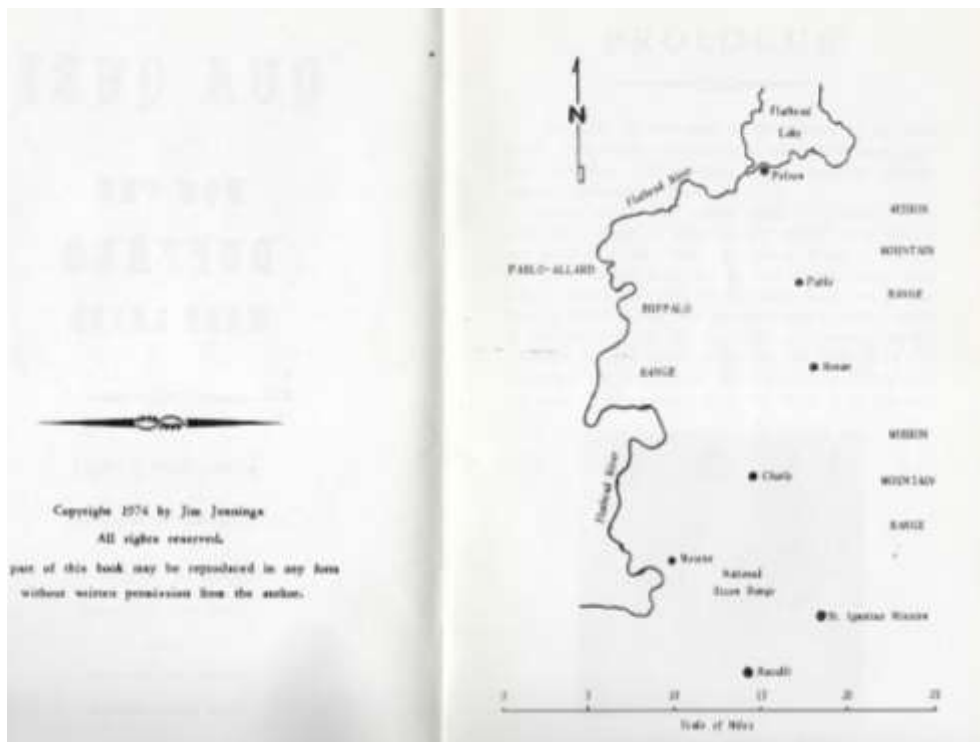
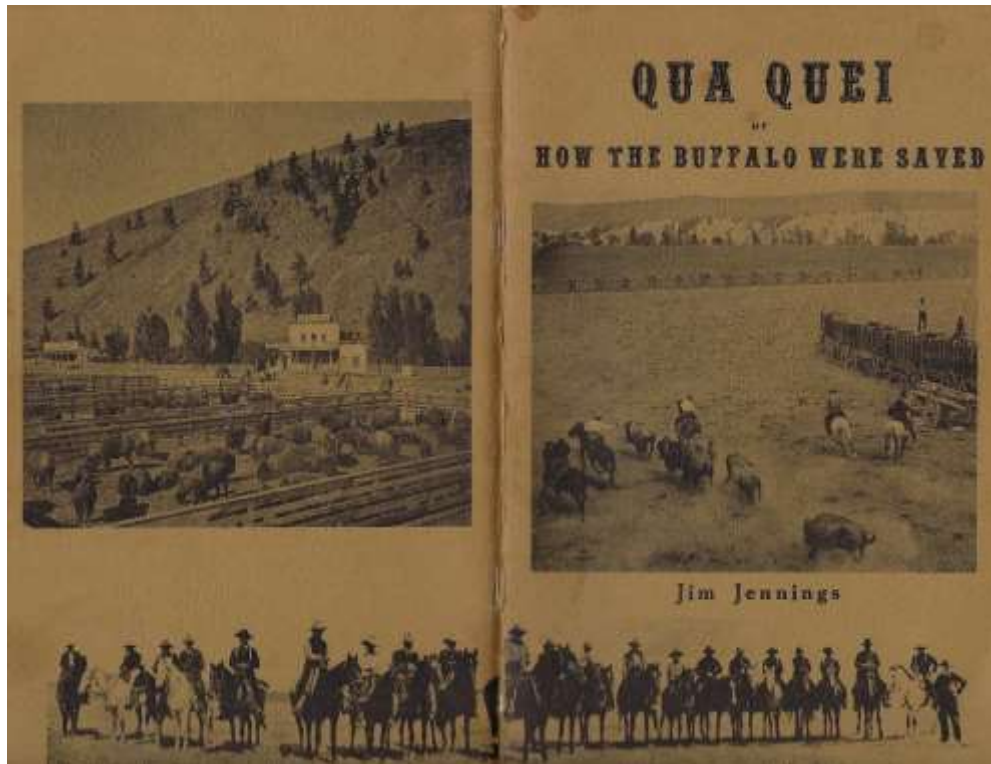


Jim Jennings put out a little book on the buffalo roundup in 1974. I have included it and to make it work I rearranged a few of the first pages:



QUA QUEI

or

HOW THE BUFFALO WERE SAVED

Jim Jennings

Published and printed in the
United States of America
by the
MISSION VALLEY NEWS
Saint Ignace, Montana

- 3 -

PROLOGUE

This book is dedicated to the memory of my good friend, Fred Miles, without whom this would never have been published. Fred Miles, Indian, early-day cowboy, humorist, philosopher, friend.

Shortly before his sudden death in January, 1971, Fred and I began to work out the details of a publication along this same line. He had a wealth of information stored in his head, and he was an outstanding story teller. What's more, his second wife, Anna, was a daughter of Michel Pablo, who was instrumental in the saving of the buffalo in the Mission Valley of Montana, and his collection included many old pictures and early stories on the origin and disposal of the Pablo-Allard buffalo herd that were of tremendous help to the historian or researcher.



Fred Miles and grandson, Bobby
Rare photo of Fred taken in 1957

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et. I was fortunate enough to be able to purchase this material from his widow, Ada, after his death.

At the time of the big Pablo buffalo roundup, Fred was trailing cattle from the vicinity of Pelton down to Missoula, where they were delivered to a packing house. Their holding ground at Missoula was the present site of the Missoula airport. I queried him one time as to why he wasn't in on the buffalo roundup. I wasn't really satisfied with his answer of "I wasn't good enough," but it was the only answer I got. I strongly suspect that he had the opportunity to run buffalo a time or two, as I have, and decide for himself that it wasn't an occupation that was particularly conducive to longevity.

This book is not fiction, or a "glossed-over" version of the truth. To the best of my knowledge, it is the truth as it took place, sparing no blame, nor giving unearned glory.

Fred, if a copy of this book ever catches up with you, I hope it finds you tips on fresh green grass and clear running water, where the ponies are always in good shape, and the buffalo fat and lazy. Just maybe, someday, I can have the privilege of camping there with you for a spell.

Jim Jennings
St. Ignace, Montana
January, 1974

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Anna Pablo
Taken at Pablo Ranch in 1915

- 8 -



Shown above are the principal Chiefs of the Flathead Reservation at about the time of the big buffalo roundup. Left to right: Joe LaMoore, Chief Charlo and Chief Moiese. The town of Charlo, Montana is named after Chief Charlo, and Moiese, which sits at the entrance to the National Bison Range, is named after Chief Moiese.

QUA QUEI

Pronounced Kwa Kwa - the Flathead name for buffalo.

At the time America was discovered it was estimated that up to sixty million bison ranged from Mexico to the Great Slave Lake in Canada, and from Pennsylvania and the Carolinas to west of the Rockies. In 1870 the existing number was estimated at five and one-half million. By 1883, fewer than one thousand head were left on the North American Continent, and two-thirds of these were in Canada.

The buffalo were gone from the Mission Valley of western Montana, and due to the depredations of hide hunters and the increased pressure by Indian hunters and natural enemies on the remaining few, were rapidly approaching extinction when this story commenced to unfold.

Walking Coyote, a Pend d'Oreille Indian, commonly known as Samuel, was married to a Flathead woman, and lived in the Mission Valley. Apparently late in the 1860's, he killed his wife and fled the valley in fear of his own life. He settled among the Blackfoot, but came to long to return to the beautiful Mission Valley. Some Blackfoot friends suggested that he capture a few buffalo and present them to the Flathead tribe as an act of repentance.

In the spring of 1873, Walking Coyote captured four small buffalo calves, two bulls and two heifers, while on a hunting trip along the Milk River, close to the Canadian border near where the town of Buffalo, Montana, once stood. The few calves were cut out of the herd, and in accordance with a peculiar characteristic of the buffalo often noted by old time plainsmen, followed the horses



Buffalo of the Pablo-Allard herd on home range.

of the hunters who had either slain or separated their mothers from them.

The following spring, 1874, Walking Coyote returned to the Saint Ignatius Mission, where his past deeds were apparently forgiven to the extent that he retained ownership of the four buffalo. When the heifers were four years old, each had a calf. The little herd continued to slowly increase, until in 1884 they numbered thirteen head, and their Indian owner, finding them too great a tax on his resources, decided to dispose of them.

Charles A. Allard, who was ranching on the reservation, became impressed with the possibility of a profit-

able investment in this small herd of what by then was practically an extinct animal. Allard was a very shrewd businessman, and he realized that within a few years the buffalo would be invaluable to someone as breeding stock or curiosities. He succeeded in interesting his boyhood friend and fellow rancher, Michel Pablo, in the project, and they entered into a partnership.

History at this point is vague as to whether Allard and Pablo bought all thirteen head or whether they took just ten head, but all sources agree on one point.



A buffalo cow grazes while her small calf stays close to her protecting horns. Note how light-colored the calf is, in comparison to his mother. This is normal.



When an old bull paws the ground, he might just be stirring up dust to keep the flies off, but when his tail goes up too, look out, he's comin' for you!



Buffalo are very deceptive. They never seem to really be putting all their effort into a run, but it takes a mighty good horse just to keep up, let alone turn them. Note wagons against fence at left.

- 14 -



Michel Pablo, the Buffalo King.

Walking Coyote headed for Missoula to celebrate his sale with somewhere between twenty-five hundred and three thousand dollars in cash, which was a lot of money in those days.

A few days of celebration were all that remained to the real founder of many of our present day buffalo herds. He was found dead under the north end of the Higgins Avenue Bridge in Missoula.

In 1893, Allard and Pablo bought twenty-six head of pure bred buffalo and eighteen hybrids from Buffalo Jones, of Omaha, Nebraska, which they moved to the Valley to join their growing herd, and to infuse new blood into their stock.

The hybrids, or catalo, were never allowed to mix with the buffalo, but were placed on Wild Horse Island

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Taken at the Missoula Stampede in 1904, this picture shows the second cowboy from the left getting ready to clamp his saddle down on a Catalo. Note the hump.



Bringing a small herd in to the corrals. Note the board "jack" fence and telephone line. Remember, this was 1908.

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in Flathead Lake, where they remained for a number of years.

A point of interest on the herd purchased from Buffalo Jones. Jones secured them from Col. Bedson, warden of the prison at Stony Mountain, Manitoba, who had purchased his herd from the Hon. James McKay, at one time Provincial Secretary of Manitoba, who had collected them from the wild at about the same time Walking Coyote made his capture. A portion of the Bedson herd was purchased by Sir Donald A. Smith (later Lord Strathcona) and presented by him to the Canadian government. Four were placed in a park in Winnipeg and the remainder were sent to Banff National Park.



In the corral at Ravalli, waiting for a cattle car.

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Buffalo taxi, 1908. A string of freight wagons loaded with buffalo and accompanied by a chuck wagon and a bed wagon, enroute from Michel Pablo's corrals to Ravalli.



A nice bull refuses to unload from the wagon in which he was delivered to the railhead in Ravalli.

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Old Stub Horns, above center, was thought to be thirty years old at the time of the Pablo Roundup, which would mean that he was either one of the original purchase from Walking Coyote or else one of the original James McKay herd from Manitoba.

At the time of Mr. Allard's death, in 1896, the herd numbered three hundred head, and these were divided equally between Mr. Pablo and his former partner's estate. Mrs. Allard sold her share to Charles Conrad, of Kalispell, Montana. Howard Eaton (address unknown) bought the shares of the Allard daughters and that of their brother Charles. Judge Woodrow, of Missoula, purchased those owned by Joseph Allard, later turning them over to the ISI Ranch.

By 1906, Michel Pablo's herd numbered six hundred head. Following a fruitless attempt to interest the gov-

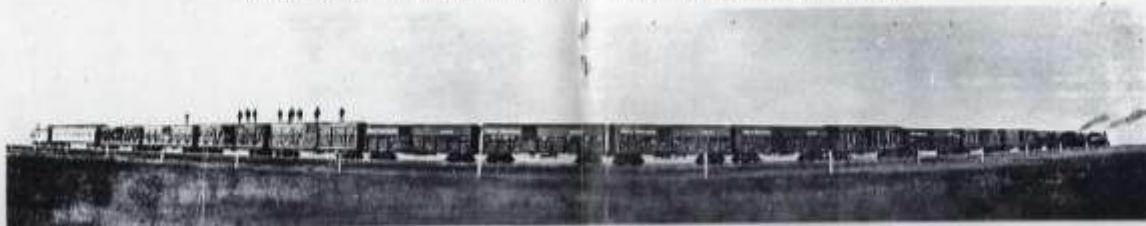
- 19 -



Michel Pablo directing his punchers to buffalo along the Flathead River.



Charles Allard, Jr. and a group of buffalo punchers from the Pablo Roundup.



Trainload of 250 buffalo enroute from Ravalli, Montana, to new home in Canada.



A mature bull quenches his thirst in the Flathead River.



A group of Pablo's Buffalo Punchers, 1908.

ement of the United States in the purchase of his herd, Pablo found a willing buyer in the Canadian government. The transaction was negotiated between the offices of Mr. Douglas Hughes, superintendent of the Canadian National Park at Banff, Alberta, and Mr. Alex Ayotte of the Department of Immigration in the State of Montana. The principals involved were the Hon. Frank Oliver, Minister of the Interior at Ottawa and Michel Pablo. The final purchase price was two hundred thousand dollars.

The buffalo were delivered to the railhead at Ravalli, for shipment to Canada. Although the roundup was started in May, 1907, buffalo are wild animals in every sense of the word, and it wasn't until June 1, 1912 that the last buffalo was delivered, although the majority of them had been shipped by the fall of 1909.



The little town of Ravalli, Montana, which grew to national prominence as the shipping point of the Pablo buffalo herd. The picture was taken from the hill at the south end of town. Note corner of stockyards at extreme left.



An old bull taking life easy in the Flathead River.



After a hard run, fifty head are almost to the corrals.



Government Officials and newsmen at the chuck wagon.

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Up to seventy-five cowboys, all picked men, and the finest horses in the country were used in the buffalo roundup. Many of the horses were literally ridden to death in an effort to drive the elusive buffalo into the waiting corrals. The buffalo, when they found themselves hard pressed and tiring, would turn on horse and rider in blind fury, and it was a lucky cowboy who could spur his jaded mount clear in time to escape the horns of the hunted turned hunter.

At last, Pablo had a single fence twenty-six miles long built, and it was along this fence that the buffalo were finally driven to the corrals. Even so, nearly one



Buffalo break back from Pablo corral. This photo was taken just seconds before the photo on the front cover.

- 25 -



Strong swimmers, buffalo were sometimes herded across the Flathead River by the punchers, and just as often they eluded their pursuers by taking to the water if the opportunity to do so presented itself.



- 26 -

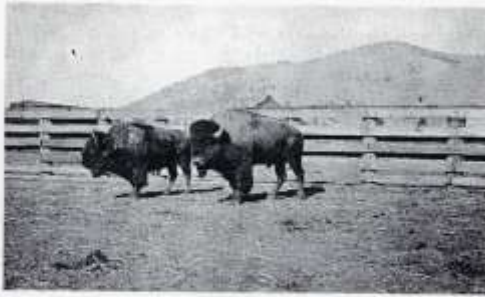
thousand dollars, with which they purchased thirty-four animals from the Charles Conrad estate at Kalispell, who, you will recall, had purchased his stock from the estate of Charles Allard, Sr., in 1896. When they were released on the new National Bison Range at Moiese on October 17, 1909, the spirits of Walking Coyote and Charles Allard, Sr. must surely have smiled, because from the top of their new range the buffalo could look out over the Mission Valley where Walking Coyote grazed their ancestors, and over much of the Pablo-Allard range where they once roamed.

Besides those animals purchased from the Conrad estate, seven buffalo were donated to the Range herd. Two of these were donated from within Montana, two of



Shake that coat again, his tail's coming up!

- 29 -



Just waiting!



With prods and ropes, a reluctant buffalo is urged up the chute for the final leg of his journey to Canada.

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As much as to say "Aw, gee, ma, do they really expect me to stay in this rolling cracker box ALL THE WAY TO CANADA?"

them came from Texas, and three from New Hampshire. These forty-one animals were the foundation of the Bison Range herd of today.

A permanent herd of from three hundred to five hundred buffalo now share the range with lesser numbers of mule and whitetail deer, pronghorn antelope, elk, bighorn sheep and a couple of Texas longhorn steers. It is administered by the United States Department of the In-

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They started out with three hundred and fifty head, but at final count, less than fifty head were corraled.



Making ready for loading. I'll bet the guy in the white shirt was fast on his feet!



Too close for comfort!

terior, Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife.

It was on this range, in the spring of 1933, that a startled cowboy first saw "Big Medicine". "Big Medicine" he was named, because in the early days a white buffalo, or albino, was an object of awe, worship and "Big Medicine" to the Indians. In his prime, he was worthy of his name. He was truly a majestic creature, standing on his favorite knoll, lord of all he surveyed. Pure white, gleaming in the sun, except for the wooly crown of long dark brown hair between his horns. As he grew old, he lost a lot of his majestic appearance,



A bid for freedom.

and those who have only viewed his mounted remains at the Historical Museum in Helena will have a hard time realizing how beautiful he actually was in his prime. He died in August, 1959, at the age of twenty-six, the most famous and most photographed buffalo in the world.

The American Bison, or buffalo as they are commonly called, are no longer in danger of extinction. In fact, many are sold every year from government herds and from private herds as well, for breeding stock or for butchering.

Strange, isn't it, that so many of these trace back to those four little buffalo calves taken in 1873, not as a conservation measure, but to atone for personal sins?

The End



PORTRAIT OF THE MONARCH

This exceptional portrait of "Big Medicine" was taken at the National Bison Range by the late Jesse Roberts, when the White Monarch was in his prime. This photograph was published in an article in "Life" magazine.



Good-bye, Mr. Pablo, Hello, Canada!



A small portion of the National Bison Range herd of today, in the display pasture near Headquarters.



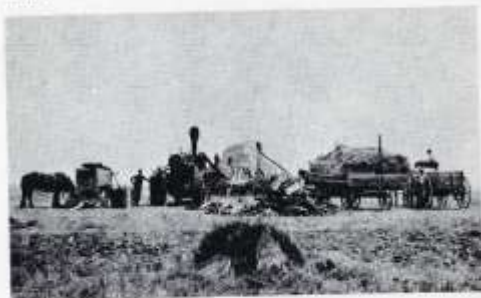
Cowboys, or cow punchers, as they were called in those days, have always had the reputation of playing as hard as they worked. For the most part, they were a homeless, hard-working, hard drinking lot, used to discomfort and daily danger.

In the top photo, James Grinder rides a buffalo at the 1904 Missoula Stampede. The bottom photo shows how the ride ended. Note horseman at right getting a rope on the buffalo to keep it away from Grinder.





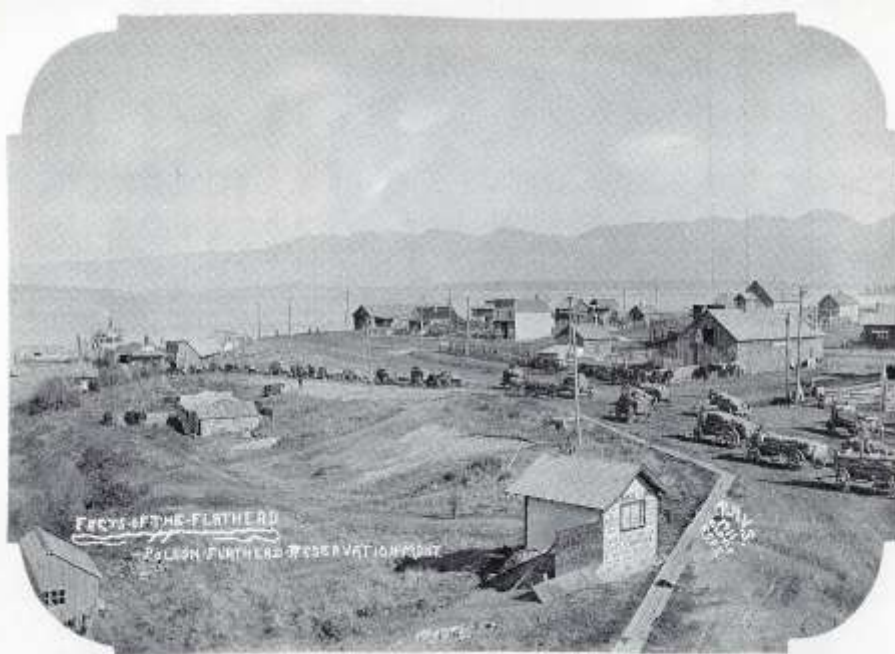
Even in those days, the entire Valley wasn't devoted to the raising of buffalo or cattle, as these pictures show. The pictures on this page show threshing in the Polson vicinity, while the one on the opposite page shows wagon loads of grain waiting to be loaded on the Flathead Lake steamer or barges in the background. Steamer is believed to be the S.S. "Montana", operated between Polson and Somers by the Flathead Lake Transportation Company. Photos dated 1911.



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These buffalo, presenting a united front in the corrals at the National Bison Range a few years back, show that there hasn't been any change in the breed. They are just as temperamental and cantankerous as their wild ancestors of the 1800's were, and very little more domesticated. These seem to be saying "Come on! one at a time or all together, we're still more than a match for the likes of you!"



[Jim Jennings was the owner and publisher of the Mission Valley News, St. Ignatius, Montana. He handcrafted a knife called the “Robert’s Roost Knives.” In October of 1974 he sold the Mission Valley News to Dwight and Mary Tracy and moved to Lumby, B. C., Canada to ranch. He later moved his family to Kaslo, B. C. His granddaughter Marilyn Roberts writes: “Jim was born June 9, 1928. He married my mother Vivienne (Phillips) Roberts about 1967 (not positive, could look it up if you wanted) and started the Mission Valley News. I was the typist, and made up some adds, etc. I still have copies of the buffalo book, Qua Quei, How the Buffalo Were Saved. Jim also made Roberts’ Roost knives, continuing the work my dad, Jesse Roberts started. Incidentally, my dad was also a photographer and took the photo of the white buffalo that was published in Time magazine, I think on the cover in the early ‘40s. He’s in a seniors centre in Nelson but his mind is still great.” Jim married twice and had two from his first wife (Sherry and Dave) one from his second (Jim). Later Marilyn Roberts wrote: “Jim spent time in the army overseas, worked for Montana State Prison in Deer Lodge, and sold and serviced multilith printers in the area for a number of years. He was very good at it. His second wife was my mother, Vivienne Jennings and they started the Mission Valley News. One night when we had a paper to get out, the press broke, and he made a part out of moose antler so we could meet the deadline; we named that printing press the ‘moose special’. We also put our heads together and recreated the process for Roberts Roost knives. In 1969 I married Ring Huggins and moved to Canada, after visiting my grandmother, aunt and uncle, and cousins there. A few years later Jim sold the printing business and immigrated too, continuing to make knives and farm with my uncle. I settled in Kaslo and later they sold the house in Lumby and moved to Kaslo too, where they continued to make knives and also set up a printing business. My mother, Vivienne, died (about 2007?) and a couple of years later he remarried Marge Buchanan, a widow and friend of my mother. Jim continued to make knives till a couple of years ago when his health started failing. They sold the house and shop in August of this year and now live in a senior’s apartment in Nelson.” Marilyn Roberts 12/2/2018.]



Jim Jennings received from Marilyn Roberts, his granddaughter on 12/5/2018.

Norman A. Forsyth’s Buffalo Round Up Photograph’s

“This collection consists of 556 stereographs taken by N. A. Forsyth from circa 1901 to circa 1911. The views capture Montana locations that Forsyth visited primarily between the years 1906 and 1909. The bulk of the images are of Butte, Montana (including street scenes, Columbia Gardens, and mining), Glacier National Park, the activities of the 1906-1908 Bison roundup, and family groups of Montana Indian tribes (including the Flathead, Cree, Crow, and Blackfeet). Other subjects include Anaconda, Montana; farms and ranching; lumber; the 1908 Missoula, Montana, flood; Cromwell Dixon and the 1911 Montana State Fair; Morrison Cave (later known as Lewis and Clark Caverns), and Yellowstone National Park.

Norman A. Forsyth was a photographer who operated a studio out of Butte, Montana, from 1904-1930, working for Underwood and Underwood and later Keystone View Company. This collection consists of over 500 stereograph views with Forsyth's imprint captured between circa 1901 and circa 1911 and includes scenic views of Glacier and Yellowstone National Parks; Butte, Montana; and family groups of Montana Indian tribes.

Norman A. Forsyth was born on February 10, 1869 in Syracuse, New York. Adopted as an infant, his family moved to Plainview, Nebraska, in 1870. Forsyth attended Wesleyan University in Lincoln, Nebraska and while in school, Forsyth began selling stereo cards and viewers door-to-door for Underwood and Underwood, an early producer and distributor of stereographic views. Shortly after graduating from college in 1901, Forsyth headed west to Yellowstone National Park to work for the Shaw and Powell transportation company. Attracted by the park's scenic beauty, Forsyth decided to continue working as a tour guide and stage driver in Yellowstone for five more summers. Forsyth purchased a stereo camera and captured Yellowstone views which he then sold to Underwood and Underwood.

By 1902, Forsyth had relocated to Butte, Montana, and he began operating a photographic studio there in 1904 as the sole agent for Underwood and Underwood in Montana, selling views under his imprint as well. Forsyth captured stereo views of Butte city life and of copper mining and smelting at Butte and Anaconda.

Forsyth developed a close friendship with Charles M. Russell, and both followed the last buffalo roundup in Montana. The two were guests of a group of Canadian peace officers who assisted in driving 800 head of bison purchased from Michel Pablo of Ronan, Montana, north to Canada. Forsyth captured stereographic views and Russell painted numerous pieces over three summers of the roundup (1906-1908).

Forsyth visited and photographed the Morrison Cave (today the Lewis and Clark Caverns State Park) between 1902 and 1911. He also made a number of trips to Northwest Montana to photograph Glacier National Park and family groups of Montana Indians (ca. 1906 - ca. 1908). In 1911, Forsyth attended the Montana State Fair and took many pictures of the event and its main attraction, aviator Cromwell Dixon and his flight across the Continental Divide.

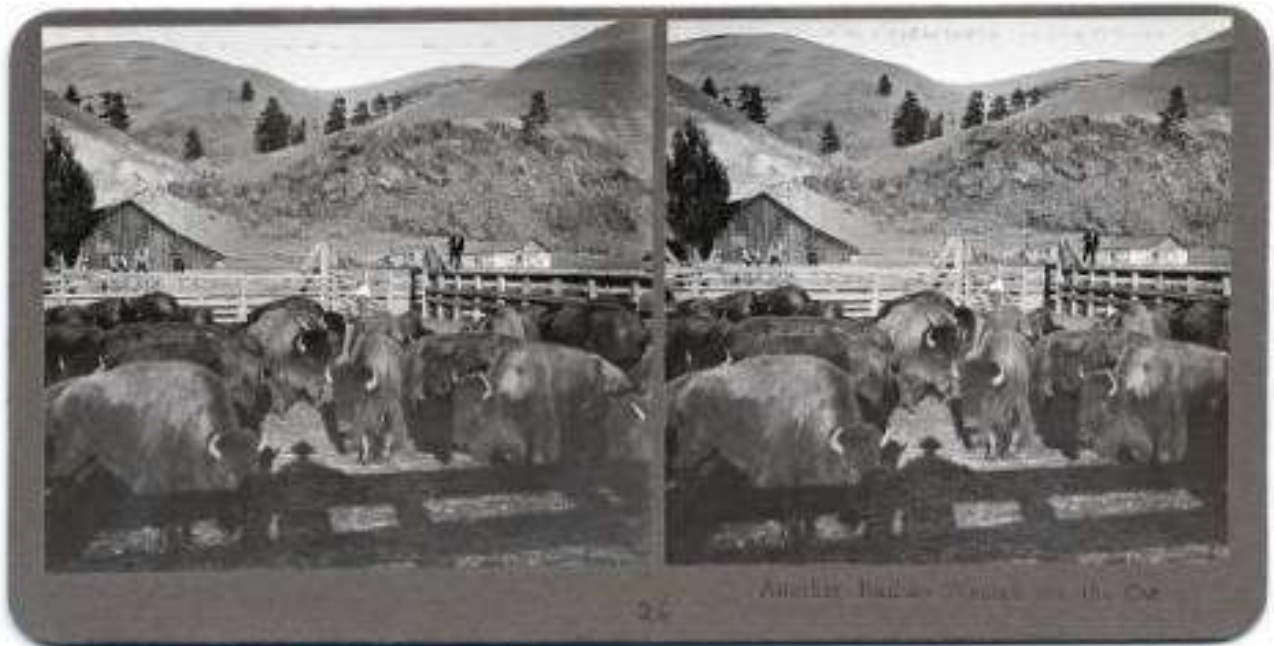
In the early 1920s, Underwood and Underwood sold their stereograph business to the Keystone View Company and Forsyth transferred his operation to Keystone. In 1930, Forsyth moved to Dillon, Montana, and he continued to work for the Keystone Company until 1947, when he was diagnosed with kidney cancer. N. A. Forsyth passed away in his sleep on December 15, 1949.

Preferred Citation N. A. Forsyth stereographs. ST 001. Item number. Montana Historical Society Photograph Archives, Helena, Montana. Series III: Bison Description Dates 016: BUFFALOES; <http://archiveswest.orbiscascade.org/ark:/80444/xv09793>



017: Herd of Wild Buffaloes After the Swim, Mont.

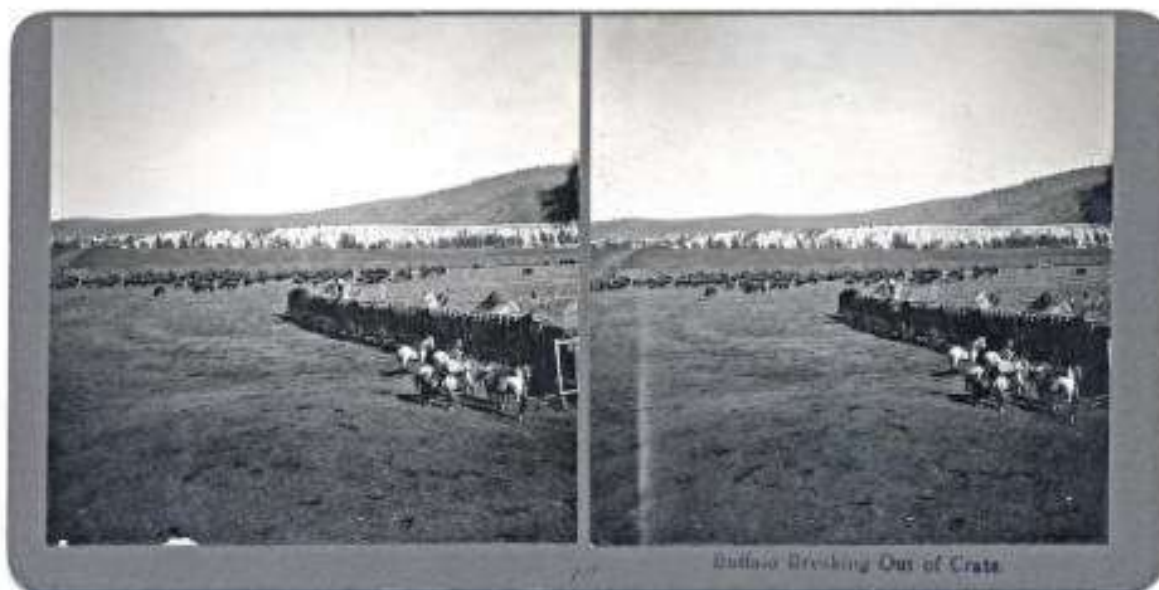




018: Another Buffalo Wanted for the Car.



019: Bringing in a Bunch to Load.



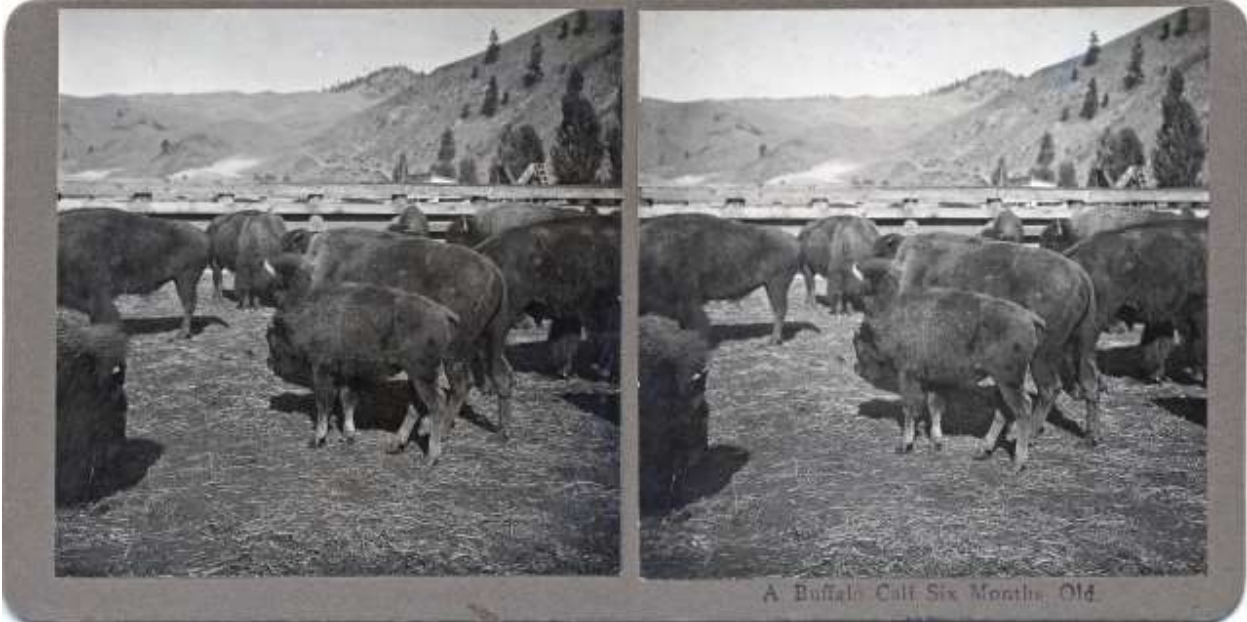
020: Buffalo Breaking Out of Crate.



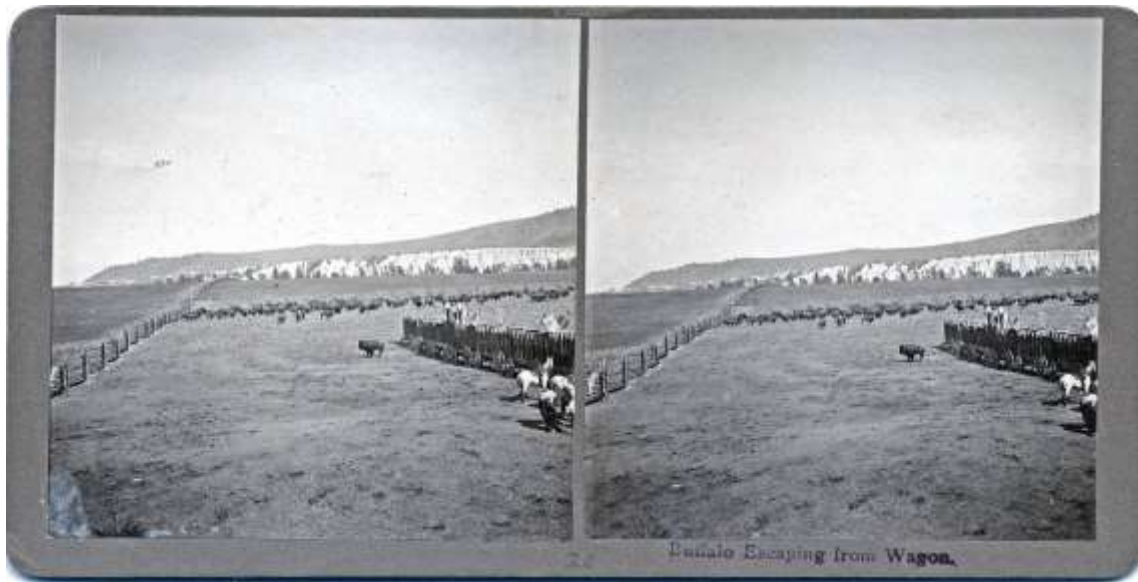
021: Buffalo Bull Taking a Mud Bath.



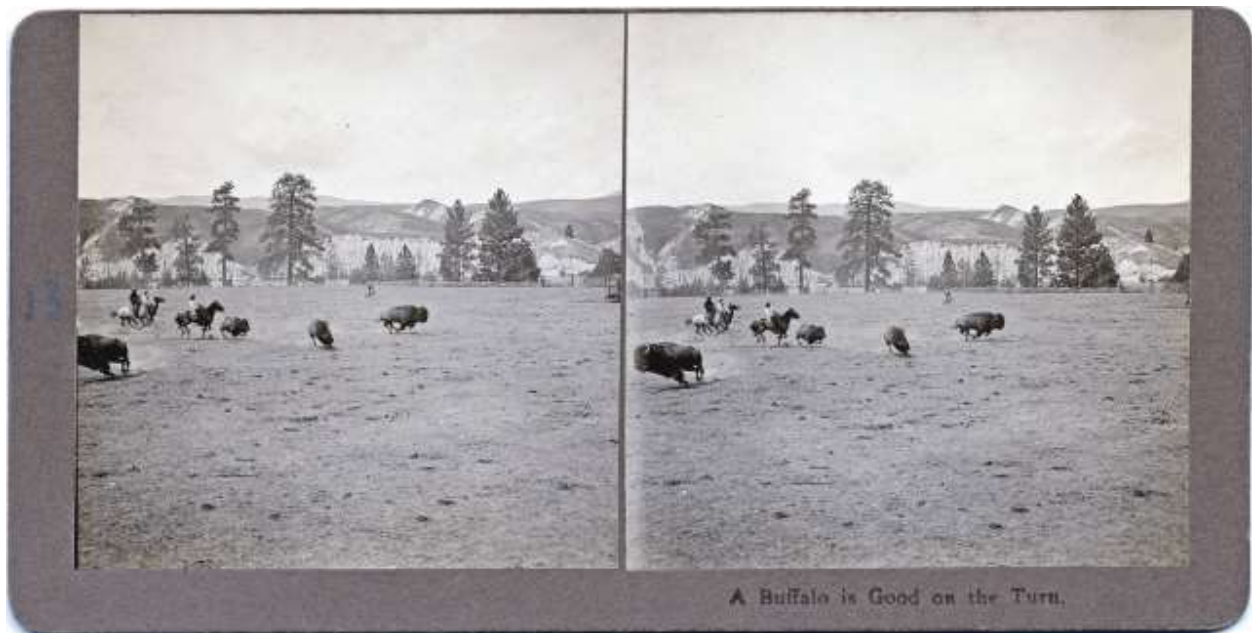
022: A Buffalo Calf Six Months Old



A Buffalo Calf Six Months Old

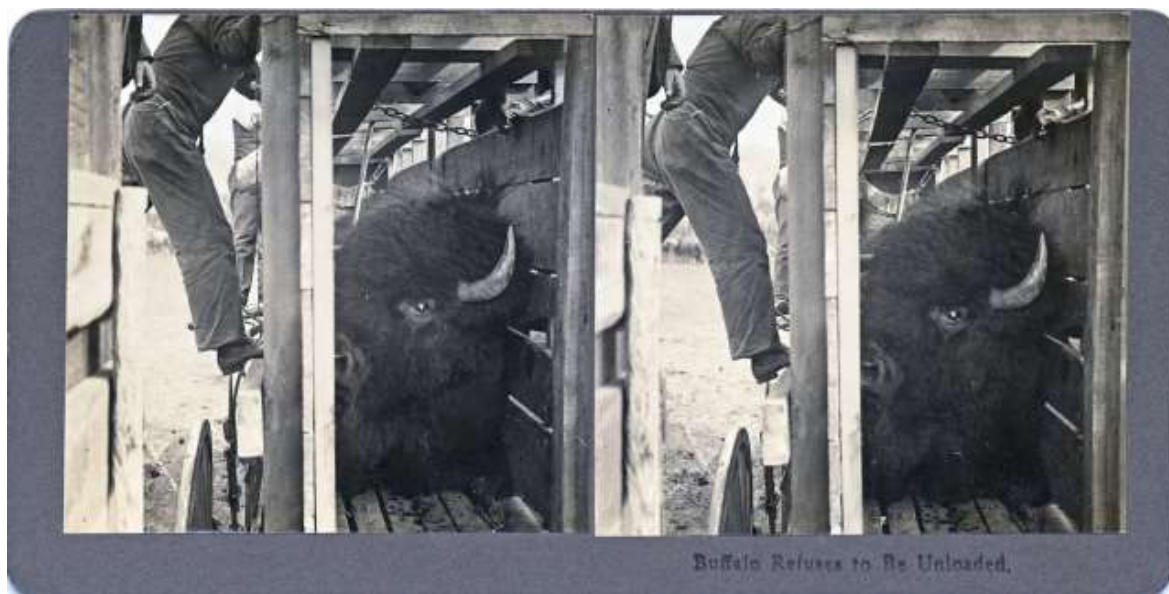


023: Buffalo Escaping from Wagon.

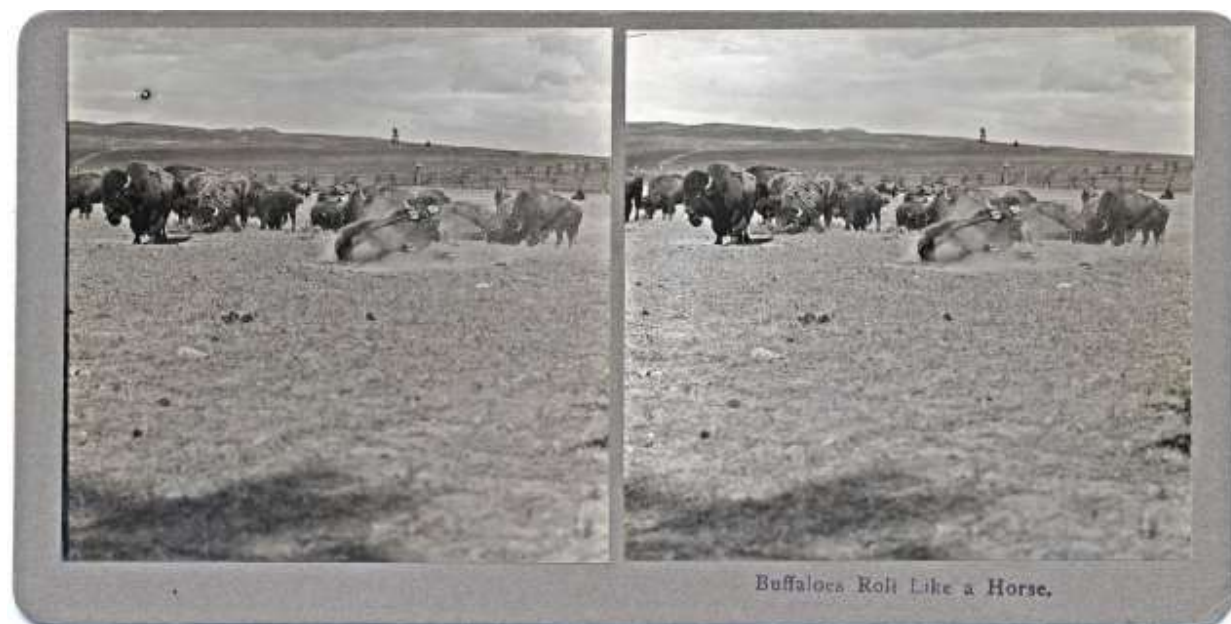


024: A Buffalo is Good on the Turn.

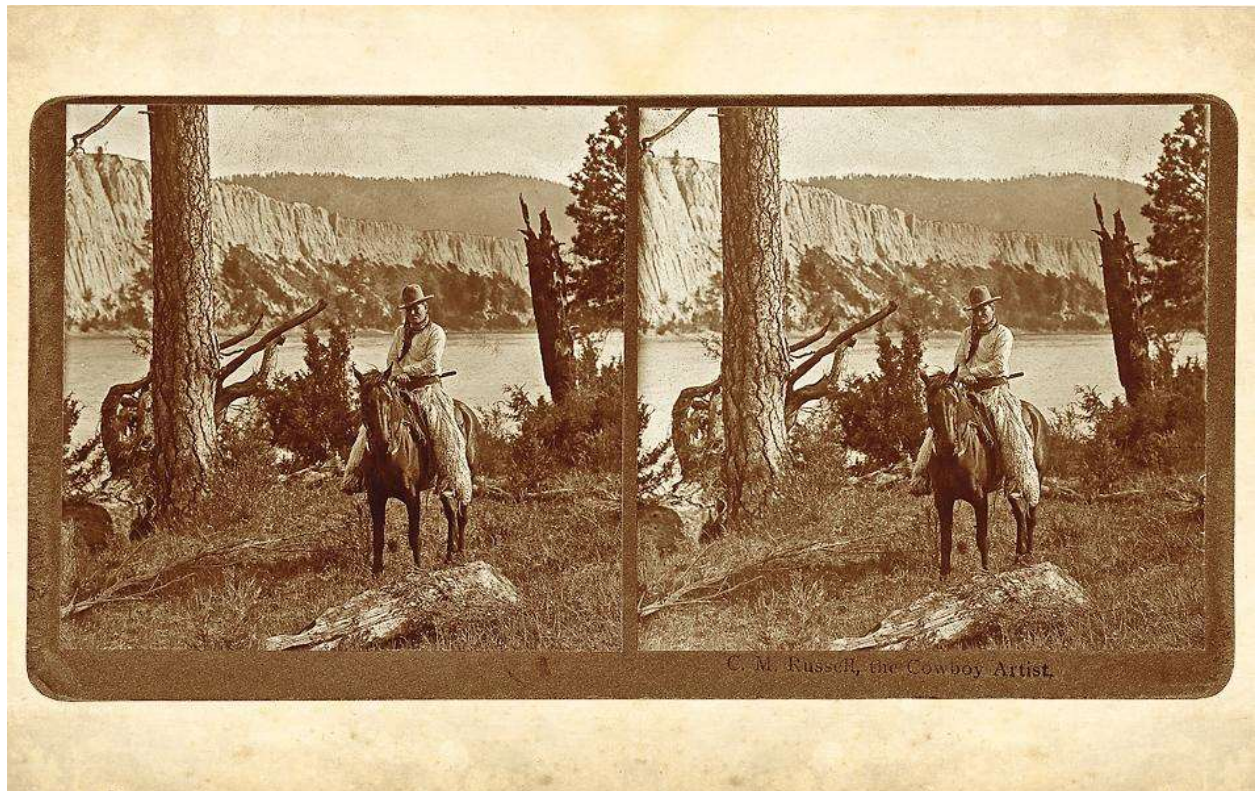




025: Buffalo Refuses to Be Unloaded.



026: Buffaloes Roll Like a Horse.



027: C. M. Russell, the Cowboy Artist.



028: Center Horse Gets Chased by Mad Bull. 1909



029: Clear the Way! The Buffaloes Are Coming





031: Conquered at Last, Leaving Their Range Forever.



032: Danger Ahead for the Horses. 1909





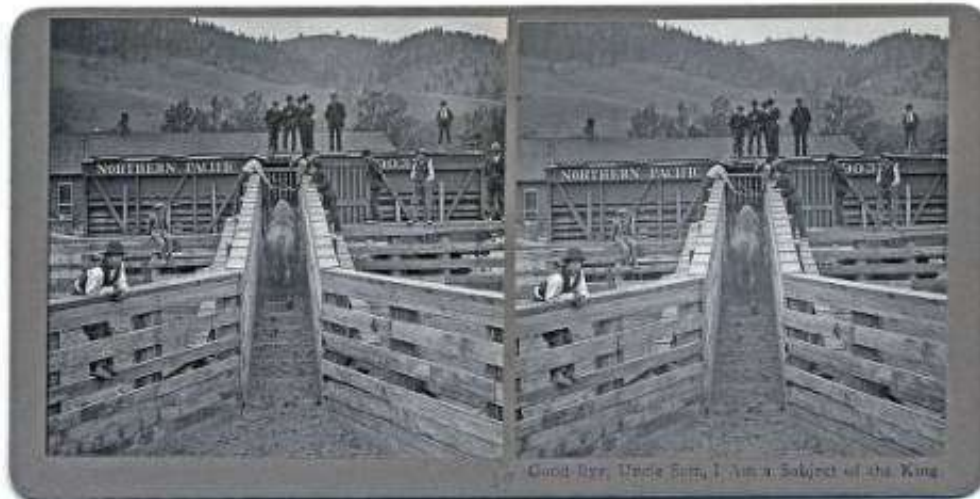
033: Don't Get Too Close, He Is Mad.



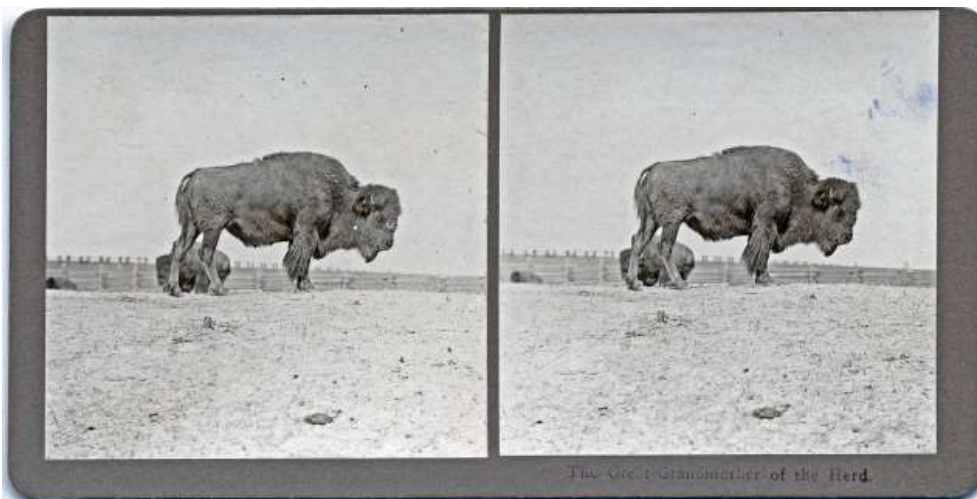
034: An Evening Scene Among the Wild Buffaloes.



035: A Fine Pair in the World's Finest Buffalo Herd.



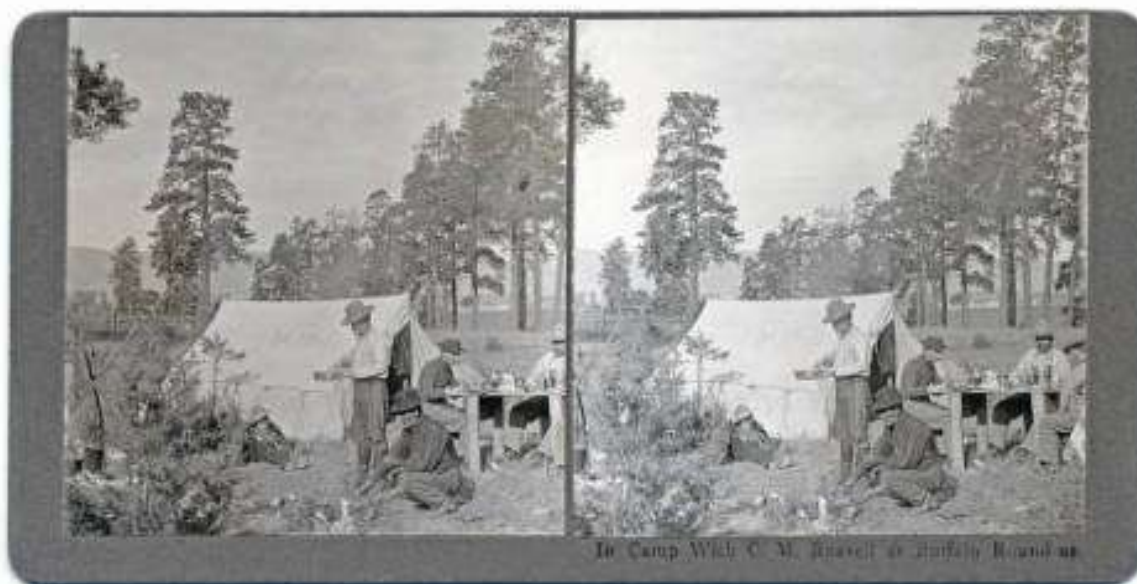
036: Good-Bye, Uncle Sam, I Am a Subject of the King.



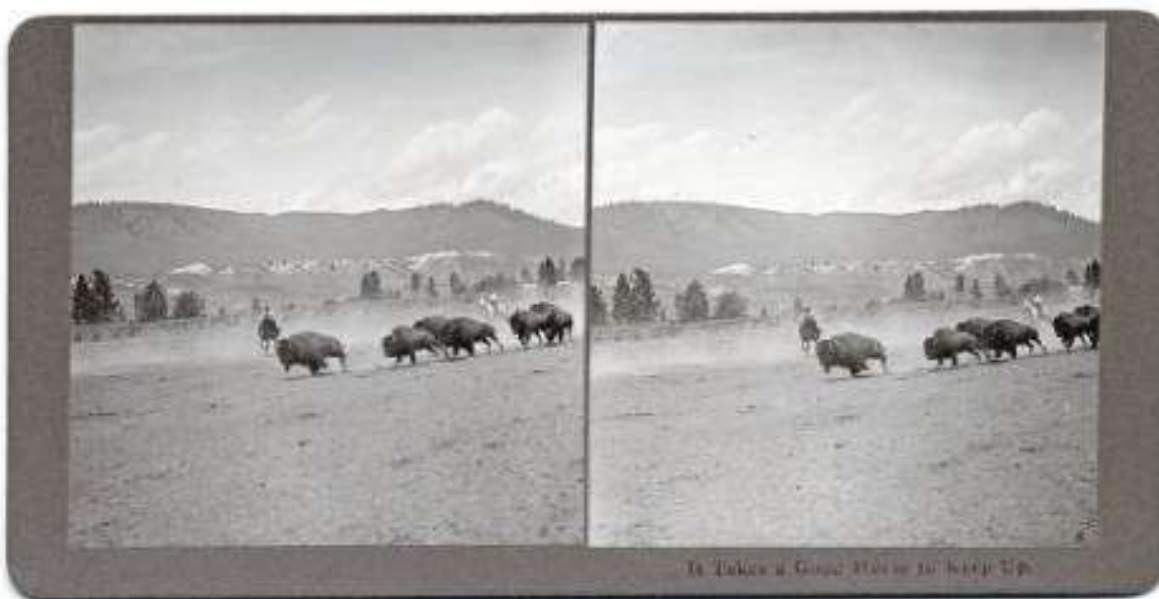
037: The Great-Grandmother of the Herd.



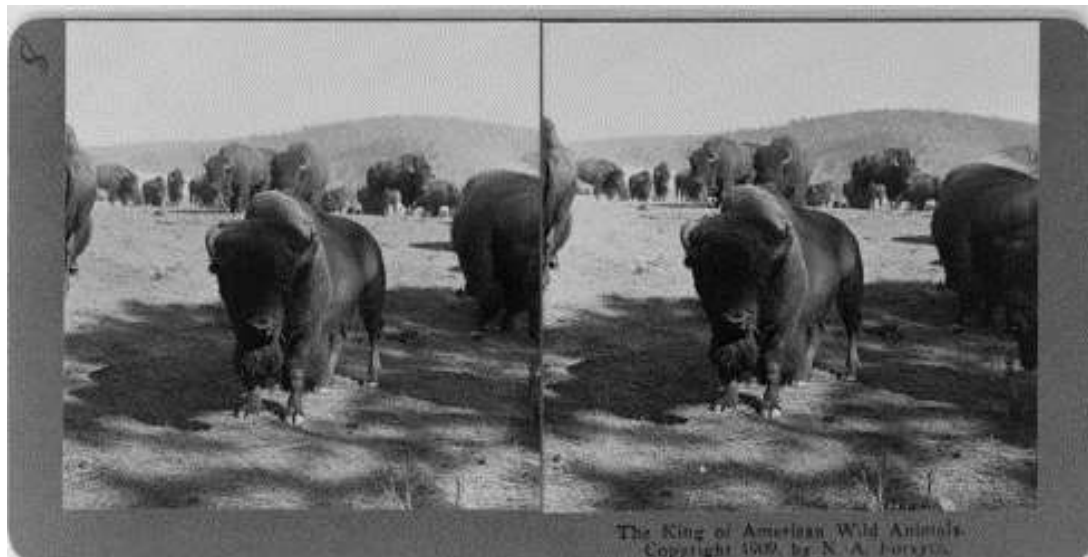
038: Hauling Buffaloes Over a Bad Road.



039: In Camp with C. M. Russell at Buffalo Round-up.



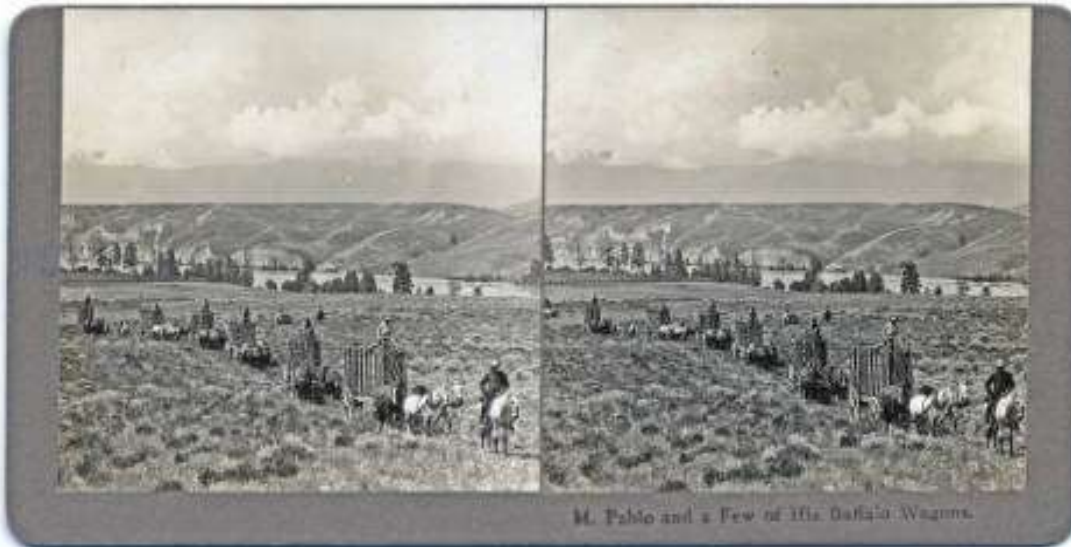
040: It Takes a Good Horse to Keep Up.



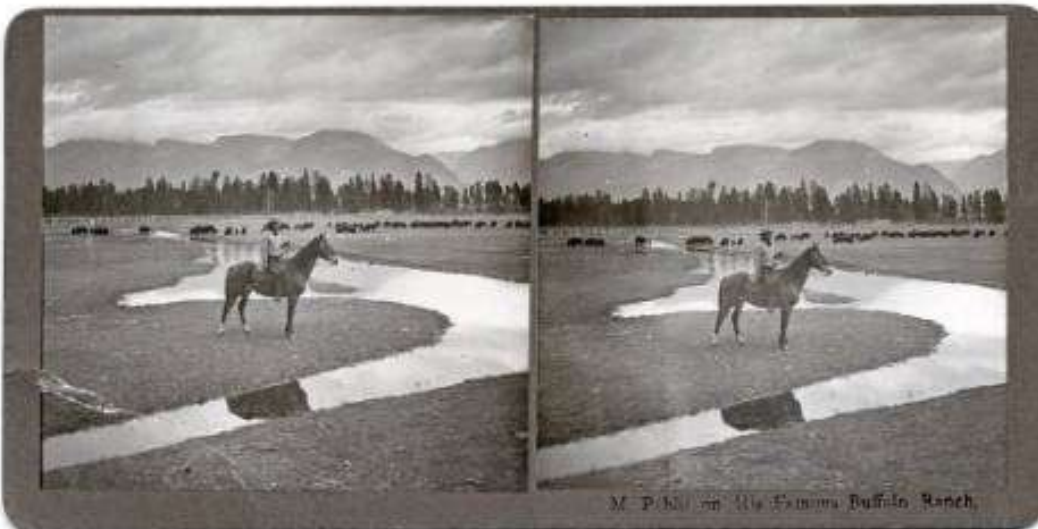
041: The King of American Wild Animals. 1909



042: Last Buffalo Chase in America.



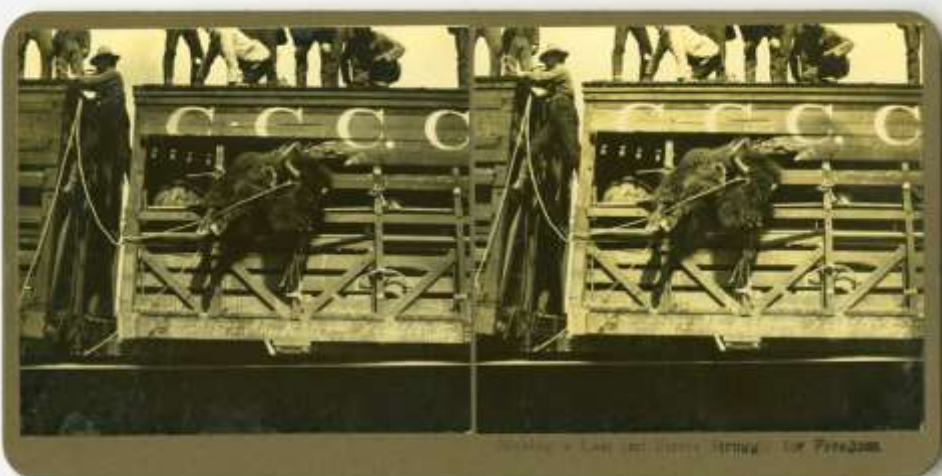
043: M. Pablo and a Few of His Buffalo Wagons.



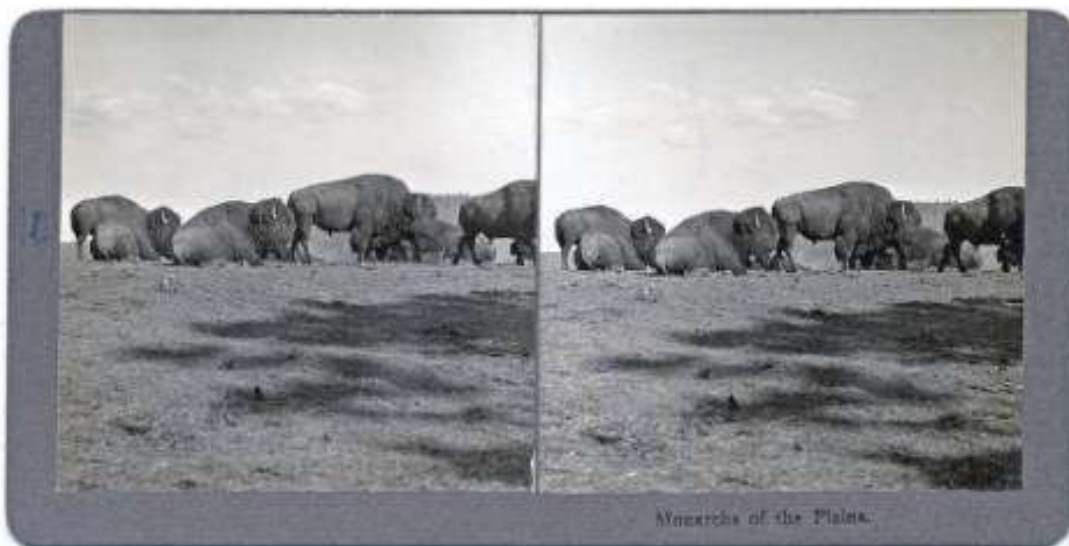
044: M. Pablo on His Famous Buffalo Ranch.



045: M. Pablo, the Buffalo King.



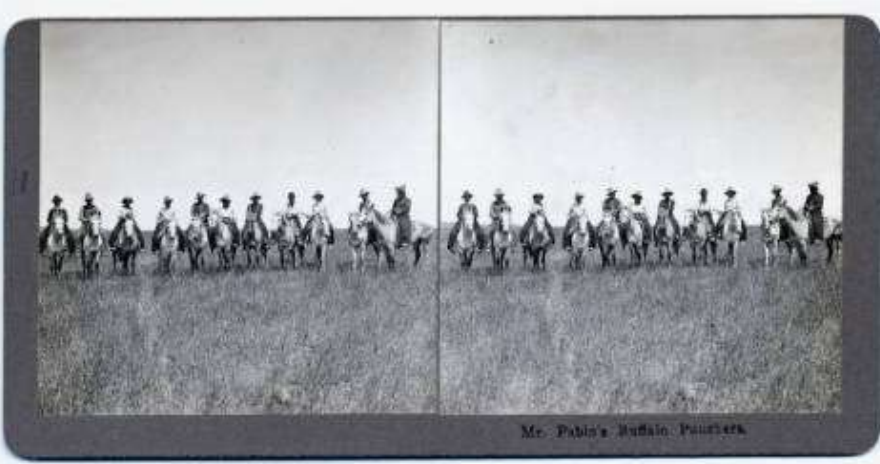
046: Making a Last and Fierce Struggle for Freedom.



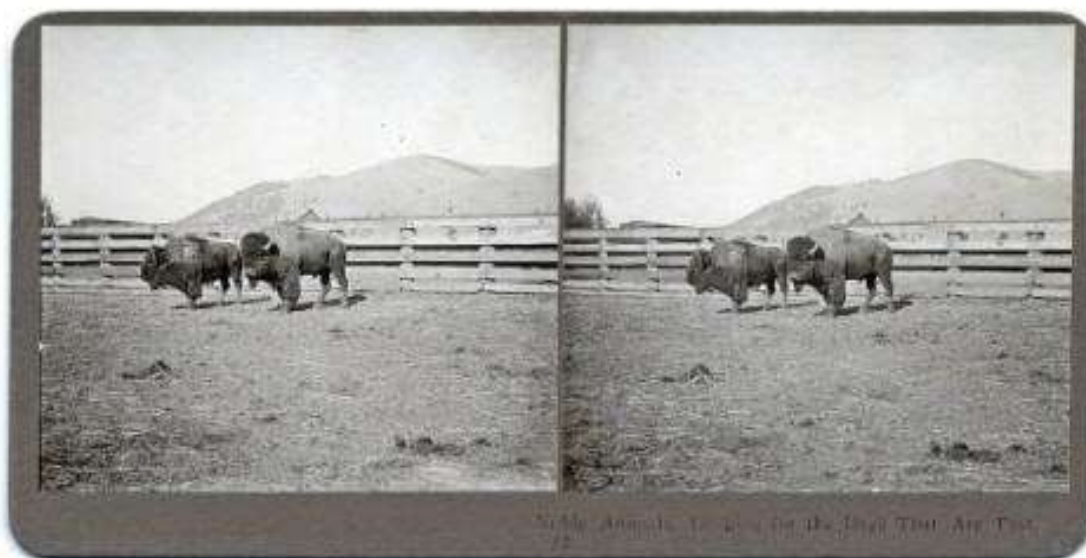
047: Monarchs of the Plains.



048: Monster Buffaloes Estimated to Weigh 2,000 Pounds.



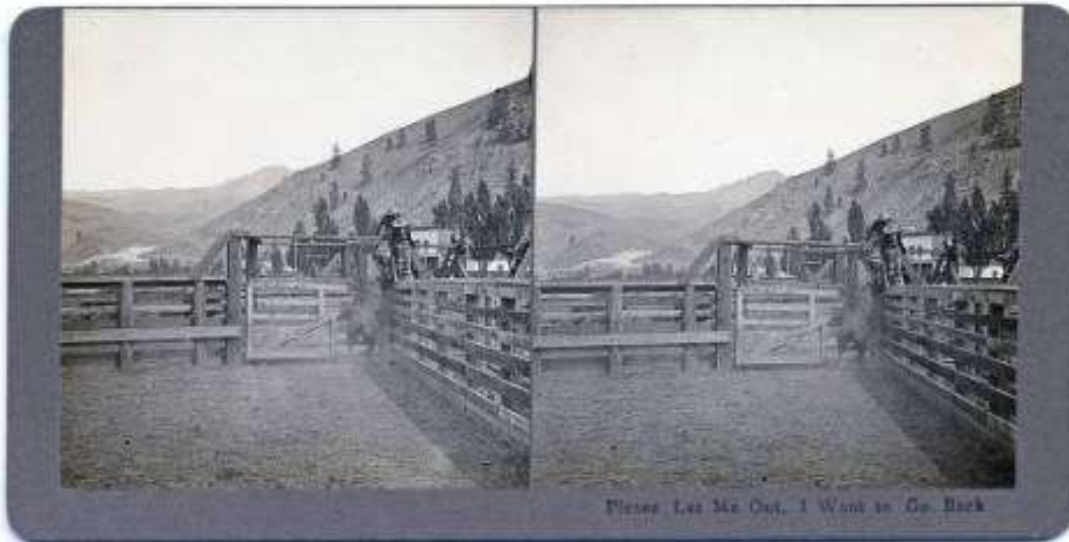
049: Mr. Pablo's Buffalo Punchers.



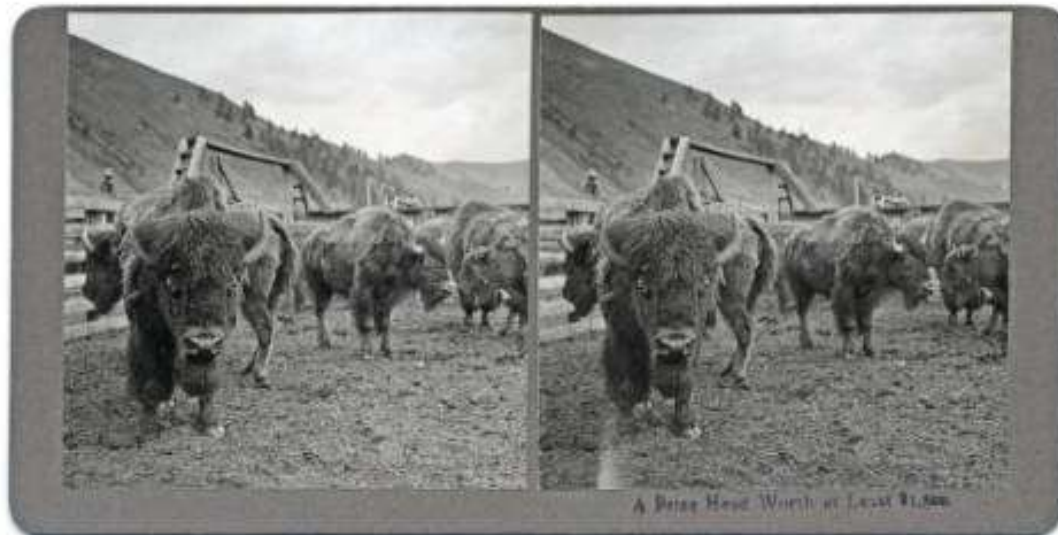
050: Noble Animals, Longing for the Days That Are Past.



051: Old Stub Horns, Thought to be 30 Years of Age.



052: Please Let Me Out, I want to Go Back.

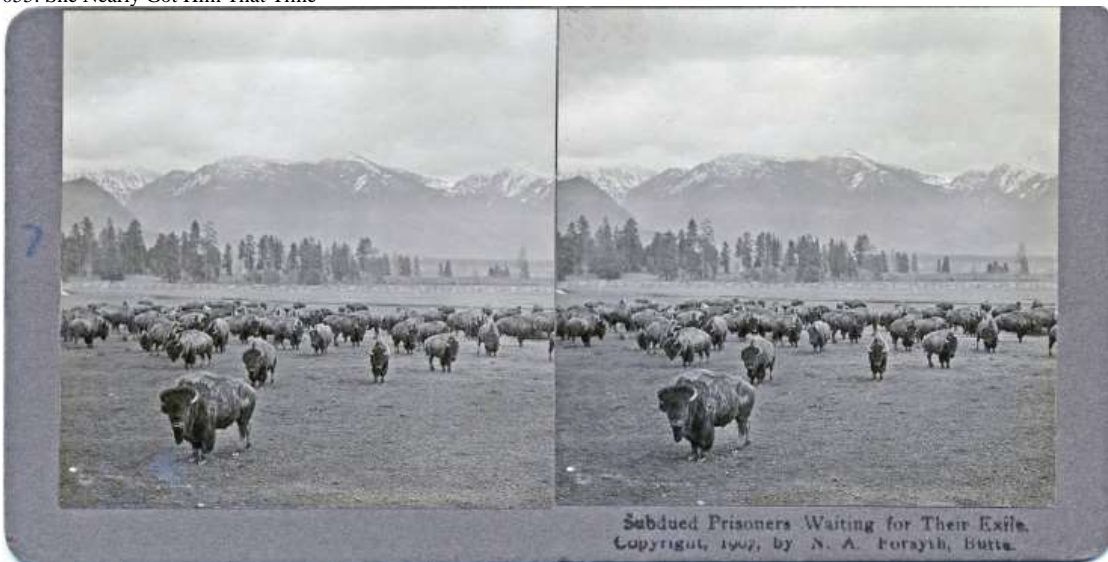


053: Prize Head Worth at Least \$1,500., A

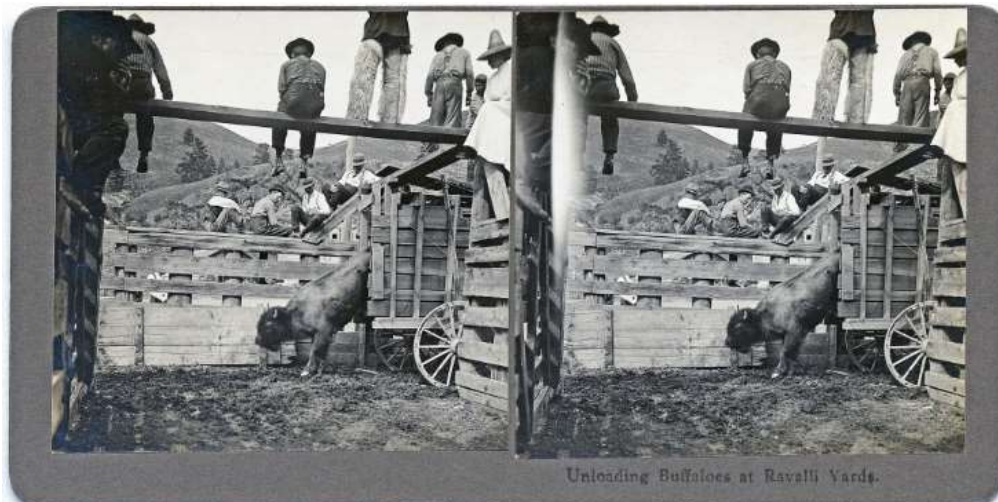
054: Protesting With All His Mighty Strength.



055: She Nearly Got Him That Time



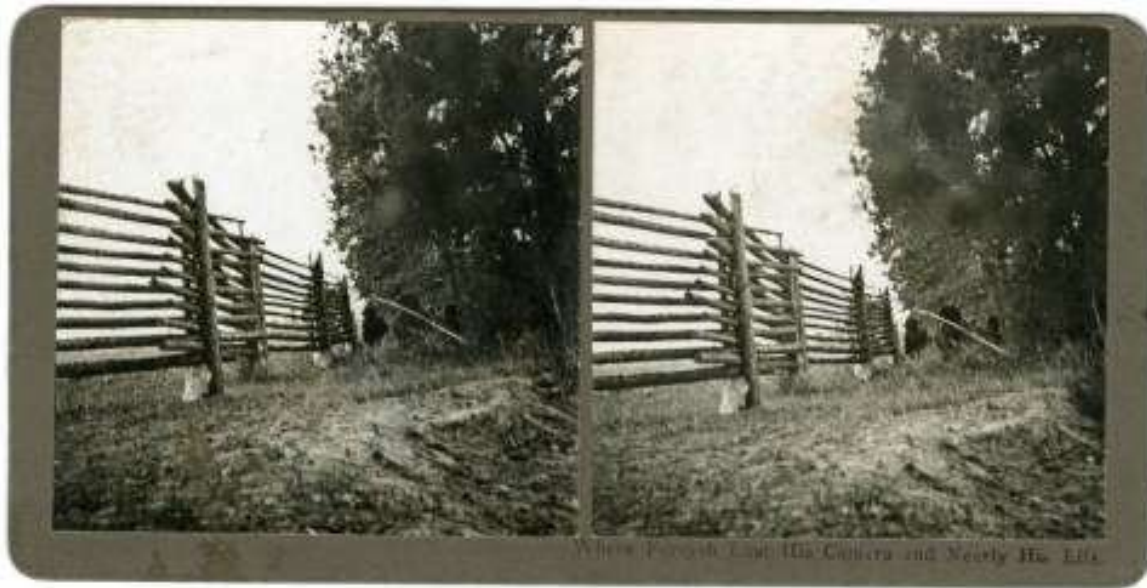
056: Subdued Prisoners Waiting for Their Exile. 1907



057: Unloading Buffaloes at Ravalli Yards.



058: A Very Mad Little Buffalo.



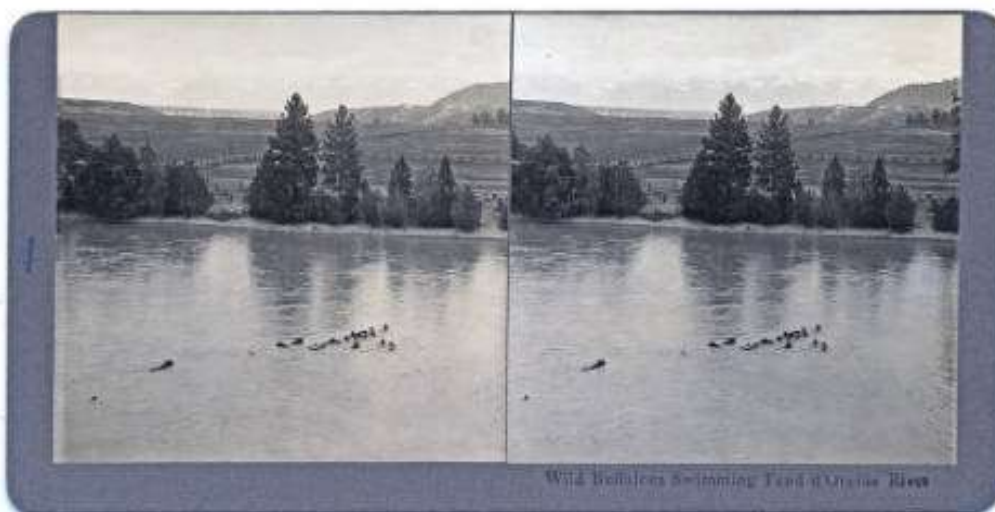
059: Where Forsyth Lost His Camera and Nearly His Life.



060: Wild Buffaloes Shedding Their Winter Coats.



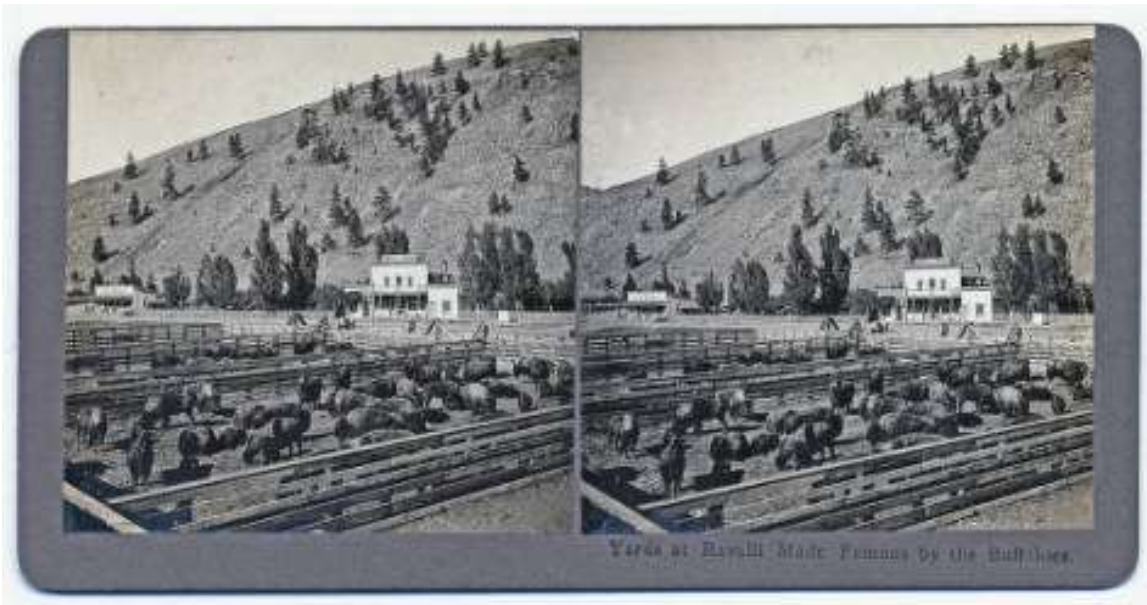
061: Wild Buffaloes Swimming Pend d'Oreille River.



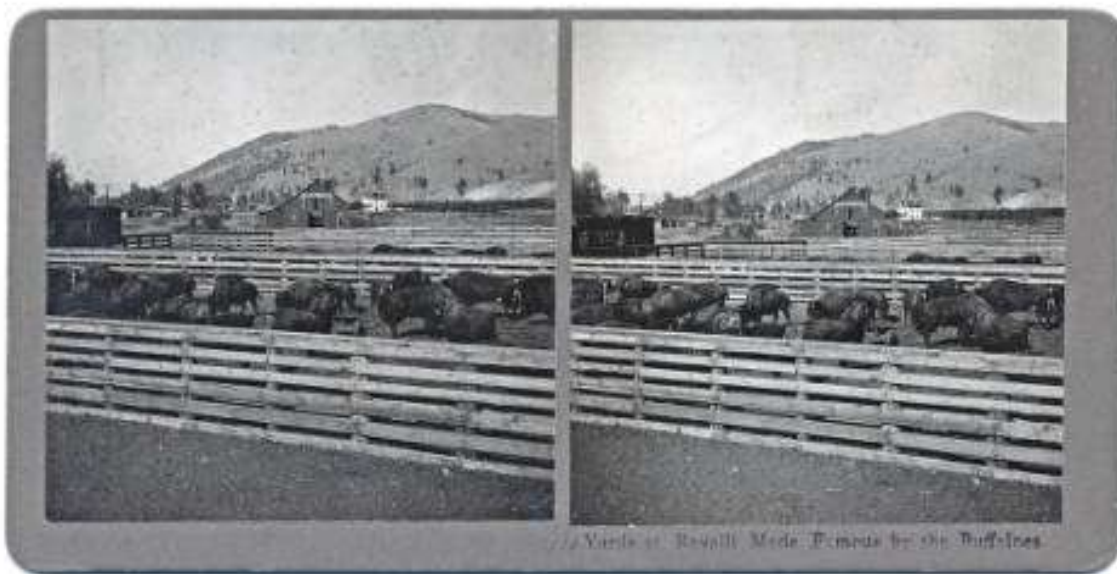
062: Wild Buffaloes Swimming Pend d'Oreille River.



063: Worth Three and Four Thousand Dollars a Head.



064: Yards at Ravalli Made Famous by the Buffaloes.



065: Yards at Ravalli Made Famous by the Buffaloes

49 stereos of the Buffalo Roundup

“Big Bison Bluffs Ex-Drummer

Joe Hainebach, Former Traveling Man, is Chased on Reservation

Joe Hainebach, formerly traveling man, has filed on a piece of land in section 4 township 20, range 21, and will abandon the grip to take up the reins and guide a team along the narrow furrows of a model farm in the Mission valley, says the Ronan Pioneer. While out taking a survey of the land and admiring its beauty and productiveness one day last week he suddenly

came upon a herd of Michel Pablo's buffalo which he says had strayed across the river. For the time being he did not anticipate anything serious, believing them harmless, but, he says this feeling was soon dissipated as one monstrous big fellow scenting some rare sport, lowered his head and on he came, followed by each member of his harem. Joe struck out at a gait to be envied by any local foot racer and the race was on. Mr. Buffalo was in the best of condition, having been under training as carefully as Mr. Smoke Johnson and his wind would be the joy of either of those pugilistic stars now torturing themselves for the encounter to take place on July 4 in the California sun. Over the hill and dale, the merry chase was kept up; breathless and perspiring at every pore, with fear and trembling. Hainebach saw in the distance that haven of safety afforded by the towering trees growing along the river bank. He put forth all his remaining energy and finally smiled a scorning glance of victory down over his pursuers while roosting on the protecting limbs of the highest trees he could find. Here he perched in safety for two long hours believing every minute would witness the departure of the second best foot racers on the reservation, but with that intuition born of long-dead ancestors and knowing full well that "everything comes to him who waits," the buffalo grazed in pasture in patience until Joe ventured down and attempted to elude them by strategy. Crawling carefully away he again took across the prairie as fast as his weary limbs could take him, but this was just what the buffalo had expected and he had hardly emerged into view before on they came. This time the race was exciting and the dust of the prairie was kicked up in clouds and obscured the scene for miles around. Just as Hainebach was on the verge of collapse he saw before him the river again and knowing that the other side was a safe retreat, plunged in and swam the raging current. Almost exhausted he reached John Corr's camp where he dried his clothing and was given refreshments.

After arriving in Ronan he regaled his friends with his experience and vows vengeance on the herd when he becomes acclimated and trained to that point where he can give them a run for their money. If he continues to hold to the resolution solemnly made when last heard from there is going to be one of the prettiest and fastest races across the prairie of the Flathead reservation one of these days it will be allowed the present generation to witness. It will be a Marathon proper. Joe is a runner of merit and with a little training in the right direction will more than make good."

June 1, 1910 The Missoulian [Joe Hainebach, he was born about 1876 and came from Cincinnati, Ohio, he later homesteaded on a ranch eight miles west of Ronan "on the telephone line leading to Sloan's Ferry." He was a "drummer," in 1912 he made a five months trip throughout New Mexico where he collected a good number of Navaho rugs that he displayed in the Palace hotel. He was in charge of the Navaho Indian ring and curio exhibit of New Mexico. He was to take this show to the 1915 World's Fair Exposition in San Francisco. In 1912 he built of concrete the new and modern opera house in Ronan on the old McLeod lot, he used concrete blocks from the old Stanley Searce store. He also bought Pioneer block which included the Ronan Pioneer building and lot. This was after the 1912 Ronan fire burned everything to the ground. And in 1913 he organized a vaudeville show with Flathead tribal members, starring in an "Indian village" act. He traveled selling merchandise when in Missoula in 1913 just before started his Flathead vaudeville act he was "disbursing" Navaho blankets. He ran for mayor of Ronan in 1913 against Dr. Fuhrer who got 68 votes and Joe Hainebach got 5, most people thought his running was a joke. Called "Buffalo Joe," his display of Navaho rugs in 1914 at the Western Montana Fair in Missoula, "carried off numerous prizes at the national exhibits" in the United States. In Ronan he built the building for the Independent Telephone Company. In 1912 he belonged to the Bull the Moose Party and the Flathead Farmer's Association. In the 1915 fire of Ronan he lost his pool hall occupied by Stinger and Downs in the old Pioneer building in the fire, along with a rooming house located above the pool hall. The fire started in Victor Hardman's restaurant which was also destroyed. In 1916 he was still taking his Navaho exhibit to fairs and this year to San Francisco and San Diego, California. By 1927 he was back living in Cincinnati but was promoting a new \$40,000 hotel in Ronan. He died in Cincinnati on March 13, 1946 at age of 75 years. (Missoulian, March 8, 1910, Sept. 17, 1912, March 29, 1912, Sept. 6 & 14, 22, 1914; January 7, 1915 & January 13, 1916 The Flathead Courier; January 8, 1915 The Saco Independent (Saco, Montana), July 7, 1912 & September 6 & 20, 1912 The Ronan Pioneer; Great Falls Tribune Jan. 31, 1927, The Cincinnati Enquirer, March 14, 1946.]



Wisconsin State Journal, June 19, 1935



The Ronan Pioneer March 1912

“Allard Says Big Show In July Will Be Good

Stampede to Be Marked by Extraordinary Events, Says Promoter

Big Stars Coming

Best Wild West Performers in Country to Take Part in Show Here.

Displays of daring and skill is numberless will make the Wild West performance which will feature the 1917 Missoula Stampede the best ever staged in the west, according to Charles Allard, of Polson, one of the directors of the Wild West shows. Mr. Allard, who is one of the most prominent ranchers on the reservation, and owner of one of the few herds of bison yet alive, is in Missoula conferring with the committee of Missoula men who are making arrangements for the Stampede.

High class performers, who are at the top of their rapidly-thinning profession, will ride and rope and bulldog at the Stampede. Ed McCarthy, who, together with Mr. Allard, is in charge of the Wild West shows, will bring two dozen performers and three score real western horses from Cheyenne. Mr. McCarthy was the originator of the annual Wild West performances which are being staged throughout the country and has for several years been in charge of the Cheyenne Frontier Days shows, which enjoy the reputation of being the best of the kind in the world.

Country's Best Rider

Jackson Sundown, considered the best rider in the country, is under contract to the managers of the Missoula Stampede, and will ride here. Sundown won the national buckling title by taking firsts at both Pendleton and Cheyenne, and is reputed to be able to ride any “outlaw” horse in the United States. It will be his first appearance in Missoula.

Many riders who have earned the plaudits of the crowd at former Stampedes will return. Among these will be Ben Oakes, Lee Caldwell, stellar performer at the first Stampede here. Scoop Martin, and others well known to western Montana Stampede fans.

McCarthy will bring with him 34 riders, both men and women; the best known among them being Bill Baker, premier bulldogger of the west, Ray Jones, George Panicke, Jay Miller, Gene McKay, Bob Lee. Billy Wright and Dan Thompson.

Old Winners Coming

Best known among the men who will bring strings of relay horses here are “Sleepy” Armstrong and “Nep” Lynch, winners of former races.

Ropers of world-wide renown, who will give expert exhibitions of control over their whirling lariats, will provide a feature of the show. Sammy Garrett, the best trick-roper in the country, and George Weir, said to be the champion roper of the United States, will be the headliners of the roping contest.

Women Riders too.

Among the best known women riders who will appear at the Stampede, are Bertha Blanchett and Vera McGinnis, both of whom will be entered in feature races, as well as in the chariot races. Allard and McCarthy are in correspondence with several other women riders and performers of fame, and expect to bring the best of them to Missoula on July 3, 4 and 5.

Many New Features

Features which will be entirely new to Missoula Stampede audiences, will be numerous according to Mr. Allard. Stage-coach races, with real old-time stage coaches, will have a prominent part on the program. Women’s standing races, exhibitions of trick-roping from bridleless bucking horses and fancy riding performances of several varieties will also have a prominent part on the program.

A buffalo chase, in which the bisons owned by Mr. Allard will play a passive part, while Indians in full war-regalia will enact the parts taken by their forefathers centuries ago, is one of the novelties which will be introduced by the managers of the Wild West show. It will be a wild exciting act, according to Mr. Allard, as the Indians will be armed with blunt arrows and other implements of the chase, and will drive the ancient rulers of the prairie down the field in a wild chase. Bucking bulls and cows, never used before, will have a place on the program.

Longhorn Steers

Longhorn steers from Texas will be imported especially for the roping and bulldogging contests. The wildest bucking horses or “outlaws” from Cheyenne and Pendleton, will be brought to Missoula, among them being “Yellow Fever,” considered the champion bucking cayuse in the country.

American Indians in full war regalia, will take a prominent part in the show. Mr. Allard plans to make the Indian section of the parades which will be held during the Stampede one which will be long remembered. Aboriginal costumes, with plenty of paint and feathers, will abound, and none but the best costumed will be admitted into the parade. The majority of the Indians will be from the Flathead reservation, though several will come from the Umatilla reservation, near Pendleton. The Indians will be camped near the fairgrounds, and will give war dances every night after the evening show has been concluded.

The managers plan to give snappy, rapid-fire shows which last only three hours, instead of dragging through the afternoon. Two of the most competent arena directors in the west have been obtained, and will run the events off in swift succession.” May 27, 1917 The Missoulian [The Missoula Stampede was only from 1915 to 1918]



Jackson Sundown



Lee Caldwell



Bertha Blanchett



Vera McGinnis



Nep Lynch of Plains was one of the top performers in the cowboy relay races from 1917-1919. This postcard photo of an unidentified relay racer and his helpers was taken by R.H. McKay at the 1917 Missoula Stampede. Courtesy of Pictorial Histories Publishing



Center horse being chased by a mad bull 1909



Some of Pablo's buffalo on the Flathead Reservation. <http://parkscanadahistory.com/publications/history/lothian/eng/vol4/chap7.htm>



F425 Michel Pablo's cowboys, whom he called the "buffalo boys," herd buffalo down a rocky path in in another 1909 stereograph captured by N.A. Forsyth





These photos come from the collection of Donna (Dupuis) Yerbury, received from Al Yerbury 11/6/2013



Stacking hay on the Pablo Ranch (ca. 1905)

All the photographs taken below are by Morton J. Elrod in 1908.



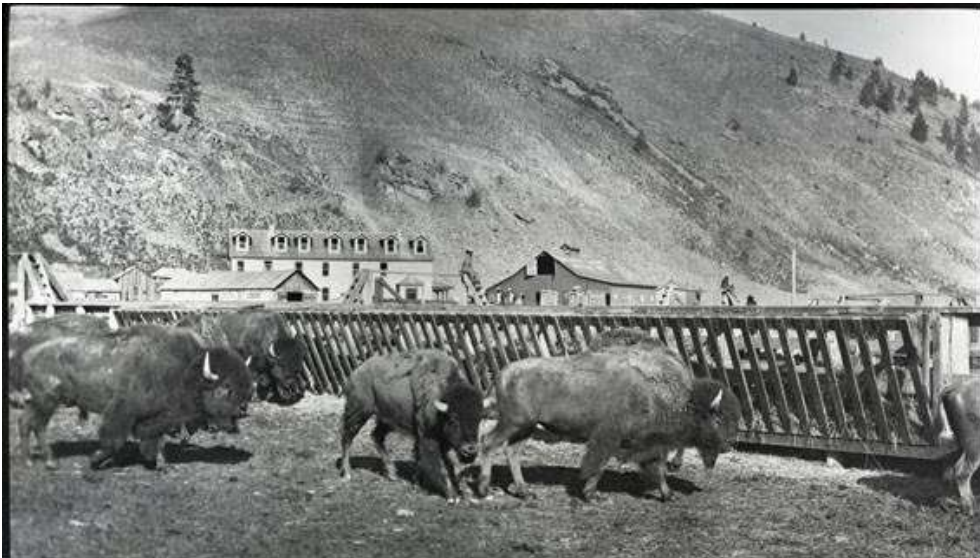
From Archives & Special Collections, Mansfield Library, The University of Montana-Missoula



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From Ravalli to Canada

Duncan McDonald's brother, Joe McDonald recalled:

"My son, John McDonald, and I aided Pablo's other riders in the roundup, and in driving some to Ravalli. Mr. Ayotte hired me to go with the first trainload of buffalo to Canada. It was a long, tiresome journey for the animals, and some sickened and died before we reached our destination." Joe McDonald Recalls Samuel's Buffalo Calves as told to Bon I. Whealdon on September 29, 1941.



Eleanor Luxton 1928

“Buffalo Roundup: Montana Bison for Elk Island and Banff National Parks

The story of bison in Banff National Park is an interesting tale of the display of wilderness for both conservation and profitable tourism. Like many aspects of Banff’s history, the story can be linked to the Luxton family. Eleanor Luxton’s work “Banff Canada’s First National Park: A History and a Memory of Rocky Mountains Park” (Banff: Summerthought, 1974, 2008) is a curious history of the town by an amateur historian and long-term resident. It features a chronicle of Banff events, and reminiscences regarding the personalities and stories of the region. As an appendix to the work, a piece written by her father, Norman Luxton, “The Pablo Buffalo Herd”, tells the tale of the roundup of a large herd of bison from Montana destined for Banff and Elk Island parks.

The origins of the herd, can be linked to an 1873 hunting trip of Walking Coyote, of the Pend d’Oreilles (or Kalispel) tribe. Coyote had killed a number of bison, and four calves followed him after the slaughter of their mothers. These beasts were kept as “pets” by the family and by 1884 had bred among themselves, expanding to a small herd of thirteen. (Luxton, p. 145) Ten of these animals were purchased by Michel Pablo, and C.A. Allard, and these were supplemented by the purchase of twenty-six other bison along with eighteen cattalos. Luxton learned of the possible sale of the herd through a letter from Alex Ayotte, a Winnipeg Free Press writer, and immigration agent at Missoula. After some discussion with the minister of the interior, it was decided to purchase the herd.

Eleanor Luxton notes the idea was to purchase the bison for shipment to Canadian parks for, “conservation, tourist attraction and a possible source of food for the Indians.” An agreement was made to ship them north to Elk Island Park, and in 1907 Banff Park’s superintendent Howard Douglas joined Norman Luxton and Ayotte on the trip. In a characteristic nod to the “real ol’ West”, Luxton recalled during the railway trip, “getting off at the stations to examine the bullet holes in the platform, put there by cowboys making tenderfeet dance.” (Luxton, p. 146)

Glenbow Archives NA-3581-10

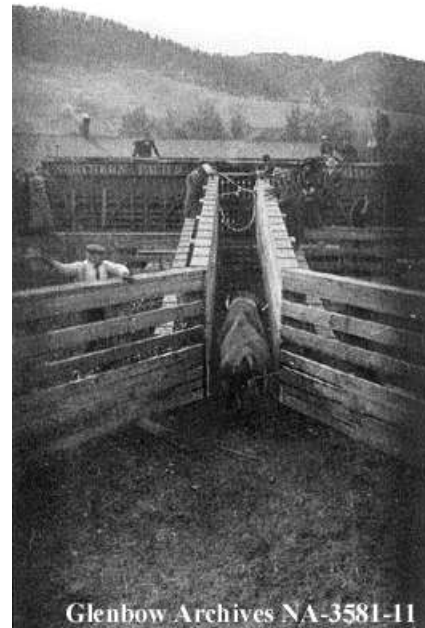


Buffalo cows and calves during Pablo-Allard round-up, Montana. About 1906-08.

Upon arriving at the Buffalo Camp, near Missoula, the men met up with a rough and ready crew of around thirty-five “mixed-blood” [presumably métis] cowboys. Eager to test the Canadians’ mettle, one of the men asked Luxton to pick out a horse. A rangy grey was saddled for him, and he managed to stick to the bronc show that ensued. As Luxton recalled, “that lucky ride did me more good in the estimation of those cowboys than if I had presented them with a keg of liquor.” (p. 146) Presumably, very few of the cowboys were teetotallers.



Alexander Ayotte, Charles Allard, Jr. and Howard Douglas



Loading the buffalo at Ravalli

Staying at the mission at the Flathead reservation, an incident occurred which casts light on Luxton's opinion of Ayotte, his rough sense of humour, and his techniques of "conservation." Luxton had decided to sleep in a tent outside the mission, but Ayotte opted to inspect the mission house for a bed. Luxton was none too generous in his description of the man noting that, "he weighed 275 pounds, every ounce a tissue of selfishness added to an over-bearing manner." It seems that Luxton knew that Ayotte would quickly discover that the beds in the mission were also inhabited by bed-bugs, and prepared to repel the man from his tent when the bites began to register. As Luxton records the event,

When I saw Ayotte leave for the house I hiked for the tent. I always carried a small twenty-bore shotgun on my trips to collect natural history specimens. Taking two shells I cut them in half leaving only the thin cardboard wad holding the powder. [...] Ayotte [came] from the direction of the house, talking and swearing in French. [...] Ayotte all but tore the tent-flap off, we saw his face splashed with dead bed-bugs, and I pulled one trigger. I fired the second shot as Ayotte was scrambling to his feet and running as he probably hadn't done for some years. [...] Alex slept in the stable from then on. Our night's show amused the cowboys and raised us in their estimation. (Luxton, p. 146)



Glenbow Museum Image No: NA-3581-5 Title: Cowboys circling during Pablo-Allard buffalo round-up, Montana. Date: [ca. 1906-1908] Photographer/Illustrator: Luxton, Banff, Alberta

As might be expected, rounding up a herd of bison is no easy task. The group formed a horseshoe of around forty cowboys, and slowly tried to drive them off their homelands. As Luxton wrote,

Just about the time we thought we would really get them off their regular ground, suddenly, the whole herd would halt as if by command. They would turn around and face the way we had come, stand, not an animal moving in perhaps the hundred we had been following. All the cowboy's horses stood – no sound. Then from a jump start the buffalo would charge right into the horse-show of riders, never swerving, as if possessed with the devil riding them. Never once was this charge broken, nothing stopped them, not even the river. (Luxton, p. 147)

The plan was to load the animals into boxcars at Ravalli station. Again, with the beasts weighing up to two tons, this was not quite the same as herding sheep. The cars themselves were custom-built with plenty of reinforcement. As Luxton put it, “the joke was to get the buffalo into the car, for that matter it was a joke to get a buffalo to any wanted place.”

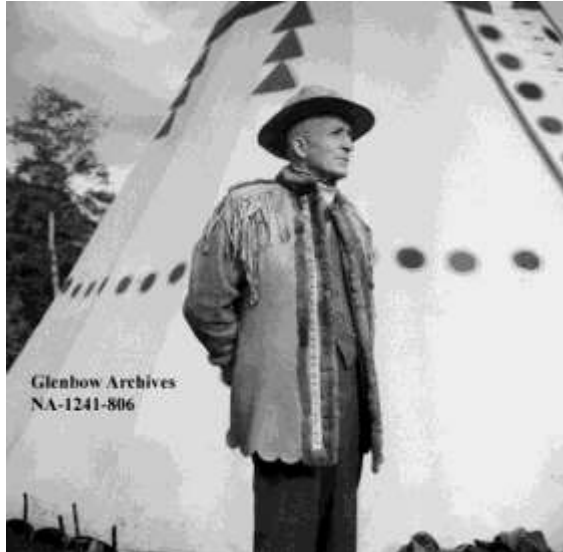
A system of ropes was designed to pull the animals into place, but the best laid plans do not always survive first contact with bison! “One bull went straight through the car, he just took the side out as if it had not been there. Another bull broke his legs – well, the Indians had a feast out of that.” (Luxton, p. 148) Eventually driving around twenty-five head at a time, a total of 200 bison were loaded and bound for Canada.

Up to 1912, Eleanor Luxton notes that Elk Island Park received 708 buffalo from Montana. In 1911, the Banff bison paddock received seventy-seven of the beasts. Techniques changed, but the task of rounding them up was never easy. Eventually a system of loading individual bison onto wagons to transport them to the Ravalli station. The results were not always successful.

...he strung these wagons together, the crates open at each end except the last one. Four cowboys were on top of each crate to let down a gate effect as soon as a buffalo was in that crate. Sure the buffalo went in – even to the end of the train. Then things happened no one could describe. Talk about cyclone pictures of a town blown to pieces. In minutes not a wagon was on four wheels, kindling wood and cowboys scrambling for ponies were all that one could see.

Luxton would long foster a sense that the last vestiges of the old West could be found in Banff. By promoting Banff Indian days, and keeping the bison paddock stocked with

quintessentially Western game, the Wild West was safely on display. He insured that an experience of the romantic West familiar to readers of Fenimore Cooper and admirers of the art of Charlie Russell was obtainable by all who came to the park. Few visitors who noted the bison grazing from the train would know the hard toil involved in procuring the herd!



Norman Luxton at Banff Indian Days, Banff, Alberta. 1942 Photographer/Illustrator: Gully, F., Calgary, Alberta
Remarks: At Stoney tipi village, Cascade Park, Banff.



Norman Luxton at the Banff Indian Days festival, 1927

Norman Luxton

“Norman K. Luxton (1876-1962) was a pioneer in the Canadian Rockies known as "Mr. Banff". With John Voss, he attempted to sail around the world in an old red cedar Indian dug-out canoe.”
From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

“To Australia – Victoria, B.C., May 20. – J. C. Voss and Norman Luxton will leave here in an Indian war canoe tomorrow for Australia.” May 21, 1901 The Missoulain

“On his return to Canada, he worked on improving the community of Banff and the relationship between its residents and the aboriginal community.

Norman Luxton was the son of Winnipeg Free Press co-founder, William Luxton. After working with his father at the Free Press in Manitoba and for the Indian Agency at Rat Portage (now, Kenora, Ontario) in 1892. In 1893, Norman decided to head to the Cariboo Gold Fields to make his fortune. It is hard to know if he did make it to the gold fields, but he did make it to Calgary and worked for the Calgary Herald for the next eight years before moving to Vancouver in 1901.

In 1901, Norman moved west to Vancouver where he briefly worked for a weekly called Town Topics. While in Vancouver, Norman met Captain John Voss, an eccentric sea captain. The two planned a most adventurous voyage. They would purchase a 100-year-old Nootka dugout canoe and sail it around the world, leaving from Victoria, British Columbia and heading west to London. The dugout canoe was named the Tilikum, meaning friend in Chinook Jargon. Luxton journeyed 10,000 miles (about 16000 km) on the Pacific Ocean with Voss, and endured five months of travel, before the Tilikum struck a reef and Luxton was thrown from the boat. His whole body was badly cut by coral, and he had to abandon the trip in Fiji, and was immediately taken to a hospital in Australia. Following this, Luxton came to Banff to recuperate. He kept notes of the voyage; his Tilikum Journal, edited by his daughter Eleanor was published in 1971. Captain John Voss finished his journey around the world and published his sailing memoir as *The Venturesome Voyages of Captain Voss*¹ in 1913. The Tilikum boat changed hands a number of times but is now on display at the Maritime Museum of British Columbia in Victoria, British Columbia.

In 1904, Norman Luxton married Georgina (Georgie) Elizabeth McDougall (1870-1965) of the pioneer missionary McDougall family of Morley, Alberta. Norman and Georgie Luxton had one child, Eleanor Georgina, born in Banff in 1908.

Luxton was a prominent person in Banff, Alberta after his return from his sailing trip across the Pacific. He published the Crag and Canyon newspaper, built the King Edward Hotel and the Lux Theatre in Banff, and founded the Sign of the Goat Curio Shop, which led to the development of the Luxton Museum of Plains Indians, now the Buffalo Nations Museum. He was one of the organizers of Banff Indian Days and the Banff Winter Carnival. Norman was also made an honorary chief of the Stoney tribe and given the name Chief White Shield.

In 1953, Luxton established a museum to house his native artifacts. The Luxton Museum of the Plains Indian which is known as the Buffalo Nations Luxton Museum was built in co-operation with Eric Harvie of the Glenbow Foundation of Calgary.

Norman F. Luxton died on October 22, 1962 at the age of 89, in the Holy Cross Hospital in Calgary. On the death of his only daughter Eleanor Luxton in 1995, ownership of the home, built circa 1905 in Banff, passed to the Eleanor Luxton Historical Foundation.

The objective of the Eleanor Luxton Historical Foundation is to foster public awareness of the history of Banff and its environs during the century that the Luxton were influential in the community with emphasis on the careers of Norman K. Luxton, Georgina McDougall Luxton, and Eleanor G. Luxton. The historic Luxton home built circa 1905 in Banff have been preserved, restored and are open to the public through Whyte Museum guided tours. The interior

of the home has been preserved and represents the lives of the three family members and the evolution of a Banff lifestyle over a period of nine decades. Of special interest are the collections of Stoney artifacts, evening gowns dating back to the turn of the century, household collectibles, and taxidermy specimens.

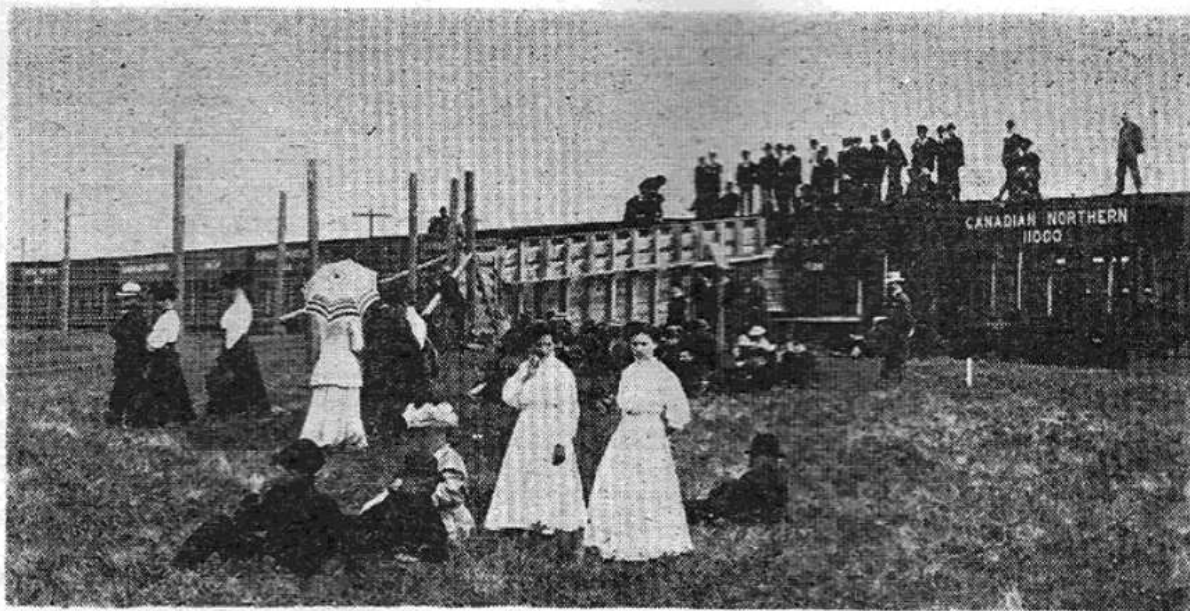
The importance of gardening to the family is evident in the extensive collection of garden-related artifacts preserved in the home. These include tools, catalogues, and seed packets dating back to 1913. The garden is open to public and it is supposed to be one of the first flower gardens in Banff, still blooming every year.” From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia



Newly arrived Pablo buffalo graze in Canada, watched by their new owners. Courtesy Glenbow Museum, Calgary, Alberta.



“The bison were temporarily housed at Elk Island National Park from 1907-1909, because the fences at the newly-created (and ill-fated) Buffalo National Park, were not completed until 1909.” <https://historyboots.wordpress.com/2015/02/01/the-great-roundups-getting-michel-pablos-bison-herd-to-canada-1907-1912/>



Unloading of first buffalo at Wainwright Park attracted community interest.

Glenbow Archives NA-3581-13



Lieutenant-Governor George Hedley, Vicars Bulyea and Annie Blanche (Babbitt) Bulyea photographing buffalo, Lamont, Alberta.

Glenbow Archives NA-3581-12



Buffalo being unloaded at Lamont, Alberta, for Elk Island National Park, Alberta in 1907, by Norman Luxton.

Wainwright Buffalo Park, Alberta, Canada

“On Saturday last, fifteen cars of buffalo arrived here from the Pablo herd in Montana, and were immediately unloaded in the Buffalo Park. Howard Douglas, commissioner of Dominion Parks, A. Ayotte immigration agent in Montana, and H. C. McMullan, C. P. R. livestock agent, Calgary, accompanied the shipment.

The bunch consisted of one hundred and ninety head and at times what seemed almost insurmountable obstacles have been overcome in rounding up this bunch. There are still at least 150 head on the Flathead Reserve, which will be shipped in September. Before these arrive, however, 75 buffalo will be sent to the park here from the Banff herd.

The animals comprising this shipment were immediately unloaded and despite expectations did not take unkindly to the fence around the corral at the unloading place. They had been in the cars for periods varying from four to fifteen days and were consequently quite weary. The railway journey from Ravalli was made in the fine time of seventy-two hours and the bison stood the journey fairly well. No time was lost in releasing the buffalo and before dark the entire trainload were quietly grazing in the park.

On Sunday, the writer, accompanied by R. C. W. Lett, travelling passenger and colonization agent of the G. T. P., and H. W. Foster, manager of the Canada Railway News Co., and C. W. Holmes, a fellow newspaper man, from Milestone, SASK., made a trip through the immense corral of 2,000 acres in the north end of the park, in which these animals will be confined for the present.

Superintendent Ellis and his assistant, Louie Bioletti, gave every assistance to the party and we were enabled to see the buffalo at ease in their new home. They were scattered here and there in small herds, while an occasional one would be found enjoying a dust bath in one of the innumerable buffalo wallows, which were made by the wild herds many years ago. They seemed to take well to their new home and the majority paid scant attention to the visitors. Occasionally, we ran across a small herd which viewed us with suspicion and started pawing the ground. When their tails began to raise with an ugly looking crook, we considered discretion to be the better part of valor and immediately left for other sections of the park. The 508 buffalo now in the park have an ideal home.

Following is a short history of the buffalo, several parts of which we have extracted from a recent article in the LONDON TIMES:

PASSING OF THE BUFFALO

The destruction of the immense northern herd of bison, which is stated to have numbered 4,000,000 head at the beginning has never been told with any degree of accuracy. It is certain that very few were left in the Canadian west when the Canadian Pacific Railway had been completed. The construction gangs of this road disposed of the stragglers of this once mighty herd, as was the case in the building of the Union Pacific railroad in the U. S.

To this day, however, the whole of the vast west is scarred and pitted with their groove-like trails and basin-like wallows, which are permanent records of the migratory marches and daily dust-baths of these heavy beasts.

OLD-TIME HUNTS

Old-time Hudson's Bay factors who still survive, tell of the great hunting expeditions of the fifties and sixties, when the employees of the pioneer fur company with their creaking Red River carts took part in these hunts in order to secure the yearly supply of pemmican for their northern hunting and trading posts. At one time the prairie around the present capital of Saskatchewan was covered by piles of whitened bones, but which have nearly all been gathered up and shipped to be used as fertilizers. "Pile of Bones," or Regina, was the head of this peculiar industry which flourished shortly after the Riel rebellion.

THE LAST BUFFALO

The last buffalo to be killed in Western Canada met his death in 1886. He had been wounded twice during that year but escaped, to meet his fate on the range of a couple of ranchers near the south branch of the Saskatchewan, who had a herd of several hundred Highland cattle and it happened that about the time when the sandhill crane flies south, two of the ranch men were sent out in search of them. They caught sight of the band at noon on the second day out and were amazed to see it massed together for all the world like a bunch of horses about a smudge or smoke-fire, when the flies and mosquitoes are at their worst on a still, cloudy summer evening. With much difficulty they broke up the throng and there where the center of the swirling crest of blood-maniacs had been, they found the torn and trampled carcass of the mighty wanderer. What an end!

For a considerable time it was believed that with the exception of the herd at Banff and the few animals at Winnipeg, the most magnificent of the North American fauna was extinct. The Banff herd had increased considerably, but it was thought that the evils of in-breeding would eventually cause the cessation of its growth.

Yet all the time there existed on the Flathead reservation in the State of Montana a herd of several hundred thoroughbred bison, the natural increase of which was being maintained year after year. It was a fortunate accident which led to the formation of this fine collection.

In 1873 one of the Pend d'Oreille Indians captured four little bison calves—two bulls and two heifers—by cutting them out of a stampeded herd numbering many thousands. In accordance with the peculiar characteristics, often noticed by old plainsmen, these young creatures obediently followed the horses of the hunters who had slain or driven off their mothers.

The Indians in question gave them to the Mission of St. Ignatius, where they were kept as pets and became as domesticated as ordinary cattle. When the heifers were four years old, each had a calf. From that time on they gradually increased in number, until, in 1884, there were thirteen head, and the Indian owner, finding the care of them too great a tax on his scant resources, decided to sell them.

START OF PABLO HERD

Ten head were purchased for \$250 apiece, by C. A. Allard and Michel Pablo, who were ranching on the reservation, and were shrewd enough to see that specimens of what was even then supposed to be practically and extinct animal would eventually become very valuable. The herd rapidly increased under their careful supervision, and in a few years it became possible to sell specimens at very high prices.

Many head were sold to private individual collectors in the United States, and it from this source that those in the Yellowstone Park were secured.

In 1893 Messrs. Allard and Pablo bought a collection belonging to one "Buffalo" Jones, of Omaha, and in that year they had 36 thoroughbred animals in excellent condition, the nucleus of the great herd which has been bought by the Dominion Government. The hybrid, or "cattloes" were never allowed to mingle with the thoroughbreds on the ranges, but were collected and kept on island in the Flathead Lake. These hybrids are large, fine-looking animals, and it has often been suggested that they would be worth breeding for commercial purposes. But the sterility point is reached in the second generation.

GREAT INCREASE

The record of the herd of living antiques originating in the four calves captured by an Indian hunter shows what can be done by private enterprise to perpetuate an almost extinct type of animal life. In twenty-three years a herd of thirty-six increased to thirty times its original number. Some idea of the average rate of increase may be deduced from the observed fact that half the cows give birth to calves every year, while twin calves are not uncommon, inasmuch as in a party of a hundred head corralled one autumn, there were two cows having two calves at foot. The percentage of loss

among the calves is slightly lower than is the case with ordinary range cattle. As a rule the bison calf is a very hardy creature. There are instances of the Pablo-Allard calves finding their feet in less than a minute after birth and showing sight within half-an-hour.

NEW CANADIAN HERD

In 1906 HON. Frank Oliver, Minister of the Interior, obtained for the Dominion Government an option on the 600 unsold head belonging to Messrs. Pablo and Allard, and eventually they were all bought for \$200,000. Today five or six times as much could be realized by selling the herd piecemeal to American private collectors and the Governments of Western States which are now lamenting a lost opportunity. But Canada has no intention whatever of selling a single head.

The round-up of the first shipment lasted two months, and was successfully carried out by 75 cowboys, horsemen picked for their ability from every part of the great Montana ranges, who were paid at the rate of \$5 a day. For some weeks the round-up was a failure; only three times in more than a month of daily drives did the cowboys succeed in getting a few head into the rail-side corrals. The bison, finding themselves being driven from their familiar pasturage, and not knowing that the bay of the Saskatchewan Valley is better than that of the Montana ridges, would charge the encircling line of horsemen with the wildest fury and break and scatter it to the four winds.

Eventually, in order to save time and horse-flesh, Mr. Pablo—himself a cowboy famous throughout the West—decided that it was necessary to build a bison-proof fence, 26 miles in length, from the pastures to the corrals, so as to cut off retreat in one direction. Down this fence, in spite of their many successful efforts to break away, the bison were eventually driven into the corrals and, not without much difficulty, loaded aboard the enclosed cattle-trucks of the Northern Pacific freight train at the little station of Ravalli. The long railway journey 1,200 miles over five railway systems to Lamont in Alberta was accomplished with a loss of less than one per cent.

The herd wintered fairly well and were the ones received here on June 13 and which were turned loose in the park on that day.

BUFFALO PARK

The park, which has an area of 160 square miles and contains many clean-bottomed lakes, endless chains of hay-sloughs and sheltered river valleys, has been securely enclosed with a high fence of wire and tamarack posts. A number of deer were enclosed in the building of the fence, so that the bison will have companions in the spacious reservation. In twenty years there should be 10,000 head at Wainwright.

The artificial revival of this magnificent animal is an object lesson to those who deplore the threatened extinction of the most imposing of the south African fauna. Game preservation laws will generally enable the smaller animals to survive, even if they have the ill-fortune to wear the furs coveted by the ladies.

The return of the beaver to many of its deserted haunts in Eastern and Western Canada is a case in point. Ten years ago the living symbol of Canadian enterprise and industry seemed in danger of extinction. Now it is once more busy building the water-breaks which helped to store up the

rainfall of the country instead of allowing it to be dissipated in disastrous floods. But, if the heavy beasts which can be eaten by the most shameless of the carnivora—man, to wit—are to be preserved, something more is needed than the translation of the sportsman's first commandment—"Thou shalt not kill needlessly"—into laws and by-laws.

http://www.wainwrightdistrict.org/camp-wainwright/clips/star_090709.php. THE WAINWRIGHT STAR, WAINWRIGHT, ALBERTA, FRIDAY, JULY 9, 1909.

THE DAILY MISSOULIAN MONDAY MORNING

GREAT BUFFALO HUNT TO BE HELD IN CANADA



A PART OF THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT'S BUFFALO HERD AT WAINWRIGHT, ALBERTA

Wainwright, Alberta.—The spirit of the Buffalo Bill is hovering around the Canadian government's big wild game pasture here.

The greatest buffalo hunt since Cody's wife stopped branding on the American Plains is on. And in spite of all efforts to make the event safe and sane, a tinge of romance attaches.

The hunt will continue until 2,500 animals are killed. This wholesale slaughter means that the day has passed when responsible fears are to be entertained as to the extinction of the bison.

There are 3,300 in the Wainwright herd, and the killing, mostly bulls, is to thin them out and save the winter hay supply.

Professional hunters, rangers and cowboys will do the work. The cowboys will round up the animals, and the marksmen will fire from cover. By this method, frontiersmen say, the herd is not stampeded, but as comrades fall beneath the bullets, the bison will around and bellow mournfully without having sense enough to flee.

A moving picture company in the United States proposed to film the hunt, turning loose a band of feathered Cree Indians to bring down the Buffalo with bow and arrow. The government refused, pointing out that with present-day Indians the arrow is no longer a sure weapon of death and that the buffalo would suffer cruelly from their wounds.

Some New York sportsmen also wanted to enter the shoot, paying \$500 for each man admitted. But they also were refused.

Buffalo meat will be sold at a cent and a half per pound, according to A. S. Ducloux of Edmonton, who has the contract to market it. Much of the meat will be turned into pemmican.

This is sun-dried buffalo meat, pounded into paste, mixed with liquid fat and moulded into soft cakes. It is considered one of the most concentrated forms of food, and is sold at Arctic trading posts.

The vast Wainwright herd are descendants of four buffalo calves, captured in 1874.

November 26, 1923 The Missoulian

“E. J. (Bud) Cotton by Terri Mason



Bud Cotton

Bud Cotton, Canada's first buffalo warden at the Wainwright Buffalo Reserve in Alberta. During his time as warden he had four horses killed out from underneath him and barely escaped with his life on numerous occasions.

Born in Sherbrooke, Quebec in 1890, Bud Cotton grew up in the Eastern Townships, but longed to ride the range. He was just 16 when he made his way to Medicine Hat, Alberta and got his first job as a cowboy.

One of his first tasks was driving the camp wagon on a hundred-mile cattle drive to a railway construction site. In the evening he was the night herder. After two weeks the crew arrived with the herd and supplied fresh beef for the railroad crew that was laying track across the prairie.

His cowboying skills grew and he cowboyed for some of the biggest cattle outfits across the Canadian West, including Pat Burns.

One of his most memorable nights as a cowboy was in 1911 when a cyclone almost blew out Regina. He was working for Burns' outfit and he had drifted a cavvy of about 100 head of horses onto the flats for grazing when the ferocious storm struck. The horses took off and he followed. By the dawn he was ten miles out and only had 46 horses left to take back to camp. By the afternoon the missing bunch were found and the storm was forgotten.

In 1912 Cotton was one of the original eleven cowboys from the Burns Ranch who brought a herd of 100 horses and a chuckwagon from Cluny to the Calgary Stampede. That same year, he helped to run 12,000 head of cattle through a mange dip on the Blackfoot reserve.

It was in 1913 when his life changed. The Canadian government had purchased the last remaining buffalo herd from Montana ranchers Pablo and Allard with the express purpose to save the threatened animals from extinction. Rounding them up was a monumental feat and eventually the herd arrived at the newly formed Wainwright Buffalo Reserve in Alberta. Bud and his saddle pal Ed were hired to get a count on the herd.

The cowboys received a quick lesson in handling buffalo; they were wild, they were fast and they weren't afraid of anything. After a day of being chased and threatened, the cowboys found themselves horse-belly deep in a lake, held there by a threatening bull. Needless to say, their respect for the dangerous animals grew — and they didn't get an accurate count on the herd that day.

Soon Bud was promoted to park warden, and shouldered the responsibility of managing the buffalo. In 1915 Bud went to war and fought at Vimy Ridge. By 1919 he was on his way home to the Wainwright Park Buffalo Reserve.

Of the 39,000 buffalo that were raised in Buffalo National Park, Bud stated in his memoirs, *Buffalo Bud*, that only two buffalo were born with white markings and one was to gain notoriety.

While on patrol in May 1919, he happened upon a dead cow and a gaunt and hungry baby buffalo that sported a small dirty white patch in the center of his forehead. Cotton christened him ‘One Spot.’”

On the twelve-mile journey back to the line cabin the baby buff took to Cotton’s saddle horse, Frost, perhaps believing it could be his new mother. Once at the cabin Cotton fed the baby canned milk, water and sugar ‘with the aid of a beer bottle,” but always stayed close to Frost. One Spot made himself at home, grunting for a little sugar, and would “kick or bunt our shins if there was too much delay. Then he would lie under the table or bunk, contentedly chewing his cud.” One Spot became a tourist attraction but this glamorous career ended when he butted a new bride who was posing beside the calf. After this incident, Cotton turned the baby buff out with the rest of the herd.

The buffalo was very near extinction when the Canadian government purchased the last remaining herd from Montana ranchers, Pablo and Allard. It took top cowboys five years to round up and ship the buffalo north.

One Spot was the boss of his herd in his early years, but he grew more ornery and reclusive as old age set in. He had no respect for men or horses and threatened any rider who attempted to come near him.

One summer Cotton took a short cut through a ravine and came face to face with One Spot. Cotton’s horse, Frost, tried to get away, but One Spot hooked the horse under his flank, throwing both Cotton and the horse over the embankment. Cotton escaped, but One Spot had killed Frost, the same horse that he had followed back to the line cabin those many years before.

During his tenure, Cotton and his cowboy crew of park riders guided newsmen and parks officials, cowboys and movie stars through the wild terrain. During his career, he had four horses killed out from under him by buffalo and narrowly escaped with his own life on numerous occasions.

In 1921 he married and he and Edith had two daughters. Bud remained the warden over the now massive herd of 48,000 buffalo. In 1940 Wainwright was closed and some of the buffalo were shipped to the newly formed Elk Island Park; the rest were shipped to Wood Buffalo National Park. Bud Cotton remained the warden until he retired in 1947.

During his years at the buffalo park, Bud launched a new career as a writer, co-authoring many books recounting his life on the plains.

In 1980, in celebration of Alberta’s 75th anniversary, a small herd of plains bison were once again established at Wainwright and Bud Cotton and many of the original Park Riders were invited for the opening of the Bud Cotton Buffalo Paddock. Bud Cotton died in 1987 and is buried in Calgary.”



Many Enjoy Choice Steaks Cut From A Young Buffalo Butchering the Victim of an Accident.

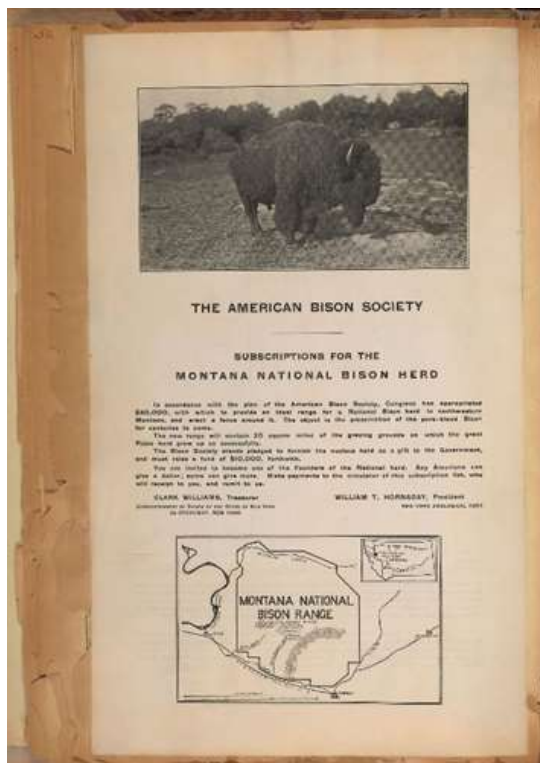
The accompanying cut shows Chief Duncan McDonald of the Flathead reservation in the act of skinning a buffalo cow, which was killed during the loading of the Pablo herd at Ravalli a few days ago.

The animal, about 4 years of age, was so unruly that the loader; could do nothing with her. She fought desperately against being driven through the loading chute into a freight car and in a mad rush across the corral butted blindly into the side of the pen, breaking her neck. She was immediately bled and the carcass was removed to the back yard of the Ravalli hotel, where it was skinned, dressed and butchered for use as a part of the menu for the Sunday dinner a week ago.

A large crowd of visitors, attracted to Ravalli by the buffalo loading, was unexpectedly offered buffalo steak when the dinner hour was announced. Almost everyone took advantage of the opportunity to taste the meat-just that they might say they had eaten buffalo. And almost everyone who tried the novelty expressed himself as delighted with the flavor. The popularity of the meat is attested by the fact that the supply was exhausted before the day was over, several persons securing large cuts of it to carry home with them.” The Daily Missoulian, July 4, 1909. Morning, Page 4



National Bison Range on the Flathead Indian Reservation 1908.



THE FLATHEAD BUFFALO RANGE.

A REPORT TO THE AMERICAN BISON SOCIETY OF AN INSPECTION OF THE FLATHEAD INDIAN RESERVATION, MONTANA, FOR THE PURPOSE OF SELECTING A SUITABLE LOCATION FOR A NATIONAL BUFFALO RANGE.

BY MORTON J. ELROD, PH.D.,

Professor of Biology, University of Montana, Missoula.
Director of the University Biological Station.

Acting on instructions from the President of The American Bison Society, I examined several places in the Flathead Indian Reservation, Montana, for the purpose of selecting a suitable location for a range in which to confine and perpetually maintain and propagate a herd of American Bison, or, as it is popularly known here, the Buffalo.



THE BISON OF THE FLATHEAD RANGE.

PLATE II.



A BIRD'S-EYE VIEW OF THE PROPOSED BISON RANGE.

From the summit of the Mission Mountains, as it appears in June. Taken just after a storm. The black line shows three sides of the boundary of the proposed Range. The view is south of west, from an elevation of nearly 8,000 feet.

PLATE III.



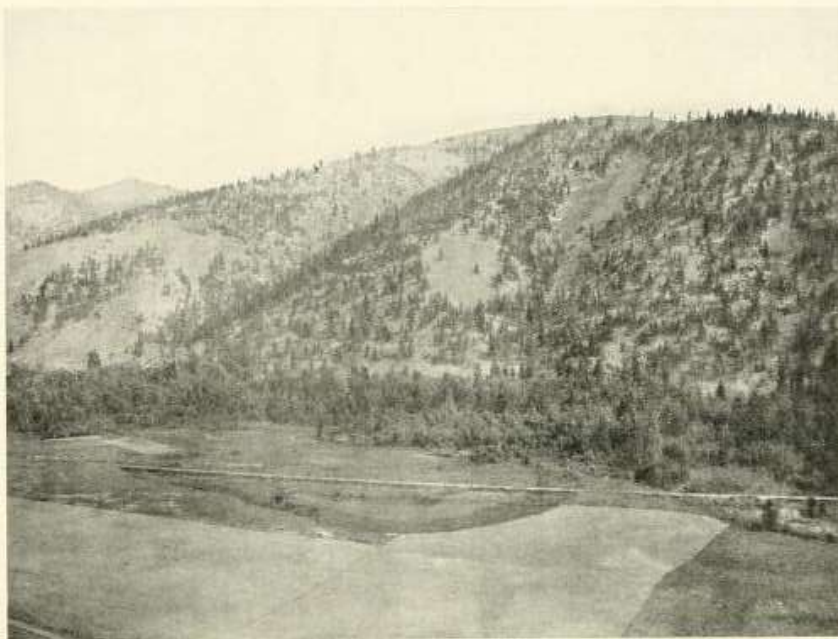
GENERAL VIEW OF THE RANGE, FROM THE EAST.
Proposed Buffalo Range from the direction of Mission Mountains. The highest point is Quilsech, 4,500 feet. To the left is Wheewheetchaye,—Red Man's Ridge.

PLATE IV.



THE MISSION MOUNTAINS.
Looking east, from near the eastern boundary of the proposed Buffalo Range.

PLATE V.



THE SOUTHERN PORTION OF THE RANGE.

The Jocko River flows from right to left, through the timbered flat. The Northern Pacific Railroad is seen in the valley. This picture shows Inskaltesshin. Seclaw is a little west of north.

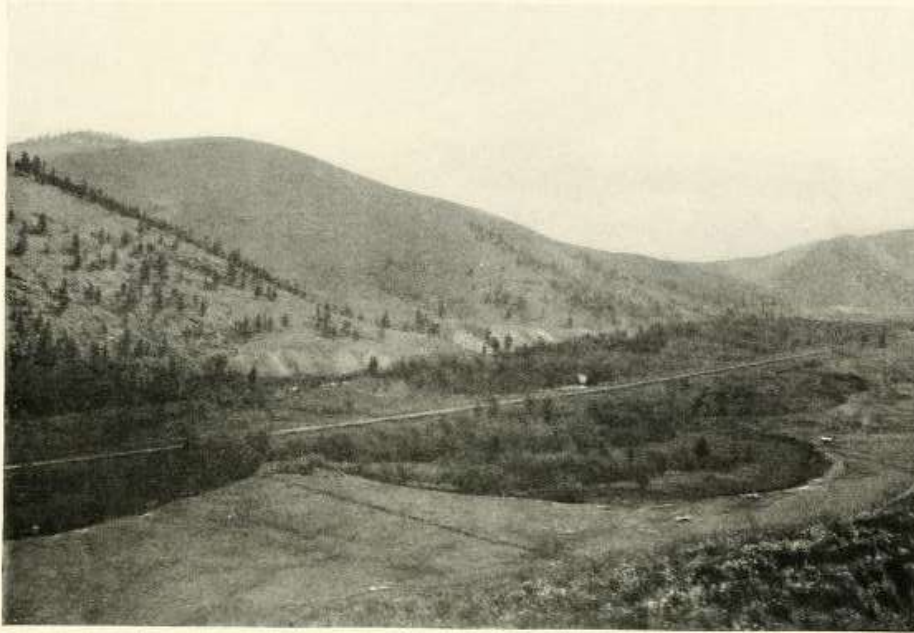
PLATE VI.



SOUTHERN FRONT OF THE PROPOSED RANGE.

This is a portion of the Range farther toward the east than that in Plate V. The Northern Pacific Railway runs through the middle of the picture, and the Jocko River runs through the timber, between the railroad and the hills.

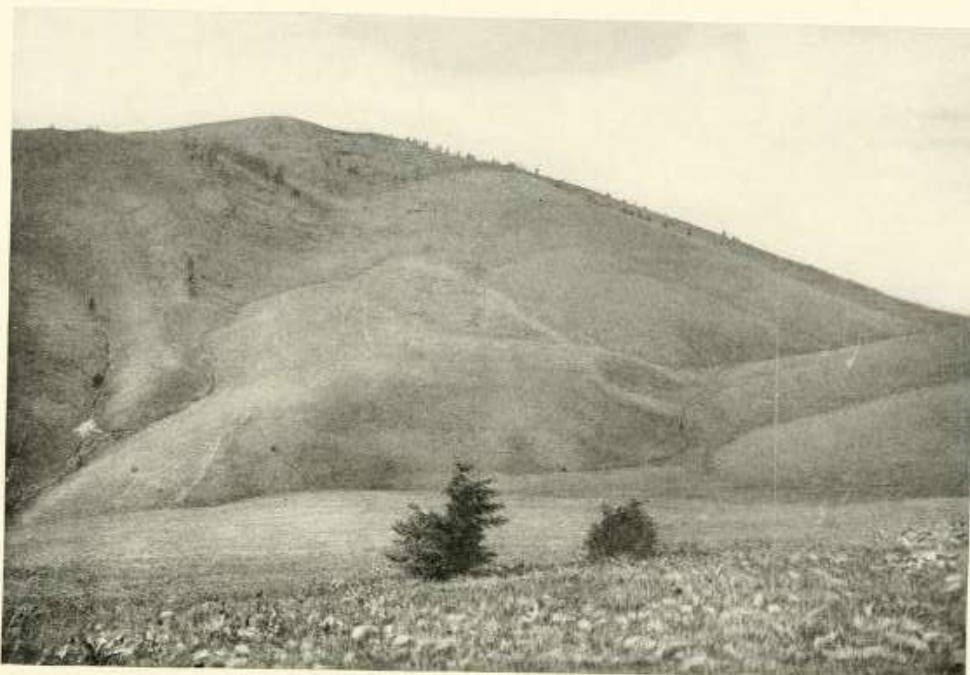
PLATE VII.



SOUTHERN FRONT OF THE PROPOSED BISON RANGE.

Taken from the same position as Plate VI, with a wide-angle lens. The southeastern corner of the Range is shown. The flat is the Jocko Valley. The river may be seen between the railroad and the hills.

PLATE VIII.



ON THE SUMMIT OF THE RANGE.

Quilsech, from Wheewheetchaye. Head of Inskaltesshin Creek, showing protection. The view is north of west.

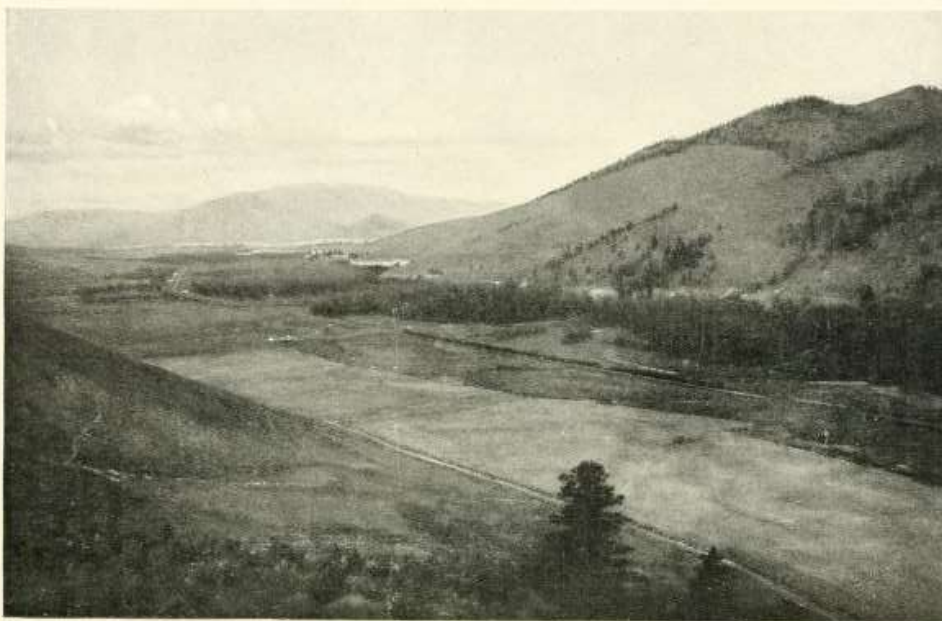
PLATE IX.



VIEW OF THE JOCKO VALLEY.

Looking southeast, toward Ravalli, from the summit of the proposed Bison Range. Ravalli is marked with a cross. This is the railway shipping point.

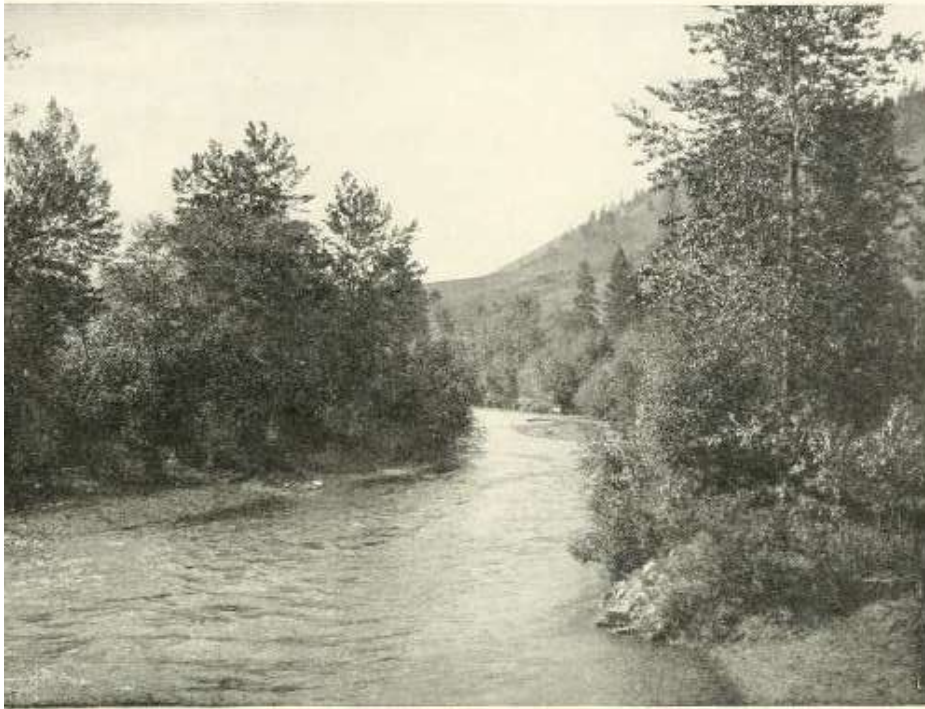
PLATE X.



THE JOCKO RIVER VALLEY AND ITS JUNCTION WITH THAT OF THE FLATHEAD.

Seeley Mountain is on the right. The proposed range fence would cross the river within the limits of the picture.

PLATE XI.



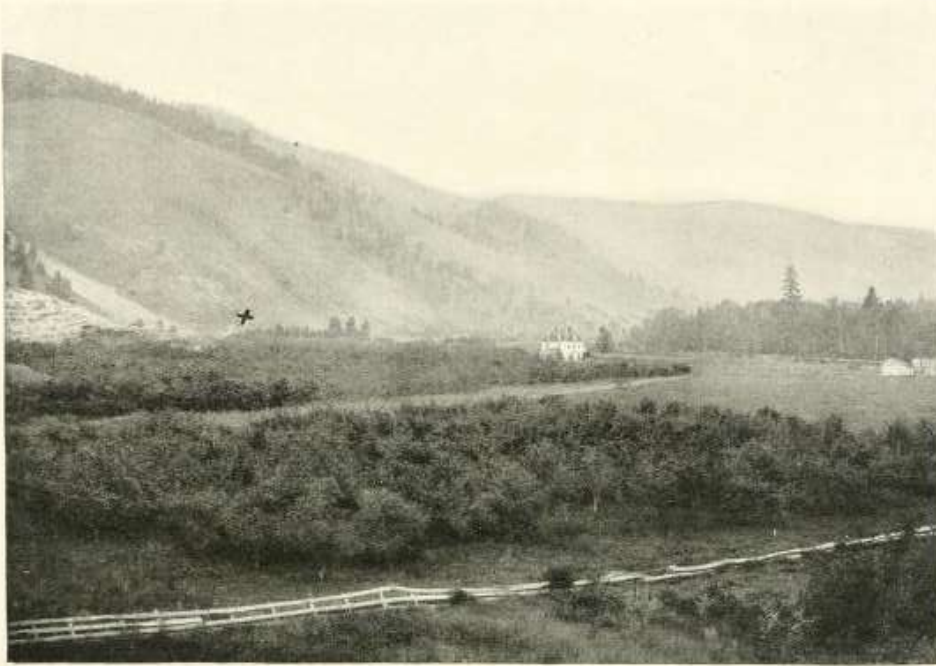
THE JOCKO RIVER, AT RAVALLI,
where it enters the proposed range.

PLATE XII.



RAVALLI AND THE JOCKO VALLEY LOOKING DOWN THE RIVER.
The hills on the right are on the southern limits of the range.
Plate XIII is a view from place marked X.

PLATE XIII.



THE JOCKO VALLEY AT RAVALLI.

Orchard, house and part of the ranch of Duncan McDonald at Ravalli. Plate XII is a view from place marked with a cross.

Duncan McDonald's ranch is shown in Plates XII and XIII. Plate XII is a view from Ravalli, looking down the Jocko River. On the right is seen the southern limits of the range; in the valley is McDonald's hay ranch and orchard. The white house belongs to the ranch, as do also the cabins. The ranch joins the range on the north.

PLATE XIV.



Copyright, 1907, by M. J. Elrod.

EASTERN SIDE OF THE PROPOSED RANGE.

This ravine is the eastern limit of the range, which is on the left. A portion of the Allard-Pablo herd is being driven down the hill along the road, for shipment to Canada.

PLATE XV.



A PORTION OF THE PABLO HERD, ON THE RANGE, FLATHEAD RESERVATION.

PLATE XVI.



Copyright, 1907, by M. J. Elrod.

A PORTION OF THE PABLO HERD, READY FOR SHIPMENT TO CANADA.

ENEMIES TO BUFFALO OR OTHER WILD ANIMALS.—Coyotes are not infrequent. Last May, while the Buffalo were being shipped from the reservation to Canada, I perched on some rocks at what is the corner of the range, with camera placed ready to photograph the herd as it was driven down the hill along the road. Not knowing when the herd would come, I waited several hours on this rocky eminence. While waiting, all unknown to me, a coyote came up to within a few feet, peering over the brow of the ridge at me, and leisurely trotted off. I was unaware of his presence until advised by those who were watching his performances. Almost any evening they may be heard in the hills about Ravalli. While coyotes are not uncommon, I have heard little or no complaint about wolves in this locality. The puma is to be found throughout the wooded portion of Montana, but it is not giving trouble in this section. There are occasional rattlesnakes reported, but during the several days that I walked and rode over the range I did not see any. It is safe to say the enemies would be no more numerous here than in other localities, and I believe they would be fewer than in the eastern ranges. They will no doubt become still scarcer as the country settles up. The Pablo herd, in their range on this reservation, has increased rapidly.

SENTIMENT OF THE PEOPLE.—Duncan McDonald rode with me over the proposed range, and talked freely. I told him exactly what was proposed. He was bitterly disappointed that the Government of the United States had permitted the Pablo Buffalo herd to go to Canada.

"What is the use of hunting for a buffalo range if the Buffalo are all gone?" was his laconic query, as he turned fiercely toward me while bemoaning the loss of the herd.

"Duncan, the Buffalo of America are not all dead yet, nor are the men who are trying to save them," I replied.

Then I told him of the animals yet living, of which he had read something, and of the plans of the American Bison Society, the men back of the effort to save the noble animal, and the great value to the community if such a herd were located in its midst.

"If we can get the range, the animals will be put on it," I stated.

"Do you think so?"

"I am sure of it."

"Professor Elrod, I hope they will do it. We all hope so. The Indians are very sorry to see the Buffalo go. They all love them. They all think the Government should keep them. They don't want to kill them. They love to see them roam over the hills and plains. Every Indian will be glad if the Government can and will save them, and keep them where they can be seen. And if there is anything in this world I can do to help, I want to do it."

All the intelligent men whom I have talked with on the reservation express the same opinion. Enterprising people in Missoula with whom the matter has been discussed are hopeful of the outcome, and greatly desire that the undertaking will be worked out successfully. The press has in a number of cases spoken highly of the proposed plan. Few have knowledge of the proposed range, and when its boundaries and the character of the land are understood the plan will meet with universal favor. I have previously mentioned the efforts of Joe Allard to interest Congress in the herd. Col. Rankin, allotting agent, is full of enthusiasm over the plan. There will not be a dissenting man, unless perhaps it may be some one who wants a portion of the range for himself.

OTHER ANIMALS THAT MAY BE PUT INTO THE RANGE.

ELK.—Several men in the Flathead Valley, 60 or 70 miles north of the present range, have elk parks in the valley country, where many of these noble animals are raised. One man has more than 50, some with very fine heads of horns. The present range is admirably adapted to elk. The timber on the hills and along the streams is suited to their habits, and the range outside of the timbered section will give them miles of running country. A start may be had from animals in the country.

ANTELOPE.—The range is admirably suited to the prong-horned antelope, which is fast disappearing, and needs greater protection. In a few places in Montana there are still herds to be found, but a range like the one proposed will give the natural conditions for a home.

DEER.—Western Montana has both white-tailed and black-tailed (mule) deer in numbers. The Indians have had free range in killing on the reservation, and here they are scarce. It is quite likely that ticks could be established on the range before fencing, and animals thus enticed into the limits of the range before it is fenced.

A drive might bring in both species of deer. The Columbian black-tail would also thrive here, without doubt. By planning ahead, animals could in all probability be secured from the wild animals of the vicinity.

There is considerable undergrowth in the timber, and along the rock ridges there is quite a little growth of bushy plants, enough to supply food of this kind for a fair sized herd.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN SHEEP.—These animals formerly roamed over this entire section, and several bands are in the adjacent mountain ranges. They should do well on this range, as it has open summits, rock cliffs, timbered ridges and open slopes.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN GOAT.—While there are no summer snow banks in the range, there are cool springs and ravines. The goat should be able to hold its own, even if it does not thrive as well as the other animals mentioned.

BLUE GROUSE.—Several of these birds were flushed while walking through the timber. There is an abundance of food for summer, and excellent nesting cover.

RUFFED GROUSE.—No ruffed grouse were seen on my visits, but along the Jocko and Mission Creeks they are found, without doubt, and in the brush and thickets around the springs and along streams is their natural home.

WESTERN SHARP-TAILED GROUSE.—In the cultivated fields these birds are often found in large-sized flocks. They may be on the range.

BOB-WHITE.—This eastern game bird has been introduced around Missoula, in the Bitter-Root Valley, and in the Flathead Valley. They have done well, and have greatly multiplied. During the summer they may be heard any day around the upper end of Flathead Lake. In the range they would have plenty of food in summer, but would probably need attention in winter, unless some crop was grown for them.

NAMES.—The names of creeks, ridges and mountains are all of Indian origin.

Quilseeh (Red Sleep), mountain, was named for Mrs. Duncan McDonald.

Seelaw, mountain, named for one of the United States Indian Judges of the reservation; a leading man, who lived near Dixon and died in 1906.

Wheewheetlchaye (many grizzly bear), ridge, with summit east of Quilseeh; named for an old Pend d'Oreille Indian chief.

Inskaltesshin (a dead dragon), ridge and gulch, leading south from Quilseeh.

Kaiimi, gulch and creek, named for an old Indian, now dead.

Chimtaupeh (bob-tail), gulch, named for an old Indian.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.—Duncan McDonald, of Ravalli, was kind enough to ride with me over the range and give me much help in understanding its general features and character. He gave me the information about the springs and streams, and in regard to the feeding capacity of the range. Col. Rankin, Indian allotting agent for the Government, has rendered great assistance. I am indebted to him for the map of the range, and for other courtesies. Major W. H. Smead, of Missoula, permitted me to photograph and use his map of the Flat-head Reservation, marked in sections, and with all lines and streams indicated. Many others have rendered assistance in minor ways.

p. 48

1908 Annual report of the American Bison Society by American Bison Society, <https://archive.org/details/annualreportofambs00amer/page/n31>



MISSION CREEK, NORTHERN BOUNDARY OF MONTANA BISON RANGE.
Photograph by Dr. C. Hart Merriam.



ASPEN GROVE ON MISSOIN CREEK, NORTHEASTERN CORNER MONTANA BISON RANGE.
 Photograph by Dr. C. Hart Merriam.



FRESHWATER POND IN MONTANA NATIONAL BISON RANGE.
 Southwestern portion, Missoula Mountains in the distance.
 Photograph by Dr. C. Hart Merriam.



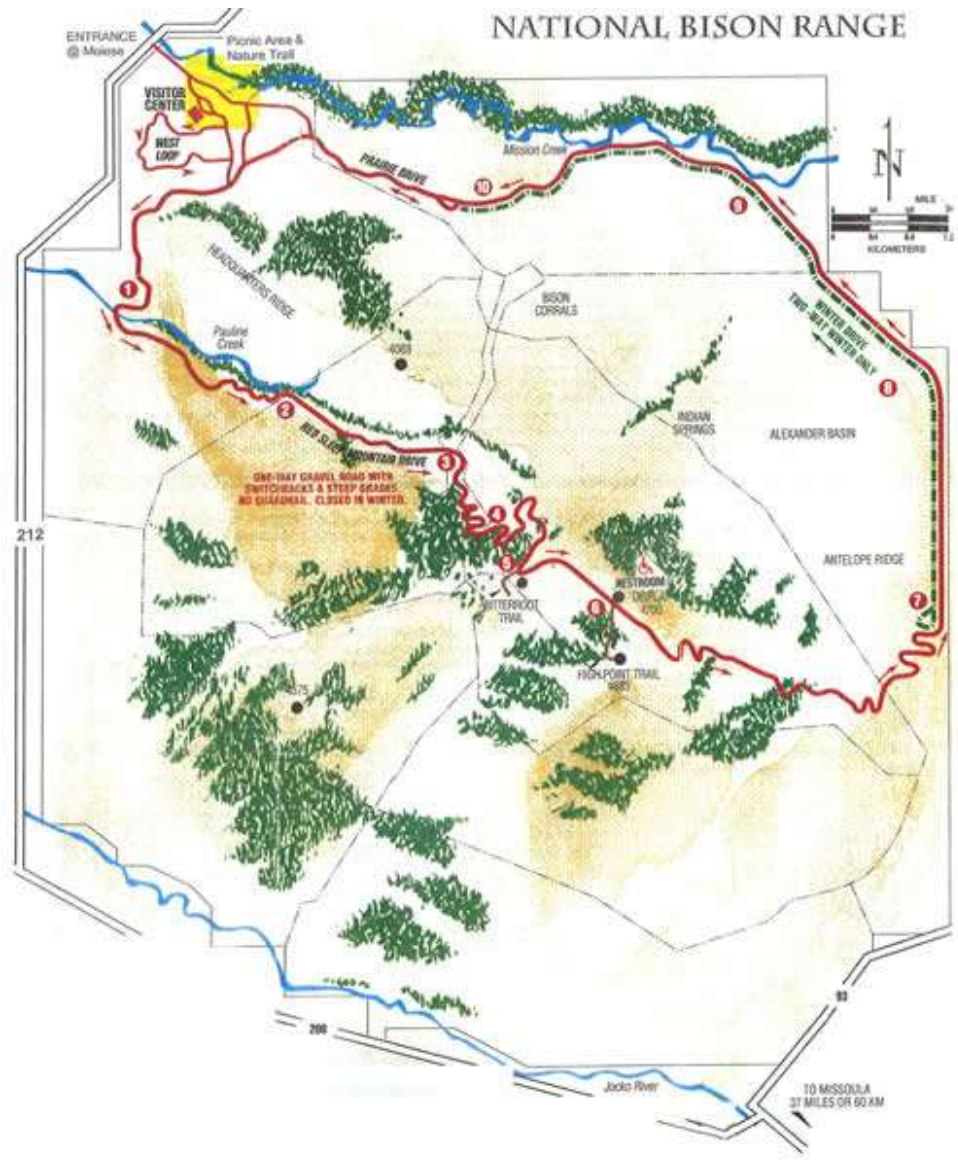
GRAZING GROUNDS AND WOODED SHELTER, MONTANA BISON RANGE.
 Photograph by Dr. C. Hart Merriam.



MISSION CREEK, ON NORTH SIDE OF BISON RANGE.
 Showing volume of water.
 Photograph by Dr. C. Hart Merriam.

Annual_report_of_the_American_Bison_Society_(1907)

https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/7/74/Annual_report_of_the_American_Bison_Society_%281907%29_%2818435595881%29.jpg/1200px-Aannual_report_of_the_American_Bison_Society_%281907%29_%2818435595881%29.jpg



<https://www.fws.gov/bisonrange/images/NBR-map.jpg>

The Story of the National Bison Range will be told in Part Four.