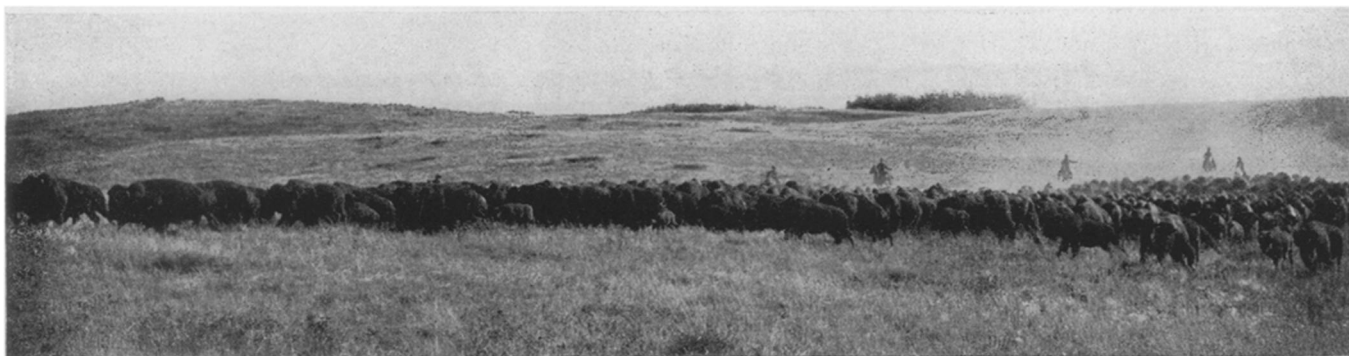




NOT BY ANY MEANS "THE LAST ROUNDUP"

The thundering herd shakes the plain again every year, when the Canadian managers of the great national herd of bison round up their shaggy cattle in the great Buffalo Preserve near Wainright, Alberta, preparatory to "cutting out" the surplus animals selected for slaughter and distribution as meat and hides.

riculture showed, a dozen years ago, that length of exposure to daylight has a great deal of effect on the flowering and fruiting of plants, more attention began to be paid to the general subject.

Working independently of the Russian experimenters, both in the U. S. S. R. and in this country, two other Department of Agriculture research men, H. H. McKinney and W. J. Sando, have developed a technique of pre-treating seeds by slightly germinating them and then chilling them in the dark for 50 to 65 days before sowing. They have been able to produce two or more crops of some winter wheat varieties in a single year by this method, which does not involve the development of such exact formulae for moisture, time and temperature as are called for in yarovization.

Science News Letter, November 11, 1933

HORTICULTURE

Apple Trees of World Number Half Billion

THERE are nearly 500,000,000 apple trees in the world, and of these the United States has approximately one-quarter.

A British Empire Marketing Board report points out that, though the numbers of apple trees in Britain, the United States and many parts of Europe have fallen considerably, there has been no decline in the average amount of fruit produced. In the United States, the reduction was by 100,000,000 between 1910 and 1930. The maintenance of production is due to the gradual rationalization of the world's apple industry, many countries having followed the example of America in growing apples in commercial orchards.

Science News Letter, November 11, 1933

GAME MANAGEMENT

Canada Kills 2000 Bison; Meat and Hides Marketed

BUFFALO meat will be available once more for homes, hotels and restaurants of this continent during November and December, following the decision of the Canadian Department of the Interior to reduce the government's buffalo herds at Buffalo National Park near Wainright, Alberta, by two thousand head. This wholesale slaughter recalls the settlement of the western country, when hunters and settlers wiped out nearly all the bison of the plains, killing more than a million of the animals in less than twenty years.

This year's slaughter is necessary because of the increase of the herd at Wainright to 7,500 head. There is only grazing room for about 5,000 animals at this preserve, where twenty-five years ago the Canadian government brought a nuclear herd of 716 animals. It is estimated that this original small herd has grown to 23,000 animals, including those moved to other preserves and those which have died naturally or been killed off for meat by the government.

Strictly up-to-date methods are used in preparing the 1933 bison for the meat market. The whole herd is rounded up annually and the animals selected for slaughter are separated in special corrals. The buffalo hunt of older days has been replaced by a modern abattoir and the animals are killed under the direction of inspectors of the Canadian Department of Agriculture.

In pioneer days, when countless thou-

sands of buffalo were killed, only the tongue and part of the carcass surrounding the hump were utilized for food. Modern slaughtering methods have made possible many other choice cuts from the American bison, and a variety of steaks, chops and roasts will be on the market marked with government inspection stamps.

Not all the buffalo meat will be eaten fresh. A number of the animals will be used to supply food to destitute Eskimos and Indians in Canada's far north. The meat is dried and shipped to the northern police posts, where the constables will distribute it to families in want.

In the West, buffalo robes and buffalo coats will be worn this year, for the hides of the buffalo are tanned. Modern fur-dressing methods have produced buffalo pelts superior to those which once were found in the homes of the early western settlers. And the Mounted Police will have new buffalo coats to wear on the Arctic trail.

Besides the herd of buffalo at Wainright, Alberta, the Dominion has small herds at other western game preserves and a herd of approximately 15,000 animals in Wood Buffalo Park, at the boundary of Alberta and the North West Territory, where a 17,000 square mile reserve is maintained for the buffalo. Nearly 7,000 buffalo have been shipped in recent years from Wainright to Wood Buffalo Park.

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