

SITTING BULL HELPS THE OLD PEOPLE

By Bear Soldier

While camping along the Little Missouri River country about the summer of 1874, Sitting Bull, with a small party of hunters started out for buffalo and other games. There was getting to be scarcity of food in the camp and the older men were clamoring for donations.

It happened, the wind was blowing from the North at a furious rate. A prairie fire seemed to be chasing a herd of buffaloes was seen and there was a general rejoicing among the hunters in spite of the fire. Something very mysterious occurred instantly. It was claimed that all the hunters, without exception, were praying very fervently for help.

When the fire was almost two, three, miles the course of the wind suddenly changed followed by a shower. By this time the buffaloes were exhausted by the fire nearly at their hoofs. The hunters immediately gave chase and in a short time killed the whole herd.

Sitting Bulls share of the killing was three buffaloes. After skinning and dressing the animals they started home rather feeling that the Great Mysterious had bestowed upon them a great favor and saved them from a famine.

When they got back to the camp, the people, especially the older members of the Tribe were waiting very anxiously for the return of the hunters. The camp crier was on deck to make special announcements which the hunters decide to make. Sitting Bull seeing the starving old timers called the crier who made an announcement to the effect that the meat from one buffalo brought back by Sitting Bull, was donated to the five oldest squaws in the camp who were in great distress. No sooner announced than five old ladies were brought and it was needless to say that they were sent away glad.