

Then he threw his blanket off, and showed me a bullet hole through the left arm, received that day and from which the blood was trickling, remarking, "I was one of your police, who brought back the soldiers, and what were they brought for?"

Very reluctantly I had to reply, "I am sorry, my friend, but I am no longer your agent." . . . . .

What was back of the Ghost Dance so far as Pine Ridge was concerned?

A shortage in the beef ration, resulting hunger, and a hard winter.

The Government Indian beef contract, provided that "all beef received under this contract shall be what is known as Northern Wintered Beef, i. e., fed for not less than two winters preceding delivery, on Northern Ranges." For experience had shown that the shrinkage on "through Texas beef," by reason of the severity of the Dakota winters, would amount to about 40% to 50%.

In this connection it should be remembered that hides, horns, hoofs, and bones do not shrink, but the shrinkage comes out of the edible portion of the animal.

In the previous October 5,000 head of beef had been received under the contract to be herded for issue and food during the winter.

In January following the Battle of Wounded Knee, I examined the Agency Beef Herd, remaining out of that 5,000 head, and found that the animals were all "through Texas Beef" carrying nothing but the Texas brands, and no Northern Ranch brands, hence the shrinkage and resulting hunger.

About that time Harries, correspondent for the Washington Star, happened along, and interviewed me, and he referred later in his paper,