

which every warrior is provided before they go on the expedition. Each warrior has a charm given him by the medicine man, sometimes a bird or animal he has dreamed about. If it is a sacred stone it is fixed so it can be worn around the owner's neck. If it some species of bird the feather of the bird is carried in the bag. If it an animal the hair or any part of the animal is carried very carefully in the bag. This has to be passed on by the medicine man. A man couldn't make a charm of his own. This is the only thing they depended on for good luck. This charm may be the man's charm all his life. A man doesn't change it. I never heard of any man's changing his charm.

Any man can wear a ball of buffalo wool who has been successful on the buffalo hunt. He would wear this in addition to a charm. It is for a man who is very skillful with the bow and arrow. There are other ways of signifying their attitude toward the buffalo as an animal - by wearing the horns, etc, but this buffalo shed wool is generally worn to signify that the wearer is entitled to it on account of some rare deed on the buffalo hunt. It is only old men who wear it. You hardly see young men wearing it even though they have gone on the buffalo hunt. It signifies the same thing whoever wears it. It means that he has killed a great number of buffalo and not only that but that he donated a part of it to some needy one. When you hear the old fellows get together they will sometimes exaggerate the number of buffalo killed, but 5 were good hunting. The Indians consider the buffalo hunt dangerous because they get right in the herd. They are all anxious to kill the buffalo so they take a lot of chances. There is a prairie near Slim Butte north of Black Hills. On the prairie the Sioux had one of the biggest buffalo hunts in the old times. One man got thrown off a horse and was stampeded by the herd. They call that "stampede prairie". This man was trampled on by hundreds of buffalo.