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SPRING HORSE DRIVE

HORSES DRIVEN 66 MILES FROM WINTERING GROUNDS TO
BANFF NATIONAL PARK FOR PARK WARDEN WORK

Alberta, May, 1961.

Every spring, horses which have spent the winter in their wintering grounds at the Canadian Government Yaha Tinda Ranch in Alberta are rounded up and driven through some of Canada's most scenic countryside with fascinating names to Banff National Park for use by the Park Wardens in patrolling their districts, to preserve the beautiful natural playgrounds in Banff National Park - one of the many in a chain stretching across Canada. The Park Wardens patrol the boundaries of the Park which covers over 2,500 square miles, ensuring that the wild life is protected, being helpful to tourists, checking fishing licenses, checking the riding trails, watching for fire hazards, and generally maintaining the services of the Park.

Our story covers the round up of the horses, separating those to be taken in from the grazing land for shoeing, and the actual making of the horseshoes at the forge. When weather conditions permit due to the late spring this year, the Park Wardens arrive at Yaha Tinda to start the 66 mile drive to Banff.

The horses are driven from Yaha Tinda, past Bighorn Falls, through Bighorn Creek Canyon to Scotch Camp where a lunch stop is made - the horses are fed and the trail cook produces delicious steaks for the sustenance of the Wardens. Following a well-deserved rest, the trek is on again - over Snow Pass, 8000', the highest point on the trip; through streams and the swift Panther River; over the Cuthead; through Cascade Valley and down a little fire road in this valley; to a paved road; across the C.P.R. railway tracks; and through the gate at the Banff National Park. The final sequences are of the horses in the Banff corral - the end of the line with mountains in the background - all ready for the beginning of a new season's work.

Shot listSPRING HORSE DRIVE

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1. LS horses with mountains in the background
2. LS Bighorn Falls
3. LS Bighorn Creek Canyon tilt up to horses on range
4. LS wardens ride out to get horses
5. LS horses in snow
6. LS deer in woods
7. LS horses running in snow
8. LS horses on range
9. MLS pan horses coming to Government Ranch - Yaha Tinde
10. MS horses entering gate of corral
11. HAMS ditto
12. MS ditto
13. MS mare and colt
14. MS warden slipping halter on horse
15. MS warden leading two horses into barn
16. MS same - silhouette from inside barn
17. LS forge - blacksmith making horseshoe
18. CU ditto
19. CU blacksmith putting shoe on hoof
20. CU horse
21. LS blacksmith trimming hoof
22. LS same action - another horse
23. CU cowboy lighting cigarette
24. MS colt chewing wheelbarrow
25. MS wardens watching from corral fence
26. LS horses leaving ranch
27. CU little girl watching action from fence
28. LS horses running across range
29. LS ditto, reverse angle
30. LS warden galloping across
31. LS pan horses entering corral at Scotch Camp for lunch break
32. CU barbecuing steaks
33. MS cook calling wardens
34. MS wardens eating lunch
35. LS ditto

36. MS horses leaving corral
37. LS horses crossing snow in valley
38. LS horses in deep snow
39. LS horses crossing snow beside lake
40. LS horses approaching on trail
41. LS reverse angle - horses in trees
42. LS horses entering stream
43. MS warden drinking from hat
44. MLS horses crossing swift river
45. LS ditto
46. MS horses and rider leaving river
47. MS tracking with rider
48. LS horses and riders pass camera - mountains in background
49. LS horses and rider crossing snow
50. MS tracking with rider
51. HALS horses reaching road
52. MS tracking on road
53. MS tracking with rider
54. LS back lit - riders on dusty fire road from Cascade Valley
55. HALS horses, rider and dog on road
56. LS pan - similar
57. LS tracking horses on road
58. MLS horses leaving last patch of snow
59. MLS horses on railway crossing
60. HALS horses entering corral at Banff National Park
61. MS ditto
62. LS warden directing horses
63. LS warden lassoing horses
64. LS end of trail - corral
65. CU warden
66. MS two wardens on horseback
67. CU warden
68. CU mass of horses in corral
69. LS mountains