

2 - E.A. Goldman  
Apr. 10 - Apr. 19, 1920.



Wyoming

1920

April 10 (Sat.) Jackson,  
Remained at J.. In morning  
went out to ranch and  
saw elk being fed. They  
contrast strongly with  
many seen in Hoback  
country, their ~~form~~  
appearance being very  
much better. About 2000 are  
now on feeding ground, but  
Howlin says while I was  
gone about 4500 came in  
~~for a day~~ were on the  
ground for a day or two only,  
or at least a thousand more  
than when I left. Today  
it is raining and  
snowing again. Elk  
are considerably scattered  
on the flat and Howlin

Planesticus  
~~Monta~~ m. prop. Saw my  
Robin ~~near~~ in a field  
near town.

says they are restless and  
evidently anxious to go,  
but bad weather holds  
them back.

~~of the~~

Canada junc. There  
are said to remain in  
small numbers all winter  
but there are more of  
them just now. About  
25 were scattered along  
the bottom.

Thermella neglecta.  
Meadow larks were  
singing this morning.  
First time I have heard  
them.

Agelaius. ~~and~~ a  
single male redwing  
was seen and heard

snoging.

Apr. 11 (Sun.), Jackson  
to temporary R.S. half  
way between Kelly and  
Horseshoe R.S. McLean  
and I left Jackson and  
rode on horseback to  
Kelly arriving about 3 PM.  
Left Jackson 10.30 AM  
and floundered through  
much snow. It was  
clear this morning and  
melting rapidly and  
horses sank down in  
many places into deep  
snow. We finally crossed  
the Gros Ventre on the  
ice.

Elk, a few elk only  
were seen <sup>along the way</sup> ~~after~~ near  
A

Kelly where they remain  
all winter. Bounding hills  
on both sides of the  
valley are barren. A  
band of about 10 was  
seen near Kelly, and  
just above several were  
seen feeding along the  
bottom of the valley with  
some cattle. Strobel the  
ranger says about 138  
were ~~seen~~ <sup>in the mountains</sup> staying in the  
vicinity of Elk crossing,  
just above the R.S., but  
of these a great many  
of the calves died.  
He reports that elk are scattered  
through the higher country  
at the head of the Gros Ventre  
and that some bunches are

wintering well at 10000 ft.  
altitude.

Apr. 12 (Mon.). McLean  
and I continued from  
near elk crossing to Horsetail  
R.S. where we arrived  
about noon and learned  
that the people up the  
valley where we planned to  
stay will not be able to  
take care of us tonight,  
so we are obliged to stay  
here.

Elk. A few seen along  
the bottom and north side  
of Gros Ventre. Some of these  
are trying to find feed  
along the bare slopes of  
what are known as the  
Red Hills. While the elk

are very poor here I believe they are in better shape than those wintering in the Hobaruk area. We passed Elk Ford just above the house this morning and I took a photo. Calves are said to be held here some time in the latter part of June and early July ~~get~~ persuading their calves to cross. At this time the water is highest in the Gros Centre. Shoben says he says <sup>he has</sup> seen 50 calves left south of the river in a bunch, while their mothers crossed to the opposite side. It was snowing hard

when we got up this ~~morning~~ morning, but soon cleared and the day was bright and warm ~~and~~ with a considerable thawing.

Apr. 13 (Tue.) <sup>Harsetail R.S.</sup>

Gunther at Harsetail R.S. was with Puelle in some of his work. Says Puelle talked with many people regarding elk conditions. Gunther says that several hundred cows may be held up at a time trying to get their calves across the Gros Centre. He has seen 100 calves lying among the aspens on the south side while their mothers crossed to the Parer, over-

grazed slopes on north side  
and tried to coax them  
over.

McLean & I made a  
trip up along the Gros  
Ventre valley to beyond  
the mouth Crystal Creek  
and climbed to the top  
of hill affording a fine  
view of the surrounding  
country, especially the  
so-called Crystal Creek  
hills. From this vantage  
point I counted about  
200 elk grazing over the  
almost bare, rolling hills.  
While this is an area  
producing little forage it  
is evidently important  
for elk and there is real

conflict here with cattle.  
The important elk range  
is mainly on the south  
side of the Gros Ventre.  
A number of elk have ranged  
here all winter, and  
appear to be, most of them,  
in fair condition and there  
are some calves among  
them. Apparently few have  
died. Looking up the  
State Creek drainage there  
does not appear to be so  
very much range that is  
especially important for  
elk. The haystack meadow  
east of the State Creek was  
not visited, but is said  
to be too deep in snow  
for good winter elk range



We stopped at the Turpin Ranch near the mouth of Crystal Creek and talked with Claude Simpson who has been feeding state hay to elk at this point. He says that most of the time he has been feeding 400-500 elk. When there are ~~to~~ 500 he fed about a ton of hay a day. But the elk have been leaving lately. Yesterday only 6 came to the hay. However, we saw about 15 on the feeding ground when we passed on our way back to the R.S. this afternoon. He has been trapping and tagging

wick often happens along  
the valley and says that  
small bands of elk are  
scattered through the  
outlying country, many of  
them wintering well at  
high elevations. About 60,  
all bulls, wintered in the  
hills to the north of the  
ranch. A considerable  
number wintered on the north  
side of the valley of a  
fork of Crystal Creek S.E. of  
Sheep Mt. The most  
important part of the  
winter range for elk is  
along the south side of  
the Gros Ventre from <sup>west of</sup> Crystal  
Creek <sup>east</sup> to Goosewing Creek,  
Estanias. One noted near

the barn at Horsetail R.S.  
today.

Myadestes town. Several  
were seen near the  
mouth of Crystal Creek. Two  
flying along together were  
seen to alight on the snow  
and then fly up into an  
~~Engelmann~~ Engelmann spruce.  
Sage hen. <sup>A pair of</sup> ~~Two~~ sage hens  
were seen on some partly  
uncovered ground on a  
barren hill side near  
Horsetail R.S.

Weather. It snowed part  
of forenoon, but partially  
cleared and thawed freely.

Apr. 14 (Wed.) Horsetail  
R.S. to Jackson.

McLean and I left Horsetail

about 9 a.m. about 4 inches  
of snow fell last night, but  
it stopped early this morning  
and soon began to thaw  
some. Day was overcast and  
raw however. On warmer  
slopes new fall of snow  
melted rapidly. Reached  
Jackson about 6 P.M. Saw  
very few elk along the  
road today.

Apr. 15 (Thurs),

Newlin says last last year Gillman offered his land at \$35 per a. and Crawford \$45. In fact price not heard as he would not set any, but it would probably be the same as Crawford's. These are good stiff prices, but as things go now are more reasonable than the \$25 was at the time elk refuge was purchased.

Hay. Average yield of present elk ranch about 600 T. - last year only about 300 T. owing to drought. Gillman place

would be practically all  
pasture owing swampy  
character. Crawford place  
would yield 250 T. and  
Infangin place 100 T. This  
would give us about  
<sup>900</sup> 950 T. on an average which  
Nowlin thinks would ~~carry~~  
carry the elk through with  
the increased pasture  
in good shape. In recent  
years - about 5 years - elk  
have been fed on an  
average about 800 T.  
Winiger place added  
would be better and  
would yield about  
200 T. of hay. Martin  
place would be better than  
Winiger in some respects.

It would yield a splendid lot of feed, but only about 100 tons of hay. Giltner talked last year as though he was anxious to sell his place to the Govt and not to any one else. Nowlin has let outside parties have about 65 tons which is all that can be spared, leaving about 35 tons on hand. Feeding has practically ceased, but about 15 tons needed for ranch work. Pedersen is violently against the elk, but most people in the valley are favorable to keeping the elk. Elk probably did not exceed 15000 head.

last fall or beginning of  
winter. Winter losses <sup>on</sup> ~~in~~  
winter refuges estimated by  
Nowlin at 150, of these  
about 75 have died in  
last two weeks, mostly  
calves, but there has  
been an unusual number  
of grown elk have died  
which Nowlin lays largely  
to crippling last fall.

One case pending against  
a stupid sort of big boy  
who shot 12 elk between  
Snake Riv. and Grosvent,  
adjoining ranch of Moulton,  
a prominent stockman  
who is believed to have  
encouraged him. ~~He~~  
He took the heads of these



elk and was caught  
shooting the last one by  
Nowlin's son and Edwin  
Nelson, Wash. He did  
not understand what a  
felony meant, and was  
evidently very ignorant.  
at Lutz's place plate has  
fed about 118 tons and  
a car load of cottonseed  
cake.

Miller. Had a bath  
with Miller in evening.

Apr. 16 (Fri.) Jackson  
to Victor Wyo.

Left Jackson this morning  
in heavy snow storm and  
slayed across Teton Pass to  
Victor, arriving late in  
afternoon. Snow on summit  
deeper than when I crossed  
before.

Lusk estimates that on an average 25000 tons of hay are produced annually in Jackson Valley while, 50000 acres of patented land now vacant, could be cultivated or irrigated and made to produce 100000 tons of hay or 1 ton per acre. He says Mr. Miller estimates that the acreage is near 150000.

Ray Ferrin has about 1200 cattle  
Hotchkiss outfit (skinner) 3000 head  
Others are smaller outfits.

Most of the people have 30 or 40 to 150 - Lusk has 160 cattle

Spread bk. country overgrazed.  
Many elk in early winter  
reach Gros Ventre by narrow  
pass down State Creek

A few elk and moose are  
killed by snow slides along  
east side of Tetons. They  
sometimes start down by  
climbing up along the slopes,  
after snow slide has passed  
it sometimes uncovers grazing  
areas. Last year moose  
shed their horns in Dec.  
~~that~~ usually before Xmas,  
~~last~~ winter about Dec.  
7 head came ~~at~~ night  
and did some damage to  
hay near Elk P.O. Bulls  
generally drift toward summer  
range ahead of cows. On  
average years elk cross  
state line divide between  
5 & 10 of Nov. and go  
back ~~to~~ during June

Luck says as late as about  
1890 thousands of geese  
nested along Snake River - a  
few only remain. Mallard  
ducks still winter in con-  
siderable numbers and  
remain the year around.  
He has known jacksnipe to  
to remain all winter about  
warm springs near Luck's Ranch.  
As late as 1890 swans nested  
about the lakes near Moran,  
and remained along Flat Creek  
near Jackson all winter.  
He has seen 100 at one time.  
None have been seen recently.  
Last summer he saw in Aug.  
a pelican at Enos Lake, a day  
or two later he found the  
bird dead. Someone had shot

it with a rifle. Flat lake is normally fed mainly at low water by springs in the swamp.

Apr. 17 (Sat.)  
Nihoa in route to Ogdun.  
Left Nihoa 3.05 P.M.  
for Ogdun.

Apr. 17 (Sun.) Ogden.  
Arrived Ogden 6:30 a.m. Met  
J.W. Nelson and had long  
talk with him.



Apr 19 (Mon.), Ogden  
\* en route Wash. left Ogden  
2.15 P.M.

Crawford,

400 a.

\$45 per a.

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2000

1600

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\$ 18000

