

### JIM BURNETT

My roots are sunk deep into this remote ranch at Luther, Mont., for my father **J. M. Burnett** settled in this area in 1891. He came shortly after the area lost its status as Indian Territory. This ranch shows the results of many decades of hard work and affectionate care. He homesteaded, too, when the homestead act came in.

My mother is living in Red Lodge. Father has passed on.

I was born July 1, 1917, on the ranch at Luther, Mont., and I am still living on the ranch. I attended Volney Creek elementary school, Red Lodge school, Billings Polytechnic Institute and Army Air Corp Cadet training.

I entered the armed forces reserve in 1941, was released from active duty in 1945 but remained in the Air Force Reserve with a primary duty as air intelligence staff officer and I am attached to the Air Force Academy as liaison officer with the rank of Major. I spent 39 months in the service during World War II, then returned to the ranch.

In addition to ranching I am active in civic affairs. We have a home where the Catalo room, a ranch snugged up against the east



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flank of the Beartooths, 15 miles northwest of Red Lodge. I have been about a decade experimenting with crossing the buffalo with the Herefords and I think I have made a unique accomplishment. What surprises the animal husbandry professors who have trekked to my ranch is that the breed got past the first generation. The Canadian government worked for 30 years at establishing the breed and gave up. My curiosity and the fun of diversifying ranch life led me to the crossing of wild range buffalo with domesticated animals, mainly my intent was to start a new breed. If I am successful the meat of the animal will taste like beef with a buffalo flavor while the growth, size and weight will approximate the buffalo. One animal that has been slaughtered, three-quarter buffalo and one-quarter Hereford, tasted mostly like buffalo, but unusually succulent buffalo. I keep a herd of two dozen buffalo on the ranch and I separate them from the cattle during breeding season so I can maintain control of my experiment.



Jim Burnett's Catalo

I married Alice E. Boggie on Dec. 12, 1941, at Billings, Mont. Three children were born to this union: James Dwight, deceased; Delores Jay who married Ronald De Vries and lives at Luther, Mont. and Diane Alice who also lives at Luther.

"I am bound to live up to the light I have. I must stand with anyone who stands right, stand with him while he is right and part with him when he goes wrong".

### FRANK L. BUSCH

I was born on my father's farm five miles north of Canton, Mo., Jan. 27, 1880. My father came to America in 1844 on his eighth birthday, from Becholt, Germany. My mother was born in Elringhausen, Waldeck, Germany, and came to America with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Wagner, in 1846.

At 11, I began driving a team in the field and always missed the first month of school to assist with the seeding. I graduated from Canton High School in 1903, then did some work at the Teachers College at Warrensburg, Mo., and taught two terms before going west in 1905 to teach in Montana. I first taught 11 miles north of Deer Lodge and then came east to teach on the south side of Powder River.

I filed on a homestead on Powder River; it included the land where the school house was situated. I acquired other land and built my holdings up to about 2,000 acres. After teaching a few terms there, I was elected to the principalship of public schools in Ekalaka, Mont.

Beginning the second year at Ekalaka I introduced one year of high school work, the following year more high school subjects were added and it was under my administration in 1916 that Ekalaka first became an accredited high school.

In 1916 I married Norma Maye Moore of Ekalaka, a teacher. Two sons were born to us, Frank Jr. who served in World War II as a bomber pilot is presently assistant professor of history at Western Montana College at Dillon, Mont. He is married and has one son and three daughters. Charles Grover, born April 27, 1923, passed away May 20, 1928.

I discontinued teaching after 1917 and I and my wife moved to our ranch. I had previously bought a surveying outfit and had acquired a knowledge of surveying and water engineering and newcomers gave me a profitable side-line for the next several years.

In 1919 when the legislature created Powder River County, I was named in the bill as County Surveyor and held the office through several elective terms until I resigned.

In 1939 we sold our ranch and moved to Missoula and the next year bought a small farm and engaged in the small fruit business. We still own the farm and operate it for a home. I do that instead of taking medicine. I am now 90 years old and have no aches or pains. I attribute my long life to eating lots of apples and drinking lots of water when growing up.

Though I discontinued teaching in 1917, I am still interested in furthering my own education. I have written many papers and my



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