

ing the seeds with a photomicrographic apparatus, enlarging them a sufficient number of times, it is easy to bring the markings within the range of size where the use of the planimeter becomes a practical matter.

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April 28

#### SURPLUS BISON FOR MUSEUMS

THERE is now a great surplus of male bison in the main Canadian herd at Buffalo Park, Wainright, Alberta. This is the largest herd of bison in the world, numbering 3,561 and is maintained by the Canadian government under the administration of the Dominion Parks Branch of the Department of the Interior.

Besides these 3,561 bison, there are also 8 at the Rocky Mountains Park, Banff, Alberta, and 182 at Elk Island Park, Lamont, Alberta. In 1909, there was a total of 685 bison at Buffalo Park, 118 were imported during 1910, 1911 and 1912 from the Pablo herd in Montana, and 10 bison cows from the Rocky Mountains Park during the winter of 1913-14. With the exception of these the increase has been due to natural causes.

It is said that elsewhere the percentage of male to female calves has been higher among bison in semi-captivity within enclosed parks than was the case when the herds freely roamed the plains. This has proved to be the case in the main Canadian herd, so that there is a great surplus of male bison that are not needed for herd purposes.

It is proposed to dispose of these surplus male bison for the nominal sum of \$250 each to bonafide natural history museums of Canada and the United States, and further information can be obtained by such museums from Mr. J. B. Harkin, Commissioner of Dominion Parks, Department of the Interior, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada.

This should prove a splendid opportunity not only to secure skins for mounted specimens and groups, but also for museums to send their preparators to Buffalo Park to secure photographs, color sketches and acces-

sories for habitat groups, and to secure skeletons, anatomical preparations of internal organs and parasites.

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#### INFORMATION SERVICE FOR EXPERIMENTAL BIOLOGISTS

TO THE EDITOR OF SCIENCE: The Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology, comprising the sciences of physiology, biological chemistry, pharmacology and experimental pathology, is now organizing an information service to serve as a medium of communication between persons seeking positions for teaching or research and institutions that wish to fill vacancies in these sciences. Persons, whether members of the federation or not, and institutions desiring to avail themselves of the service may communicate with Professor Edgar D. Brown, secretary of the executive committee of the federation, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minn., and such information as is available will be supplied without cost to the applicant. Applicants are requested to supply the service with ten copies of their application, which should cover the following points:

1. *For the Person seeking a Position:* age; college and university training; degrees received; academic or other positions held; list of scientific papers published; membership in scientific societies; position and salary desired; copies of letters of recommendation; names and addresses of persons who can supply further information regarding the applicant; and any other information that the applicant desires to submit.

2. *For the Institution desiring to fill a Vacancy:* title of vacant position; date to be filled; requirements as to teaching or other routine work and research; salary to be paid; prospects of tenure of office and advancement; and any other information that the institution desires to submit.

The service does not undertake to recommend or to pass judgment upon applicants. It aims merely to serve as a clearing-house for such information as the above and to