

Despite inadequate equipment, between 500 and 600 head were gathered in, but the round-up revealed that many cattle had been lost. It was a disconcerting blow to these pioneers of Alberta's great stock-raising industry; however, most of them recovered from their losses and in later years became men of wealth.

Sergeant Parker, who was the captain of that first round-up, had for some time been considering a change and on Nov. 3, 1879, the date his time in the N.W.M.P. expired, he took the plunge and settled down on a farm near Macleod with a few head of cattle which he bought from J. J. Healey of Whoop-Up. He had joined the Force on Nov. 3, 1873. In 1888 he captained the eastern Pincher Creek autumn round-up and was presented with a pair of silver-mounted spurs from his fellow-members as a token of their appreciation for his able handling of the arrangements; the same year he was appointed to the branding committee for the Pincher Creek district.

No review of the cattle kingdom history would be complete without some mention of Reg. No. 22, ex-Sgt. David J. Cochrane. The dates of his N.W.M.P. engagement and discharge coincide exactly with those of Parker. Both men had three years' service and both belonged to "C" Troop. But there the similarity ended. Parker was steady and dependable, while Cochrane was devil-may-care by nature. In the course of his "business" as a rancher-farmer, he had many varied encounters with his whilom brothers-in-arms. Story has it that just before the Blood Indians were moved to the reservation which had been set aside for them Cochrane had squatted on it and though he had no legal claim to the holding succeeded in laughing the embryo Indian Department into paying him \$3,500 before he consented to vacate.

Of all the names of policemen which are perpetuated in ranch annals none is better known than that of Captain William Winder. Appointed superintendent and sub-inspector in the N.W.M.P. on



**J. G. "Kooteni" Brown, claimed to be the first settler in the Alberta foot-hills country.**

Sept. 25, 1873, he commanded "C" Troop during the historic westward march of the Mounted Police and held that post until he retired on Apr. 1, 1880, with the rank of superintendent. Most of the men at Macleod who left the Force to become ranchers during that period were at one time or another under his command.

In 1876 his wife and family followed him to the West, and when he returned to civilian life he decided to make his home in this new land. Going to Montreal, he formed the Winder Ranch Company, secured a lease, returned to the West and purchased some 1,200 head of mixed cattle. His primary objective, however, was to breed choice remounts for the police. As ranch manager he proved to be most progressive, but his untimely death in 1885 cut short a career that presaged future success and an enviable reputation.