Medicine In The Old West

Cowboys & the Trappings of the Old WestThe Forgotten FoundersThe Old WestSaloons of the Old WestThe Old WestEyewitness to the Old WestSeeking Pleasure in the Old WestIn the Old WestDeep Trails in the Old WestThe Best of American Heritage: The Old WestPassing of the FrontierThe Passing of the FrontierOn the Trail of the Old WestEntertainment in the Old WestFrontier WaysGambling in the Old WestMan-Hunters of the Old WestThe Old West in Fact and FilmThe Old West William Manns Stewart L. Udall Tim McNeese Richard Erdoes Mike Flanagan Richard Scott Edward Countryman David Dary George Frederick Ruxton Frank Clifford Edwin S. Grosvenor Emerson Hough Emerson Hough Winston G. Ramsey Jeremy Agnew Edward Everett Dale G. R. Williamson Robert K. DeArment Jeremy Agnew Peter Newark

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contains over five hundred fifty illustrated photographs of stetsons boots spurs saddles chaps and other trappings of the american western cowboy and cowgirl and traces the history of the cowboy from the cattle trails of the old west to the wild west shows and rodeos

for anyone interested in the authentic history of the american west it is an important and exciting new work book jacket

an illustrated history of western saloons with songs sayings anecdotes legends contemporary accounts line engravings and photographs

in an elaborately documented day by day format the old west meticulously records every incident that shaped the frontier from the years

1848 to 1890 whether it s a gold discovery an advance in transcontinental travel or a series of racial skirmishes each chronological entry furnishes the reader with a quick fascinating summary this extraordinary reference condenses and organizes decades of history and lore that must otherwise be laboriously hunted down in newspaper records and secondary sources

a collection of over 150 vignettes from the journals and diaries of people who lived or traveled in the old west these accounts begin with the sixteenth century collisions between the spaniards and the indians and conclude with black elk s mournful description of the battle of wounded knee in 1890 storytellers include explorers missionaries india leaders a poet an artist and a future president

this resource includes a comprehensive look at the historical american west and its neighboring territories to the north and south it also recognizes that when the frontier west of history ended in the early 1900s the west of myth and legend was already born in examining the ongoing social and cultural impact of the west the ways in which memory and myth cooperate and quarrel and in including the region s lore alongside its history the old west takes a distinctive and imaginative approach to a period and a place unlike any other publisher s site

110 photographs and illustrations in text

reproduction of the original in the old west by george frederick ruxton

during the 1870s and 1880s cowboy and drifter frank clifford s restless spirit led him all over the southwest crossing the paths of many of the era s most notorious characters most notably clay allison and billy the kid more than just an entertaining and informative narrative of his wild west adventures clifford s memoir also paints a picture of how ranchers and ordinary folk lived worked and stayed alive during those tumultuous years written in 1940 and edited and annotated by frederick nolan deep trails in the old west is likely one of the last eyewitness histories of the old west ever to be discovered

here in this remarkable collection from american heritage such noted authors as tom brokaw wallace stegner john lukacs and others bring to life many of the most famous men and women of the old west from lewis and clark to charles frémont billy the kid wyatt earp chief joseph frederick remington the defenders of the alamo the texas rangers and the riders of the pony express it also shines a light on topics such as the origins of scalping the famous lincoln county war the grim medical reality of western gunfights cowboy jargon and the first rodeo

midwesterner emerson hough nurtured a life long interest in the wild west and after receiving his law degree he set up shop as an attorney

in a rural town in new mexico based on his experiences in the region he penned a series of histories of the old west this volume contains a series of insightful essays about the meaning of the frontier and the pioneer spirit

the old west may have faded from living memory but the actual locations where the robberies and shoot outs took place can still be found over one hundred years later in the pages of on the trail of the old west then and now we glimpse the past through contemporary newspaper reports illustrated with comparison then and now photographs here are towns like dodge city and tombstone and the stories of the clashes between lawmen and the badmen with grim details of lawlessness violence and harsh frontier justice meted out by vigilante committees to recall a timeless era of american history the wild west

miners loggers railroad men and others flooded into the american west after the discovery of gold in 1848 and entertainers seeking to fill the demand for distraction from the workers daily toil soon followed actors actresses and traveling troupes crisscrossed the american frontier performing in tents saloons fancy theaters and the open air this exploration of the heyday of popular theater in the old west chronicles its emergence and growth from 1850 to the early twentieth century here is the story of the men and women who provided myriad types of entertainment in the old west and brought excitement laughter and tears to generations of pioneers

with exception of the chapter old time religion this book is made up of articles previously published in historical publications drawn from his memories observations and experiences

gambling played a major role in the lives of the men that drove the western movement of americans across the continent during the nineteenth century games of chance were dear to the hearts of not only cowboys but also gold miners plantation owners bankers merchants soldiers trappers buffalo hunters muleskinners and most of the other men of the american west even including some preachers wherever there were men with money there was gambling and most of it was crooked whether it was rigged fixed double dealt cold decked braced or otherwise manipulated very little was left to luck and skill though there were some gamblers who were known as on the square or legitimate if that word can be used when referring to the players of the day most used some form of advantage to win much more often than they lost some were not gamblers at all but mere con men skinning suckers as fast as they could find them with this in mind exactly what were the casino games of chance played during the wild days of the west what were the rules and how were they played who were the major players and where did they ply their trade how did they employ tricks to cheat the other players without being detected why did most of the games of the western frontier pass into oblivion and why are these same games not played in gambling casinos today though most of us think we have a fairly good running knowledge of old west gambling largely provided by the westerns of

television and movies this book takes a closer look at this integral facet of our history that provokes both condemnation and revelry whether it was a game of poker played on a blanket or a faro bet placed in an elegant saloon it is a safe bet to say that gambling fulfilled one of the basic needs of the early frontiersman liquor lust and luck most settlements started with a small clump of buildings quite often little more than tents that usually included a general mercantile store a livery stable or wagon yard and a saloon then as the settlement grew a few more business sprung up and more often than not additional saloons crowded in to provide the major form of entertainment available to the men of that era games of chance unlike today with the plethora of entertainment choices provided by television movies computers and other technological devices the frontiersman had very few choices as a diversion from his everyday toils most often he was reduced to reading a book chatting with friends or playing a game books were often hard to come by and any game worth playing was worth wagering as western saloons evolved a typical layout usually followed along these lines an entrance foyer the bar area with maybe a few card tables and billiards tables in the back traditionally saloons were housed in a building that was longer than it was wide with an overhanging awning covering the front entrance contrary to most of our movie images of saloons they quite often did not have bat wing doors instead one or more standard wooden doors with glass panels provided access from the street once inside the door customers usually saw a long bar running down the right wall the bar was usually a massive work of oak with a brass rail that provided a foot prop while standing for a drink here and there a few spittoons enabled tobacco chewers to deposit their chaws before downing a shot of redeye to the left were a few card tables and chairs strictly meant for gambling all drinking was done standing up when you could not manage the upright position any longer you were told that you had had enough and go sleep it off over time a class distinction developed among saloons in which there were low dives and first class saloons gamblers were interested in the upscale saloons while conmen and sharps operated in the skin houses where drunks were sometimes allowed to sleep on the floor after having their pockets cleaned out usually the mark of a better saloon was the addition of gambling rooms to the rear or a gambling hall located in a second story above the saloon this accommodated the serious gamblers where large amounts of cash exchanged hands over the green cloth tables as it evolved saloon owners offered someone usually a noted gambler the gambling concession with the saloon getting a percentage of the take the better the location the more well heeled the customers and the professional expertise of an efficient gambling operation could mean sizeable profits for the owner besides location reputation was everything in the saloon business from the mississippi river to the barbary coast of california one saloon tried to top the others with what they offered and who gambled there big name gamblers drew a crowd and this translated into bigger profits from liquor sales and gambling wyatt earp bat masterson doc holliday luke short ben thompson swiftwater bill gates dick clark rowdy joe lowe and the rest of the old west s gambling superstars ran the gaming operations in most of the better saloons of the era this book is the first volume of the hip pocket history of the old west series providing a compact concise accounts that cover odd or little known facets of the american west historically accurate but told in an easy to read format with just a twist of

humor informative yet entertaining the hip pocket history series provides little nuggets without having to wade through a 400 page book of dry academic ostentatiousness

settlers in the frontier west were often easy prey for criminals policing efforts were scattered at best and often amounted to vigilante retaliation to create a semblance of order freelance enforcers of the law known as man hunters undertook the search for fugitives these pursuers have often been portrayed as ruthless bounty hunters no better than the felons they pursued robert k dearment s detailed account of their careers redeems their reputations and reveals the truth behind their fascinating legends as dearment shows man hunters were far more likely to capture felons alive than their popular image suggests although wanted dead or alive reward notices were posted during this period they were reserved for the most murderous desperadoes man hunters also came from a variety of backgrounds in the east and the west of the eight men whose stories dearment tells one began as an officer for an express company and another was the head of an organization of local lawmen others included a railroad detective a texas ranger a pinkerton operative and a shotgun messenger for a stagecoach line all were tough survivors living through gunshot wounds snakebites disease buffalo stampedes and every other hazard of life in the wild west they also crossed paths with famous criminals and sheriffs from john wesley hardin and sam bass to wyatt earp butch cassidy and the sundance kid telling the true stories of famous men who risked their lives to bring western outlaws to justice man hunters of the old west dispels long held myths of their cold blooded vigilantism and brings fresh nuance to the lives and legends that made the west wild

for many years movie audiences have carried on a love affair with the american west believing westerns are escapist entertainment of the best kind harkening back to the days of the frontier this work compares the reality of the old west to its portrayal in movies taking an historical approach to its consideration of the cowboys indians gunmen lawmen and others who populated the old west in real life and on the silver screen starting with the westerns of the early 1900s it follows the evolution in look style and content as the films matured from short vignettes of good versus bad into modern plots

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