



"Here's how it is done!"

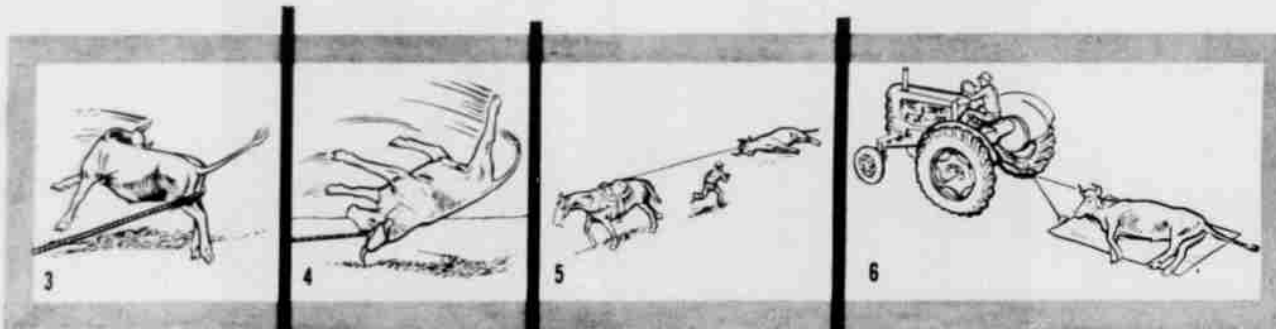


The steer's head is sometimes encased in a cast of plaster of paris and lariat to help prevent the breaking off of horns. Nylon rope is used in place of hemp rope because of the tremendous strain. The steer gets a 30-foot headstart. Prize money

is given for the fastest time so every effort is made to "bust" the steer as soon as possible. A violent bust helps to insure stunning and an unconscious steer can be tied far more quickly than a kicking, fighting steer.

Great leeway is given the roper in placing the rope. Over the horns, the head, half head or around the neck. With the rope secured the roper turns his horse at a 45° angle away from the line of the running steer and flips the slack of the rope around

the rump of the steer so that when the steer hits the end of the rope he will have his head whipped around to follow the rope which is drawn behind him. The speed of this neck-breaking jerk is computed at about 50 m.p.h.



Any algebra student can figure the forces involved in this "sport" but the end result is that the steer's weight and the horse's weight are combined to cause the steer to snap neck violently.

His feet are swept out from under him and he lands on his side or back with sufficient force to knock the wind out of him or to stun him if he isn't already dead of a broken neck.

The whole purpose of the "bust" is to render the steer immobile and on his side so that three feet can be tied. A struggling steer can cost valuable seconds in tying whereas one with the wind knocked out, crippled or dead is tied quickly.

If the steer cannot get up because of broken bones, internal injuries or death he is loaded on a sled and dragged from the arena. If he regains his footing and can still run he is used again and again until he is crippled past using.



*demand an end to steer busting . . .* **AMERICA'S CRUELEST SPORT**

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