

## Information Sheet

**R**     **A. Buford & Son.**  
**688**         **Account books, 1906-1928.**  
                  **Thirty-six volumes.**

### **MICROFILM**

This collection is available at [The State Historical Society of Missouri](http://The State Historical Society of Missouri). If you would like more information, please contact us at [shsresearch@umsystem.edu](mailto:shsresearch@umsystem.edu).

These are daybooks of the mercantile operation of A. Buford & Son at Ellington in Reynolds County, Missouri. The firm dealt in groceries, hardware, furniture, shoes, clothing, and sundries. Many payments on account were made in kind.

A. Buford appears to have been Abraham Buford, the ninth child of John and Elizabeth Buford. They were, according to James E. Bell's *Early History of Reynolds County*, "progenitors of a number of Reynolds County's most successful and talented citizens." The Bufords began mercantile operations about 1904. Walter C. Buford and James H. Buford, sons of Abraham and America Buford, were both involved in the family business. Walter was the manager of the firm. From Ellington in the southern part of Reynolds County, Buford & Son carried on retail and wholesale operations which probably included parts of Shannon and Carter counties as well as Reynolds County.

Groceries were the single largest category of sales in the daybooks of Buford & Son, but the firm also carried dry goods, clothing, housewares, furniture, tools, and harness. Entries in the daybooks are in chronological order. Notations with the transactions refer to account ledgers that are no longer extant. Among the customers represented in the daybooks are members of the Brawley, Brewer, Buford, Casey, Chitwood, Copeland, Fears, Fox, Funk, Gastineau, Keathley, Pennington, Pogue, Pratt, Ratliff, Rayfield, and Voyles families. Also represented are commercial firms such as A. J. Chitwood, Copeland Brothers, Crow Brothers, Dement Brothers, Clement January & Son, J. H. Morrison, Ratliff & Pritchett, and Weaver & Tripp. Many accounts were settled in kind, with payment in labor, ties, lumber, cordwood, flour, eggs, potatoes, honey, and hay. The number of railroad ties received as payment indicates that Buford & Son did a sizeable business in that item.

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### Shelf List

These are daybooks of the mercantile operation of A. Buford & Son at Ellington in Reynolds County, Missouri. The firm dealt in groceries, hardware, furniture, shoes, clothing, and sundries. Many payments on account were made in kind.

- Vol. 01: Account book, 18 Feb—05 Jun 1906
- Vol. 02: Account book, 06 Jun—01 Sep 1906
- Vol. 03: Account book, 06 Sep 1906—11 Feb 1907

- Vol. 04: Account book, 12 Feb—28 Sep 1907
- Vol. 05: Account book, 01 Oct 1907—18 Apr 1908
- Vol. 06: Account book, 01 Feb—22 Dec 1909
- Vol. 07: Account book, 23 Dec 1909—01 Sep 1910
- Vol. 08: Account book, 02 Sep 1910—02 Mar 1911
- Vol. 09: Account book, 04 Mar—16 Oct 1911
- Vol. 10: Account book, 17 Oct 1911—19 Mar 1912
- Vol. 11: Account book, 19 Mar—05 Jul 1912
- Vol. 12: Account book, 06 Jul—19 Oct 1912
- Vol. 13: Account book, 21 Oct—31 Dec 1912
- Vol. 14: Account book, 01 Jan—11 Apr 1913
- Vol. 15: Account book, 13 Apr—23 Aug 1913
- Vol. 16: Account book, 25 Aug 13—10 Jan 1914
- Vol. 17: Account book, 12 Jan—02 May 1914
- Vol. 18: Account book, 02 May—18 Sep 1914
- Vol. 19: Account book, 19 Sep 1914—11 Feb 1915
- Vol. 20: Account book, 12 Feb—24 Jun 1915
- Vol. 21: Account book, 25 Jun 1915—21 Feb 1916
- Vol. 22: Account book, 22 Feb—30 Dec 1916
- Vol. 23: Account book, 01 Jan—23 Jul 1917
- Vol. 24: Account book, 23 Jul 1917—12 Feb 1918
- Vol. 25: Account book, 13 Feb—13 Sep 1918
- Vol. 26: Account book, 12 Sep 1918—03 Feb 1919
- Vol. 27: Account book, 04 Feb—10 Nov 1919
- Vol. 28: Account book, 11 Nov 1919—09 Feb 1920
- Vol. 29: Account book, 10 Feb—06 Nov 1920
- Vol. 30: Account book, 06 Nov 1920—04 Oct 1921
- Vol. 31: Account book, 10 Oct 1921—18 Nov 1922
- Vol. 32: Account book, 20 Nov 1922—28 Nov 1923
- Vol. 33: Account book, 30 Nov 1923—27 Nov 1924
- Vol. 34: Account book, 28 Nov 1924—17 Aug 1925
- Vol. 35: Account book, 18 Aug 1925—27 Dec 1926
- Vol. 36: Account book, 15 Dec 1926—14 Jan 1928

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### **Index Cards**

A. Buford & Son—Records and correspondence.  
Buford, Abraham, 1840-  
Business records—Missouri—Reynolds County.  
Ellington (Mo.).  
General stores—Missouri—Reynolds County.  
Reynolds County (Mo.).