

SOME LEXICAL VARIANTS OF
PIONEER ELLIS COUNTY

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SOME LEXICAL VARIANTS OF
PIONEER ELLIS COUNTY

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LIST OF PHONETIC SYMBOLS USED IN THIS STUDY¹

Vowels			
Symbol	Key word	Pronunciation	
i	beet	bit	
ɪ	bit, easy	bit, izi	
e	bait	bet	
ɛ	bet	bɛt	
æ	bat	bæt	
ɑ	So. cat	kɑt	between æ and a
ɑ	father	fɑðə	
	fodder	fɑdə	General American "short o"
ɒ	fodder	fɒdə	British "short o" (between a and ɔ)
ɔ	law, horse	lɔ, hɔəs	
o	coat	kot	
u	pull	pul	
u	pool	pul	
ɜ̄	'further	'fɜ̄ðə	Accented. General American
	per'verse	pə'vɜ̄s	
ə	'further	'fɜ̄ðə	Unaccented. General American
	per'verse	pə'vɜ̄s	

¹The list of phonetic symbols is adapted from Kenyon's American Pronunciation.

LIST OF PHONETIC SYMBOLS--Continued

Vowels			
Symbol	Key Word	Pronunciation	
ɜ	'further	'fɜðə	Accented. East, South and England
	perverse	pə'vɜs	
ə	custom	'kʌstəm	Unaccented
	a'bove	ə'bʌv	
ʌ	'custom	'kʌstəm	Accented
ʊ	dial. party	pʊtɪ	

Diphthongs			
Symbol	Key Word	Pronunciation	
aɪ	ice	aɪs	
aʊ	house	haʊs	
ɔɪ	boy	bɔɪ	
tʊ	abuse	əbʊz	
ju	use	juz	

Consonants					
Stops			Affricates		
Symbol	Key Word	Pronunciation	Symbol	Key Word	Pronunciation
p	peep	pɪp	tʃ	church	tʃɜtʃ
b	bib	bɪb	dʒ	judge	dʒɜdʒ
t	toot	tʊt	Sonorants		
d	did	dɪd	m	maim	mɛm
k	cook	kʊk	n	noon	nʊn

LIST OF PHONETIC SYMBOLS--Continued

Consonants					
Stops			Sonorants		
Symbol	Key Word	Pronun- ciation	Symbol	Key Word	Pronun- ciation
g	gag	gæg	ŋ	sing	sɪŋ
Fricatives			l	lull	lʌl
f	fife	fɪf	Glides		
v	valve	vælv	w	wail	wel
θ	ether	iθə	hw	whale	kwel
ð	either	iðə	j	young	jʌŋ
s	cease	sɪs	r	road	rɒd
z	zones	zɒnz			
ʃ	mission	mɪʃən			
ʒ	vision	vɪʒən			
h	hail	hel			

CHAPTER I

PURPOSE AND NATURE OF THE STUDY

Interest in the study of American dialect has been growing rapidly in recent years. The most extensive work that has been published is The Linguistic Atlas of New England.¹ It presents the regional and social dialects of New England secured by interviewers who recorded morphology, syntax, choice of words, and pronunciation in phonetic symbols. Lowman has compiled an atlas of the Southern Atlantic States, yet to be published. Many scholars interested in speech are making studies of other sections of the United States. The periodicals American Speech and Dialect Notes furnish many lists of dialect words and expressions from various sections of the country. Although the United States is divided into three main speech divisions--Eastern, Southern, and General American--many differences in speech within each division are revealed by these studies.

There has been a paucity of research study in Texas. At present, however, studies are in progress, and a few

¹Hans Kurath, director and editor, Linguistic Atlas of New England.

have been published. Among these is Oma Stanley's study of East Texas speech.² His study is devoted chiefly to pronunciation. He has described the common speech of the white residents of East Texas--classified as the "Hill Type" of southern speech. It was brought into East Texas by immigrants who were themselves people of Scotch-Irish and English descent. The "Plantation Type" of speech survives in East Texas among a very small number of the white population. Stanley's work has been centered in Smith County, Texas, but observations have been made over a much wider territory. In addition to the work done with speakers in the field, he has made ten double-faced phonograph records of the speech of ten native East Texans.

A number of writers are interested in collecting words. Haldeen Braddy writes of cowboy speech in the Big Bend³ and Trans-Pecos areas;⁴ also, James Watt Raine has specialized in the speech of the cowboy country.⁵ Mary Dale Buckner has

²Oma Stanley, The Speech of East Texas.

³Haldeen Braddy, "Cowboy Lingo of the Texas Big Bend," DN, VI (December, 1937), 617.

⁴Haldeen Braddy, "Tall Talk of the Texas Trans-Pecos," AS, XV (April, 1940), 220.

⁵James Watt Raine, "The speech of the Land of the Saddlebags," Quarterly Journal of Speech Education, X (1924), p. 230.

made a study of the speech of the Panhandle.⁶ Hyder Rollins⁷ and Kate Mullen⁸ have compiled word lists of Western speech. C. L. Crow has listed the dialect words of Parker County,⁹ and Artemisia B. Bryson has given the homely words used in Texas.¹⁰

Although some are interested in the pronunciation of Texas speech and others have centered their attentions on the jargon of various sections of the state, the purpose of my study is to give the common words, together with a collection of old expressions or terms, of the oldest residents of Ellis County and to trace their usage to the states in the Old South. The importance of recording these old words and terms is to preserve the oldest forms of the community for those who are interested in the growth and development of local speech and, also, to trace the history of these words. The early settlers of Ellis County came from the

⁶Mary Dale Buckner, "Ranch Dialect of the Texas Panhandle," AS, VIII (February, 1933), 25.

⁷Hyder E. Rollins, "A West Texas Word List," DM, IV (1915), 224.

⁸Kate Mullen, "Westernisms," AS, I (December, 1925) 149.

⁹C. L. Crow, "Texas (Dial.)," DM, IV (1916), 347.

¹⁰Artemisia B. Bryson, "Homely words in Texas," AS, IX (February, 1934), 70.

Carolinas, Georgia, and Tennessee; therefore, the early usage of these words in Ellis County corresponds in large part with the same usage in the Old South.

In preparation for my study, I chose ten informants, ranging in age from seventy-two to eighty-five years. They were people from both sexes who have been residents of the county all or most of their lives, with little formal education, with sympathetic intelligence in order to understand my purpose, and with a memory good enough to recall old words from their childhood. These informants belong to the farming class, and their farms are in all parts of the county. Some of the informants have had little or no education, little reading, and restricted social contacts; others have had little education but are self-taught through reading and through social contacts. (See Appendix 1 for biographical details.)

The informants were chosen after I had asked friends for suggestions of names of people who might serve my purpose. Since I had taught the children or grandchildren of most of these people, it was easy through these young people to pave the way for my introduction; the others I saw at church or telephoned asking for a time to visit them that they might give me needed information for work I was doing at North Texas State College. Upon arrival at the appointed

time, I explained my interest in tracing old words and expressions. These interviews required from four to eight hours of their time, and I think that it was out of the kindness of their hearts as well as out of respect for learning that they granted me this favor.

There were two methods of procedure used. After a few pleasantries I began the interview, taking notes and pushing forward as rapidly as possible. This method took less time because it gave only the information for which I asked. The other method of letting the informant talk as suggested topics brought back early experiences proved to be more interesting and informative, but it took too much time. Words were elicited from the informant by more or less direct questioning. From some of my informants I was able to get the words in a natural context and without self-consciousness; others seemed to be on guard, especially in the matter of correct usage. Sometimes I had to suggest the required word. It was then difficult to tell whether or not that word was the informant's real speech. Never did I force a response. If he had no word, the term was dropped for a new one. A few of their words are transcribed into phonetic symbols as samples of the informant's speech.

The work sheets used in the interviews are made up from the Linguistic Atlas of New England and are given

in Appendix 2. For the sake of coherence to the interview, the words are grouped under related items as follows: topography, weather, time; the family, social life, greetings, persons, personal characteristics; the house, household goods, premises, vehicles; animals, crops, food, mealtime; various expressions and sayings. In my study there are a number of words which do not appear on the work sheets.

CHAPTER II

THE HISTORY OF ELLIS COUNTY

Ellis County, containing an area of 587,520 acres or 918 square miles, is situated in the northeastern part of Texas.¹ It is bounded on the north by Dallas and Tarrant Counties, on the east by Kaufman and Henderson Counties, from which it is separated by the Trinity River, and on the west by Hill and Johnson Counties.² The black land belt, which extends through the center of the county, varies from a gentle rolling to a level plain. Practically all the streams in the county, with the exception of Mountain Creek, flow in an easterly direction, becoming more sluggish as they approach Trinity River. Many areas along the streams, particularly near the Trinity River, are subject to overflow during high water.

Ellis County has a mild climate, ordinarily free from extremes of heat or long continued cold. Although the summers are long and warm, the heat of the days is modified after the setting of the sun, and the nights are generally

¹Soil Survey of Ellis County 1910, (1912), p. 958.

²Texas Almanac 1857, (1857), p. 63.

cool, for there is often a gentle breeze. During January and February sudden changes of temperature occur. These are caused by "northers"--winds that sweep south from the colder regions of the North. The winds cross the Great Plains and cause a drop from a mild temperature to freezing in a few hours. A small fall of snow is not uncommon, but the ground seldom freezes to depths greater than an inch. These cold waves are generally of short duration and do not interfere materially with farming operations. The greatest damage done by the "northers" is to fruit, which is frequently killed.

Thirteen distinct types of soil are found in Ellis County, ranging in texture from a fine sand to a still clay.³ These types as they are locally divided are the valley lands, the white rock lands, the black lands, the sandy lands, and the bottom lands.⁴

Ellis County is well watered except during unusually dry seasons. At this time water is readily secured. Along the meridian of Waxahachie flowing wells are obtained at a depth of about 900 feet.⁵

³Soil Survey of Ellis County 1910 (1912), p. 933.

⁴Ibid., p. 939.

⁵Robert T. Hill, Blackland Grand Prairies, Part VII (1910), p. 699.

The artesian water is supplemented by a deep well of hot mineral water, containing health value and abounding in an unlimited quantity.

The most common trees found in Ellis County were the ash, oak, elm, hackberry, pecan, and walnut. Also, game, wild animals, and fish were very plentiful in the early days.⁶

The earliest inhabitants of this county were the Tonkawa Indians, led by their chief Placidio, who is said to have been a very mild-mannered man for an Indian.⁷ Other friendly tribes who hunted in Ellis County, according to Robert F. Mayfield, were the Kickapoos, Tonquaways, Bedois, Anadarcos, and Wacos.⁸ Usually the true object of the Indians who came into the county was horsestealing. The chasing of the Indians was about all the frays the settlers experienced, for it was only a short distance to the brakes of the hills into which the Indians disappeared leaving no trail.

The first white settler in Ellis County was W. R. Howe, who located near the site of the present town of Forresteron

⁶History of Ellis County (author not given), p. 71.

⁷History of Ellis County, p. 61.

⁸Robert F. Mayfield, "Reminiscences of the Earliest Settlement of Ellis County," as quoted in History of Ellis County, p. 72.

in July, 1843. He brought with him one negro woman, who was the first slave in the county; also, the Howe family were the parents of the first white child born in the county.⁹ The next white settlers, Southerland Mayfield and family, settled at Reagor Springs in February, 1844. The third white family was the Billingsley family of Ovilla in 1844. The first marriage ceremony in what is now Ellis County was performed in the Ovilla community after a long journey by James Sterrett, the prospective groom, to Franklin, in Robertson County, where he went to procure the marriage license and the services of a justice of the peace.¹⁰ On this trip to Franklin he met Emory W. Rogers, who was induced from his description of the county to move there. He became the first resident of the town of Waxahachie, at that time an open expanse of prairie.¹¹ The early settlers of Ellis County came mostly from the Carolinas, Georgia, and Tennessee.¹²

⁹History of Ellis County, p. 69.

¹⁰Ibid., p. 69.

¹¹Statement by Mrs. O. H. Chapman, personal interview.

¹²Soil Survey of Ellis County, 1910 (1912), p. 932.

The act for forming Ellis County was introduced in the House of Representatives by General E. H. Tarrant, who had the honor of having a county and a county seat named for him while living.¹³ The county was named for Richard Ellis, a native of Virginia, who was chosen president of the convention that had declared independence of Texas from Mexico. The election for choosing the county seat was held in August, 1850, at the home of E. W. Rogers. His place was selected and became known as the town of Waxahachie, receiving its name from the creek which passes through a portion of the town and which means in the Indian tongue "cow-creek."

The first court was presided over by the Honorable William Hawkins on August 19, 1850. This session was held in the E. W. Rogers' home. The court on August 23, 1850, ordered the construction of a courthouse for the sum of fifty-nine dollars to be completed by the third Monday in October, 1850. In 1853 the cedar log courthouse was replaced by a two-story structure. The third courthouse was finished in 1874. The courthouse of Burnett County stone was erected in 1894 at a cost of \$165,000 and serves adequately the present needs of the county.¹⁴

¹³ History of Ellis County, p. 74.

¹⁴ Helen G. Goodlett, a newspaper clipping in the Scrap Book belonging to Sims Library.

Ellis County, one of the leading agricultural counties in the state, has been cultivated to some extent since its first settlement in 1843. The first crops were small grains. On account of transportation difficulties the early settlers turned to stock raising. With the coming of the railroad into the county in 1875 the raising of crops was more profitable. The only mineral of proved economic value is the Eagle Ford clays worked for dry-press brick at Ferris, Palmer, and Crisp.¹⁵

The first school was organized at Milford in 1855 by the Reverend Michael Dickson, a Presbyterian minister from Georgia. About a year later a minister and his wife had charge of a school on Red Oak Creek where Ovilla now stands.¹⁶ All known schools of the county were one-teacher schools. Although some financial aid was given from the state school fund during the years 1857-1859, these schools were subscription schools. With the term varying in length from four weeks to four months, the schools were taught in most cases in churches and in private residences. During the Civil War education was driven from the minds of the settlers. In 1874 there were forty-five teachers in the county.¹⁷

¹⁵Heinrich Ries, The Clays of Texas (1908), p. 283.

¹⁶History of Ellis County, p. 151.

¹⁷Ellis County Commissioner's Court Record, Vol. C, pp. 284-286.

The first academy, organized in 1860, was known as Waxahachie Academy, but it was often spoken of as the Masonic Academy since the majority of the stockholders were Masons.¹⁸ In 1869 the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, built a high school, or college, which was called Marvin College. Fifteen years later the owners of the property, finding it an expense, sold it to the city authorities for the use of public free schools of Waxahachie.¹⁹ Trinity University came to Waxahachie in 1902. This school is among the oldest institutions of higher learning in the state. It was moved to San Antonio in June, 1942.

The Sims Library of Waxahachie, a gift of Nicholas P. Sims, was dedicated April 26, 1905. It serves the entire county.

The early settlers in the county lived simply. The original supplies usually were exhausted months before the crops were gathered. Since buffalo was in abundance, the pioneer could step out at anytime and kill one for breakfast or dinner, according to necessity. The greatest deprivations, other than lack of grain, were caused by the

¹⁸Minutes of Waxahachie Lodge No. 90 A. F. and A. M., (1919), p. 12.

¹⁹History of Ellis County, p. 151.

lack of salt and quinine. Wild bees furnished the early settlers with their only sweets. These conditions changed by 1849 for most families as crops became more abundant and as cattle added milk and beef to the bill of fare.²⁰

The earliest houses were made of logs. Some of the first dwellings, made from rail pens, were about seven feet high with only three sides closed, the open end fronting south. The floors were dirt and the insides were hung with sheets and wagon covers. Meals were prepared in the fireplace. Each family brought such articles as pewter dishes, pewter spoons, and wooden bowls. The chairs with rawhide or rope backs and seats were considered very comfortable. The industrious homemaker often plaited attractive colorful rugs.²¹

Reverend Finis E. King, Cumberland Presbyterian minister, is called the pioneer of Ellis County in religious matters because he encouraged the establishment of the first religious organization in the county, Shiloh Church in 1847.²² This church became well known; people making the trip in wagons attended from great distances. The

²⁰Statement by Mrs. O. H. Chapman, personal interview.

²¹Ibid.

²²History of Ellis County, p. 119.

Methodists held their first church services in Waxahachie in the spring of 1848, and the first Baptist church was organized March 17, 1861.

Often the pioneers made their work less irksome by working together. The building of churches or homes presented scenes of merriment. Quilting parties including all the women in the neighborhood, were all-day affairs. Occasionally, all the men, women, and children gathered for corn-husking, for lint-pulling from cotton seed, or for the gathering of an unfortunate neighbor's crop. They also enjoyed singing schools, dances, and game parties.²³ Buffalo hunts were great sport but dangerous.

The most exciting and fearful scene on the frontier was the burning prairie. During the long dry summers the grass dried and was good feed for stock. Occasionally fires resulted from carelessness of campers and smokers. Winds were strong and the fires spread rapidly beyond control. The locust plagues in Ellis County in 1853, 1867, and 1873 were long remembered as outstanding disasters.²⁴

²³ Statement by Mrs. P. Q. Rockett, personal interview.

²⁴ History of Ellis County, p. 98.

There are six principal towns in Ellis County--Ennis, Ferris, Italy, Midlothian, Milford, and Waxahachie.²⁵

Ennis, the second largest town in the county, is located in the eastern part of the county. It is named for Cornelius Ennis, one of the early directors of its first railroad, the Houston and Texas Central. This railroad reached Ennis in 1871 and the town was incorporated in 1872. The population in 1890 was 2,171. Ennis is also served by the Southern Pacific railroad, whose shops were built there in 1890.

Ferris is located in the extreme eastern part of the county near the Dallas County line. The Houston and Texas Central railroad reached Ferris in 1894. The town is named for Judge J. W. Ferris. It is one of the largest brick producing centers in the state and is also noted for the production of cotton, cattle, and onions.

Italy is located mid-way between Dallas and Waco on the Missouri, Kansas and Texas railroad, which reached Italy in 1887. Italy was so named because its climate corresponded to that of "Sunny Italy." It is a farming community. The population in 1890 was thirty.

²⁵Prepared by Miss Helen Goodlett for the Texas Historical Handbook, yet to be published.

Midlothian is located at the head of Waxahachie Creek. In 1883 the Gulf Colorado and Santa Fe railroad laid off two hundred acres of land and thus began the town. The story goes that when the Santa Fe was being built, there was a Scotchman on the crew of workmen who declared that the spot reminded him of the village from which he came in Scotland by the name of "Midlothian." The name suited those in charge of laying the rail route and hence the name of the city of Midlothian. The town is in the heart of a fertile and productive country where corn and cotton and all the small cereals are grown in great abundance.

Milford is located eighteen miles south of Waxahachie. Its earliest settlers--Colonel Arvin Wright, William R. Hudson, and J. M. Higgins--purchased land in this section in 1851. Milford was named for a little manufacturing town near Boston, Massachusetts, by William R. Hudson, who took a fancy to the name found in his readings. This town, also, is in the productive land belt.

Waxahachie, the county seat, is located near the center of the county on Waxahachie Creek. It is the trade center of the most valuable black land belt in the county. In 1890 the population was about 1500. The principal products of the vicinity are cotton, grain, and cattle.

CHAPTER III

TOPOGRAPHY; WEATHER; TIME

The words chosen for this section are those that are in the homely vocabulary of the family, the farm, and the small community. It is not my intention to treat a large body of words but rather to show the dialect words brought from other states, standard words in general use, and "Texas" words.

In naming a small, fresh water stream, 70 per cent of the informants called it a branch¹ which, they said, was smaller than a creek. Ten per cent said draw,² and 20 per cent said ravine. One informant said that a creek³ is a natural stream.

¹G. D. McJimsey, "Topographic Terms in Virginia (IV)," American Speech, XV (December, 1940), 381, records that a branch is a tributary of a creek.

²Harold Wentworth, A Dialectical Dictionary, p. 178, notes that this word is used everywhere from the Mississippi to the Pacific. Also the Dictionary of American English, p. 812, quotes from Hunter, Trail Drivers Texas 1, p. 239: "We found protection for our herd in the draws of ravines."

³So also noted by Phyllis J. Nixon, "A Glossary of Virginia Words," Publication of the American Dialect Society, No. 5 (May, 1946), p. 17. Cf. also Horace Kephart, "A Word List from the Mountains of Western North Carolina," Dialect Notes, IV (1913-17), 407, and C. N. Wilson, "Beefsteak When I'm Hungry; Mountain Dialect," Virginia Quarterly Review, VI (April, 1930), 240.

For a channel cut by a stream of water in a field or across a road, 40 per cent of the informants said gully;⁴ 40 per cent, washout; 20 per cent, ditch,⁵ in the sense of digging a trench for drainage.

Low ground was called bottom land⁶ by 90 per cent of the informants; 10 per cent said wash. In addition to these names hogwallow,⁷ or hogwaller,⁸ and buck shot⁹ soil

⁴G. D. McJimsey, "Topographic Terms in Virginia, III," Am. Sp., XV (October, 1940), 262, says it is a ravine worn in the earth by the action of water.

⁵G. D. McJimsey, "Topographic Terms in Virginia, II," Am. Sp., XV (April, 1940), 151, finds the same use.

⁶So also for J. W. Carr, "A List of Words from Northwest Arkansas, IV," Dial. N., III (1905-12), 392; Phyllis J. Nixon, op. cit., p. 12, and Harold Wentworth, op. cit., p. 70, call it low ground near the rivers.

⁷Sir William A. Craigie and James R. Hulbert, editors, A Dictionary of American English, (1940), p. 1250, quotes from E. Smith, Journey through Texas, p. 26: "In the winter, the cattle retire to the river bottoms and seek the hogwallow, a place on the prairies where grass continues green and nutritious." --also cited in G. D. McJimsey, "Topographic Terms in Virginia III," Am. Sp., XV (October, 1940), 262.

⁸Wentworth, op. cit., p. 297, gives "hogwaller in n.w. Ark. and s.w. Mo."

⁹Sir W. A. Craigie and James R. Hulbert, op. cit., p. 336, quotes Craddock, Where Battle Was Fought, p. 13: "Comparing Tennessee soil to the alluvial richness of the buckshot cotton lands of Mississippi."

were given. One informant said that hogwallow soil was the best, for on her farm that soil had been producing cotton for one hundred years. Another said that buckshot soil was level land where the water does not drain off; therefore, the soil runs together or packs into bullet forms. This soil never wears out.

Flat grassy country was called prairie by 40 per cent of the informants. Ten per cent said pasture land; 10 per cent, bald pararie; 10 per cent, raw pararie, explaining that the term was used before fences existed; and 30 per cent called it pararie.¹⁰

For a dense growth of shrubbery, 80 per cent of the informants said thicket, one remarking that wilderness was an older word for it. Ten per cent called it brush. Ten per cent had no name.

Forty per cent of the informants called a hard road a paved road; 10 per cent, concrete; 10 per cent, black top or asphalt; 20 per cent, hard surfaced; 10 per cent, the big road,¹¹ meaning the main traveled road; 10 per cent had no name.

¹⁰Wentworth, op. cit., p. 473, finds this word to be "Texas pararie."

¹¹Cf. J. W. Carr, "Southernisms Common to Northwest Arkansas and Southeast Missouri," Dial. N., III (1905-12), p. 228. The D. A. E., p. 204, states that it is used chiefly in the South. Wentworth, op. cit., p. 57, finds it used in the Mo.-Ark. Ozarks.

The term pool, or pond, where livestock were watered was rarely used. Seventy per cent said that troughs, long wooden boxes often lined with heavy ducking to stop the leaks, were used in the early days of windmills. These troughs were supplied from deep wells. Ten per cent said a tank¹² existed where there was sand, clay, or rock. One informant said that today a government agent tests the soil to see whether or not it will hold water before making a tank. Ten per cent said pond, a naturally formed pool, was used before tanks were made. One informant spoke of a pond as forming a lob-lolly,¹³ which is a mud puddle.

The poison vine was called poison oak by 60 per cent of the informants and poison ivy by 40 per cent. One informant who used the term poison oak suggested ground ivory,¹⁴ which is popular folk etymology. Another explained

¹²Wentworth, op. cit., p. 623, finds it used in Texas; also cited in D. A. E., p. 2291, from "Overland Monthly, Aug., p. 130: "A tank in Texas is a pond of fresh water." Hyder E. Rollins, "A West Texas Word List," Dial. N., IV (1913-17), p. 224, calls it an artificial lake.

¹³J. W. Carr, "A List of words from Northwest Ark., (IV)," III (1905-1912), 392, cites it; and also L. W. Payne, Jr., "A Word List from East Ala.," Dial. N., III, Part V, (1905-1912), 343, includes it in his list.

¹⁴D. S. Crumb, "The Dialect of Southeastern Missouri," Dial. N., II (1900-1904), 304, finds, "He ran into a poison ivory vine." Cf. Wentworth, op. cit., p. 324.

that the ivy climbs trees while the oak runs on the ground or is a low bush.

Land that was poor in quality was called waste land by 50 per cent of the informants. Thirty per cent said raw-hide; 10 per cent, barren land; 10 per cent, washed land. One informant said that she had to have the raw-hide soil on her farm fertilized because it was such poor land; also, it was very hard to plow. Ten per cent had no name for this quality of soil.

To cause water to flow out or off was called ditching by 60 per cent of the informants. Twenty per cent said drain and 10 per cent said dreen¹⁵ [drin]. Ten per cent did not know a word for it.

The informants had several names for the soil of Ellis County. Forty per cent of them called it black waxy; 20 per cent, top soil; 10 per cent, loamy soil, 10 per cent, elm [eləm]¹⁶ thicket land, or black cheese, which is the very

¹⁵McJimsey, op. cit., p. 151, finds it used in Virginia with the same pronunciation and definition. Also, it is found by Jay L. B. Taylor, "Snake Country Talk," Dial. N., V (1918-27), 197, in s.w. Mo. It is listed in Constance Bey, et al., "A Work List from Missouri," Word List from the South, Am. Dial. Society Pub., No. 2, (Nov., 1944), p. 53, and in L. W. Payne, Jr., "A Word-List from East Ala.," Dial. N., III (1905-12), 285.

¹⁶J. L. B. Taylor, op. cit., p. 197, finds this pronunciation in s.w. Mo. Also it is found in s.e. Mo. by D. S. Crumb, op. cit., p. 304, and in e. Ala. by L. W. Payne, Jr., op. cit., p. 285.

best, according to one owner of this kind of land; 10 per cent, white rock with black soil on top. Ten per cent had no name.

For the kinds of fertile land, 50 per cent of the informants said rich land; 20 per cent, black waxy, which seems to be synonymous with rich; 10 per cent, strong soil; 10 per cent, heavy land versus thin or shallow soil. Ten per cent had no name, saying that they fertilized all their land.

In describing the difference between throwing a rock, or stone, 40 per cent of the informants did not see a difference; 30 per cent thought the stone, like a pebble, was lighter and smaller than a rock. Twenty per cent said that one throws a rock.¹⁷

A small elevation in land was called a hill [hɪəl]¹⁸ by 90 per cent of the informants and a rise¹⁹ by 10 per cent.

¹⁷Phyllis J. Nixon, op. cit., p. 34, records "Throw a rock," and Wentworth, op. cit., p. 518, finds "I chunked a rock at him" used in North Carolina.

¹⁸Wentworth, op. cit., p. 292, finds this pronunciation in the South.

¹⁹George D. McJinsey, "Topographic Terms in Virginia, IV," Am. Sp., XV (Dec., 1940), 381, quotes from Sam, Conquest of Virginia: "The towns of the Virginia Indians were commonly upon the rise of a hill." Also, Wentworth, op. cit., p. 292, says that rise is used frequently in the South.

One informant added another contribution, "We also call it a mound."²⁰

For roads other than through roads or highways, 50 per cent of the informants said lane,²¹ which is situated between a field and a pasture, which is fenced in, or which is between two places. Ten per cent said country road; 10 per cent, by-road; 10 per cent wagon road; 10 per cent, neighborhood roads;²² 10 per cent, farm-to-market roads.

The terms for a rain storm accompanied by thunder and lightning are thunderstorm and electrical storm. Forty per cent more gave only storm. One said that to her storm meant wind, lightning, and thunder.

A very heavy rain was called a gully-washer²³ by 50 per cent of the informants, one remarking that this was an old

²⁰Cf. George D. McJimsey, "Topographic Terms in Virginia, IV," Am. Sp., XV (Dec., 1940), 381.

²¹Also found in J. L. B. Taylor, op. cit., p. 197, and in D. S. Crumb, op. cit., p. 304.

²²L. R. Dingus, "A Word-List from Virginia," Dial. N., IV (1913-17), 180, lists this term.

²³Found in Randolph Vance, "A Word-List from the Ozarks," Dial. N., V (1918-27), 397. Also noted in R. F. Adams, Western Words: A Dictionary (1944), p. 69, and in Wentworth, op. cit., p. 69: "s.w. Mo., n.w. Ark., Ozarks, Va."

Tennessee expression. Forty per cent said downpour, and 10 per cent said pourdown.²⁴

The expression clearing up or off and fairing up or off seem to be synonymous. After a storm the weather was clearing up or fairing up. Breaking up referred to the disappearance of the clouds. Thirty per cent of the informants said clearing off; 40 per cent, clearing up; 10 per cent, fair up;²⁵ 10 per cent, fair off;²⁶ 10 per cent, breaking up. One informant remarked that clearing off was used most.

In giving expressions denoting a decrease in the strength of the wind, 20 per cent of the informants said wind's laid;²⁷ 20 per cent, quieten down;²⁸ 30 per cent,

²⁴Cf. ibid., p. 472: "Metathesis, South Carolina."

²⁵Nixon, op. cit., p. 20, found it used in Virginia; and Payne, op. cit., p. 285, found it used in east Alabama.

²⁶Listed in Francis C. Hays, "A Word-List from North Carolina," Pub. of the Am. Dial. Society, No. 2 (Nov., 1944), p. 32 and in Joseph W. Carr and Rupert Taylor, "A List of Words from N. W. Arkansas," Dial. N., III (1905-1912), 208.

²⁷Wentworth, op. cit., p. 345, says it is "found in e. Ky., e. Texas frequently, lain never or very rarely used." Also, Nixon, op. cit., p. 43, has noted this use in Va.

²⁸Vance Randolph and Nancy Clemens, "A Fifth Ozark Word-List," Am. Sp., XI (Dec., 1936), 314, record this term. Also, it is found in "e.w. Va., s.w. Mo., n.w. Ark., w. N. C., and e. Tenn." by Wentworth, op. cit., p. 488.

calming down;²⁹ 10 per cent, easing up; 10 per cent goin'
to lay; 10 per cent, calmin' [kæmɪn] down. In regard
to this sound Kenyon explains:

[æ] is the regular descendent of ME short [a], when not influenced by neighboring sounds. This short ME [a], sometime before 1600, by the advancing of the tongue became [æ]. It has remained [æ] in standard British and American English in the great majority of words with ME short [a] (cat, man, hand). As a consequence, Early Modern and Late Modern standard speech up to about 1775 had no [a] sound in the words under consideration, including father, calm, ask, half, etc. which now have [a] in some types of English.³⁰

In present-day dialect pronunciations a few people belonging to the older generation still use the sound [æ], as in psalm, calm, sauce, instead of the [a] which is now used.

In giving expressions denoting an increase in the strength of the wind, 20 per cent of the informants said gettin' higher; 10 per cent, gettin' up;³¹ 10 per cent, gettin' pretty [pʊtɪ] high; 10 per cent, coming up; 10 per cent, gettin' harder; 20 per cent, blowing a gale; 10 per cent, gettin' stronger; 10 per cent, just a rollin' in.

²⁹ Cf. Nixon, op. cit., p. 14.

³⁰ John S. Kenyon, American Pronunciation, p. 172.

³¹ Nixon, op. cit., p. 23, lists it as a Virginia term.

The strong cold wind from the north was called a norther³² by 80 per cent of the informants and a blue norther³³ by 20 per cent.

A long period of dry weather was called a drought by 60 per cent of the informants and drouth by 40 per cent. Kenyon said that the two words drought [draut] and drouth [drauθ] are phonetic variants of the same OE word and have lived side by side, though in England drought is preferred in the South, while drouth is common in the North and Scotland, and probably prevails in America as a whole.³⁴ One informant called this period a long dry spell.³⁵

The part of the day before supper time was called ev(e)nin(g)³⁶ by 80 per cent of the informants and evening³⁷

³²Cf. Taylor, op. cit., p. 197.

³³D. A. E., p. 234, quotes from Morrell, Flowers and Fruits: "A blue Texas norther whistled around my ears."

³⁴J. S. Kenyon, op. cit., p. 129.

³⁵Wentworth, op. cit., p. 584, finds this used in w. N. C. and e. Tenn.

³⁶Ibid., p. 198, records this use in n.e. Ky., w. N. C., and e. Tenn.

³⁷D. A. E., p. 902, says this meaning is used in the South and West. Kephart, op. cit., p. 370, quotes an anonymous Virginia woman living in n.w. U. S. : "These neighbors speak of forenoon, noon, and afternoon on formal occasions, but in our hearts we feel that this is affectation; our natural divisions of time are morning, evening, and night."

by 20 per cent, who, I think, were conscious of the pronunciation. One remarked that it is now called afternoon.

In expressing the time as fifteen minutes before eleven, 90 per cent of the informants said fifteen till, and 10 per cent said a quarter till.

Ninety per cent of the informants said good morning was used from daybreak to noon when meeting another; 10 per cent said good morning was used after breakfast, and hello after eleven o'clock.

The time at dawn or before daylight was called sun up³⁸ by 60 per cent and sun rise by 40 per cent.

The time at dusk was called sun down³⁹ by 60 per cent of the informants and sun set by 40 per cent.

³⁸ Wentworth, op. cit., p. 611, says sunup is chiefly dial., being used in Ark., s.e. Mo., e. Ala., w. Ga., and n.w. Va. Payne, op. cit., p. 343, finds it in e. Ala., and Nixon, op. cit., p. 41, finds it in Va.

³⁹ Wentworth, op. cit., p. 610, lists it used in s.e. Mo., n.w. Ark., e. Ky. Cumberlands, D. A. E., p. 2267, quotes from Buckingham, Slave States I: "They use the terms at sunup and at sundown instead of sunrise and sunset."

CHAPTER IV

THE FAMILY; SOCIAL LIFE; GREETINGS; PERSONS; PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS

Many of the dialect and colloquial words relating to family life are still used by the older as well as the younger generation. Familiar terms are "he favors (takes after, looks like, resembles, has ways like) his father." Thirty per cent of the informants defined favor¹ as meaning to resemble someone in appearance and features; also, the terms looks like by 20 per cent and resembles by 10 per cent are synonymous. Takes after by 60 per cent and has ways like by 10 per cent refer to actions or manner.

When the informants were asked what they called the people related to them, 20 per cent said relatives and 80 per cent said kinfolks.²

"Her relatives" or "his relatives" were called in-laws by all the informants.

¹Harold Wentworth, American Dialect Dictionary (1944) p. 209, finds it used in s.e. Va., n.w. Ark., e. Ala., w. Ga., and e. cent. S. C.

²Ibid., p. 341, says it is a common term in the South. Also listed by J. L. B. Taylor, "Snake County Talk," D. N., V (1918-27), 197, and D. S. Crumb, "The Dialect of South-eastern Missouri," D. N., II (1900-1904), 304.

Ninety per cent of the informants raised³ their children, and 10 per cent brought up a family.

For the usual term grandmother, 40 per cent of the informants said grandma; 30 per cent, gramma;⁴ 20 per cent, granny⁵ and 10 per cent, grandmother.

For the usual term grandfather, 70 per cent of the informants said grandpa; 10 per cent, gran(d)paw [grænpə]⁶; 20 per cent, grandad.

For the usual term mother, 40 per cent said ma;⁷ 20 per cent, maw;⁸ 20 per cent, mammy;⁹ 20 per cent, mama. One

³Cited in L. R. Dingus, "A Word-List from Virginia," D. N., IV (1913-17), 180. Also, Crumb, op. cit., p. 304, finds it used in s.e. Mo., and J. W. Carr, "A List of Words from Northwest Arkansas," D. N., II (1900-1904), 416, records it. Wentworth, op. cit., p. 493, states, "In many parts of the U. S., notably in s. U. S., raise is still commonly applied to the rearing of children."

⁴Wentworth, op. cit., p. 263, finds this word used in w. N. C., e. Tenn.

⁵Ibid., p. 263, records it among the words of s.w. Va. and e. Ky. Cumberlands.

⁶Ibid., p. 263, notes it used in s.e. Ky. and also in e. Texas.

⁷Also noted in R. L. Weeks, "Notes from Missouri," D. N., I (1890-1896), 235. Wentworth, op. cit., p. 372, finds it used in n. Ga.

⁸Recorded in L. W. Payne, Jr., "A Word-List from East Alabama," D. N., III (1905-12), 343. Crumb, op. cit., p. 304, finds it used in s.e. Mo., and Wentworth, op. cit., p. 362, finds it in Va., Ky., s.e. Mo., e.w. Va.

⁹Wentworth, op. cit., p. 372, notes this use in Ga., Ala., n.w. Ark., e. Texas.

informant stated that she always said mother; yet during the conversation she unconsciously said ma.

For the usual term father 40 per cent of the informants said pa;¹⁰ 30 per cent, paw;¹¹ 20 per cent, papa; 10 per cent, pappy.¹²

Familiar terms used for my wife were the old lady¹³ by 20 per cent of the informants, my wife by 40 per cent, and the old woman¹⁴ by 10 per cent. Thirty per cent of them called her by her name.

Familiar terms used for my husband were my ole man¹⁵ by 10 per cent of the informants, my husband by 40 per cent,

¹⁰R. L. Weeks, op. cit., p. 235, finds this word used in Missouri.

¹¹Payne, op. cit., p. 343, cites paw in his e. Ala. word list. Also, Wentworth, op. cit., p. 437, finds it in Va., Ky., n.w. Ark.

¹²Wentworth, op. cit., p. 437, quotes the Texas slogan, "Pass the biscuits, pappy." Also, he finds it used in Ga., Ky., Va., e. Tenn. J. H. Combs, in "A Word List from the South," D. N., V (1918-1927), 31, labels it a Tenn. word. Taylor, op. cit., p. 197, says that it is used in s.w. Mo.

¹³Payne, op. cit., p. 343, lists it with the words from e. Ala. Also found by Wentworth, op. cit., p. 425, in e. Ala. and w. Ga.

¹⁴H. A. Edson and E. M. Fairchild, "Tennessee Mountains," D. N., I (1890-1896), 370, note this term. Crumb, op. cit., p. 304, says it is used in s.e. Mo. Wentworth, op. cit., p. 425, finds it in s.e. Ky., e. Tenn., w. N. C.

¹⁵Wentworth, op. cit., p. 425, says it is very common in w. Texas.

and the old man¹⁶ by 10 per cent. Forty per cent of them called him by his name.

Several pet names for children were given. Sixty per cent of the informants said kid; 10 per cent, shaver; 10 per cent, kiddy dee; 10 per cent, girlie, sonny boy, or buster. One woman remarked that she always said sugar pie¹⁷ to her own children, or Mother's sunshine.

A young man who was interested in a girl or in love with her and who took her out was sparking¹⁹ by 40 per cent of the informants and courting by 60 per cent.

For the term kissing 90 per cent said bussing²⁰ and 10 per cent said smacking.

¹⁶Edson and Fairchild, *op. cit.*, p. 370, lists it as a Tenn. term. Also, Crumb, *op. cit.*, p. 304, finds it in s.e. Mo., and Payne, *op. cit.*, p. 343, finds it in e. Ala. Cf. J. W. Carr and Rupert Taylor, "Southernisms Common to Northwest Arkansas and Southeast Missouri," *D. N.*, III (1905-12), 228.

¹⁷Mary Celesta Parler, "Word-List from Wedgefield, South Carolina," *D. N.*, VI (1928-39), 84, finds that this is a common term of endearment.

¹⁸Wentworth, *op. cit.*, p. 439, says that in s.w. Mo. and n.w. Ark. it is the old hillfolks' way of saying necklace. Constance Bey and others, in "A Word List from Missouri," *Published by the American Dialect Society*, No. 2, (Nov., 1944), p. 53, say that it means a string of beads.

¹⁹Wentworth, *op. cit.*, p. 583, quotes from e. Texas, "She was bein' sparked by all the boys in town." Also, he says it is used in s.e. Va., s.w. Mo. Ozarks, and cent. Ky.

²⁰Listed by T. J. Farr, in "The Language of Tennessee Mountain Regions," *A. S.*, XIV (Apr., 1939), 89. Wentworth, *op. cit.*, p. 86, quotes from Alabama: "She bussed me so's you might a heard it a quarter." Also, he finds it common especially with old people in Tenn., s.e. Miss., e. Ky., and s.w. Va.

A noisy burlesque serenade after a wedding was called a shivaree²¹ by 80 per cent of the informants. Ten per cent had never heard of this custom. Ten per cent remembered hearing about it after the term was suggested. The informants said that the serenaders' instruments consisted of tin pans, buckets, cow bells, banjos, guitars, horns, and the school bell; they even beat on the buckets with iron plow shares.

The informants were 100 per cent in calling the harmonica a French harp.²²

A boy's weapon made of rubber strips on a forked stick was called a nigger shooter²³ by 70 per cent of the informants and a sling shot by 30 per cent.

²¹ Constance Bey, et al., op. cit., p. 53, list it with their Mo. words. Wentworth, op. cit., p. 550, finds the word used in e. Ky., n.w. Va., and e. Texas.

²² Recorded by J. W. Carr, in "A List of Words from Northwest Arkansas, II," D. N., III (1905-1912), 68. L. W. Payne, Jr., op. cit., p. 285, lists it with his e. Ala. words.

²³ Hyder E. Rollins, "A West Texas Word List," D. N., IV (1913-17), 224, says, "Every boy in Texas is proficient in its use." L. W. Payne, Jr., op. cit., p. 343, records it in his e. Ala. words. D. A. E., p. 1602, quotes Sweet and Knox, Through Texas, p. 339: "Just about the time people have got used to tops buzzing about their ears, the 'nigger shooter' mania breaks out."

For the greeting on Christmas morning, 80 per cent of the informants said Christmas gift,²⁴ and 20 per cent said Merry Christmas.

Seventy per cent of the informants did not know a name for the bonus or gift given with a purchase or when a bill was paid. Ten per cent suggested treat. One informant said she had heard pilony²⁵ used among the Mexicans.

Forty per cent of the informants said that in addressing a girl after a dance or some similar occasion, a young man would say, "May I see you home?" "May I escort you home?" was recalled by 30 per cent. One woman laughed and added, "Barcus was usually willing." Twenty per cent said, "May I carry²⁶ you home?" An informant said that she "rode behind him on horseback," and at the party he fiddled while she danced. Ten per cent said, "May I take you home?"

²⁴Wentworth, op. cit., p. 113, says that this Southern expression has nothing to do with presents; it is equivalent to Merry Christmas. L. R. Dingus, "A Word List from Virginia," D. N., IV (1913-17), 180, records it. L. W. Payne, Jr., op. cit., p. 285, finds it used in e. Ala. Phyllis J. Nixon lists it in "A Glossary of Virginia Words," American Dialect Publications Society, No. 5 (May, 1946), p. 15. Also, D. S. Crumb, op. cit., p. 304, cites it in his southern Missouri word list.

²⁵Also the D. A. E., p. 1739, quotes Sweet and Knox, Through Texas, p. 348, who say it is used by the Mexicans.

²⁶Nixon, op. cit., p. 14, says the expression is common east of the Blue Ridge.

The variety store was called racket²⁷ by 40 per cent of the informants, nickel store by 30 per cent, variety by 20 per cent, and five and ten by 10 per cent.

Fifty per cent of the informants called the local preacher parson;²⁸ 30 per cent addressed him Brother so and so; 10 per cent called him my pastor; 10 per cent said reverend. Those who said Brother so and so also called his wife Sister so and so.

For the plural of you, 80 per cent of the informants said you all,²⁹ and 20 per cent said y'all.³⁰ Thirty per cent had heard you-uns, one remarking that "hayseeds" said you-uns and we-uns.

²⁷ Wentworth, op. cit., p. 491, finds it used in n.w. Ark. and s.e. Mo. Also, Carr, in "A List of Words from Northwest Arkansas II," op. cit., p. 68, records it.

²⁸ Crumb, op. cit., p. 304, finds this word used in s.e. Mo. and so does Wentworth, op. cit., p. 442.

²⁹ Wentworth, op. cit., p. 730, notes it used in Va., Ga., and s.e. Mo. C. M. Wilson, "Beefsteak When I'm Hungry; Mountain Dialect," V. Q. R., VI (April, 1930), 240, lists it with his Virginia words, and Payne, op. cit., p. 343, lists it with his e. Ala. words.

³⁰ Wentworth, op. cit., p. 730, says that this form is now practically universal in the South; in e. Texas it is used only as plural by whites. Never observed as sing. except with negroes as a polite form.

The familiar form of greeting was hello by 70 per cent, and hi-i³¹ by 20 per cent. Ten per cent said howdy.³² One person remarked that she always spoke "formal manner" by using howdy.

A container for money was called a money purse³³ by 10 per cent of the informants, pocket book by 40 per cent, and purse by 50 per cent. One informant said that handbag was older than purse,³⁴ but ridicule³⁵ [reticule] was the oldest because her mother called it by that name; also, she said that satchel was an old word.

The informants were 100 per cent in using umbrella and parasol for the article which protects us from the weather. Some thought of the umbrella as being larger than a parasol; therefore, the umbrella was for a man's use and the parasol was for a woman's use. Others thought

³¹Carr and Taylor, op. cit., p. 392, find hi-i used in Ark. meaning how are you.

³²Wentworth, op. cit., p. 307, says this expression is extremely common among country people in Ky., Miss., e. Tenn., w. N. C., s.e. Mo. Also Taylor, op. cit., p. 199, finds it used in s.e. Mo.; H. A. Edson and E. M. Fairchild, op. cit., p. 370, find it in Tenn; Payne, op. cit., p. 285, finds it in e. Ala.

³³Wentworth, op. cit., p. 484, says it is used in s.e. Va.

³⁴Recorded by Dingus, op. cit., p. 180, in his Va. word list.

³⁵Wentworth, op. cit., p. 510, finds the word used in Va.

that the umbrella was used for keeping off the rain and the parasol was for protection against the sun.

Straps which hold trousers up were called galluses³⁶ by 90 per cent of the informants. Ten per cent said suspenders but stated that galluses was an older word.

To be concerned with one's personal appearance was called doll-up by 10 per cent, spruce-up by 10 per cent, dress-up by 20 per cent, and primp-up³⁷ by 60 per cent. One informant said that she still says primp-up. To dress-up reminded one woman of the notes she once sent to her "beau," paying the messenger ten cents a note. Another said that the girls pinched their cheeks and starched their faces,³⁸ using corn starch or fine meal.

The young man who was "courting" was called sweetheart by 20 per cent of the informants, beau by 70 per cent, and flame by 10 per cent.

³⁶Taylor, op. cit., p. 199, lists this word in his s.w. Mo. words. Recorded by Carr, in "A List of Words from Northwest Arkansas, II," op. cit., p. 68. Listed by Nixon, op. cit., p. 23, in her Va. words. Wentworth, op. cit., p. 241, says it is common in n.w. Ark., e. Ala., w. Ga., w. Va., and e. Tenn.

³⁷Nixon, op. cit., p. 33, notes that the word is used in Va.

³⁸Hyder E. Rollins, in "A West Texas Word List," D. N., IV (1913-1917), 224, records to starch one's face.

The object of the young man's fancy was called his girl friend by 20 per cent, his best gal³⁹ by 10 per cent, and sweetheart by 70 per cent. One remarked that sweetheart worked both ways.

His fiancée was said to be his future wife by 20 per cent, bride-to-be by 10 per cent, promised wife by 20 per cent, intended by 20 per cent, and betrothed by 30 per cent.

The term used for refusing a proposal of marriage after having accepted it was called jilted by 60 per cent of the informants. This term was suggested to two informants who could not think of a word. Twenty per cent said gave him the go-by;⁴⁰ 10 per cent, gave him his walking papers;⁴¹ 10 per cent, turned him down. One woman said that give him the g. b. [grand bounce] was a common term when she was a girl.

The social gatherings assumed various forms and were named accordingly. Forty per cent of the informants said

³⁹Wentworth, op. cit., p. 251, says that in w. N. C., e. Tenn., and Ky., "A mountain swain carries his gal to meetin."

⁴⁰Payne, op. cit., p. 285, finds the term used in e. Ala.

⁴¹Cf. Ibid., p. 343.

that games were played at play parties.⁴² To 30 per cent a party meant singings,⁴³ for they lived in "church going" communities. Ten per cent said ball. Thirty per cent explained that at socials or sociables⁴⁴ they just talked. One said a jamboree was a bigger "to-do" than socials or parties. Twenty per cent said camp meetings represented another form of social life. To 40 per cent a party meant break down⁴⁵ square dancing.

A talk for a long time about nothing was called gossip by 50 per cent of the informants, gabbing by 30 per cent, jawing⁴⁶ by 10 per cent, and chatting by 10 per cent. One informant said that a confab was special talk. Chewing the fat was regarded as another term for idle talk.

⁴²C. L. Crow, "Texas Word List," D. N., IV (1913-17), 347, lists this term. Horace Kephart, in "A Word-List from the Mountains of Western North Carolina," D. N., IV (1913-17), 407, records it. Taylor, op. cit., p. 197, finds it used in s.w. Mo., and also J. W. Carr, "A List of Words from Northwest Arkansas, II," D. N., III (1905-1912), 68, records it. Wentworth, op. cit., p. 459, notes it is used in W. Va., w. N. C., e. Tenn., s.w. Mo.

⁴³Wentworth, op. cit., p. 559, finds the word used in Ga., Ala., and Miss.

⁴⁴Ibid., p. 559, lists this word from n.w. Ark. Carr and Taylor, op. cit., p. 392, also find it used in n.w. Ark.

⁴⁵Listed by Carr and Taylor, op. cit., p. 209, in words from n.w. Ark. Wentworth, op. cit., p. 74, notes it used in e. Ala., and w. Ga.

⁴⁶Wentworth, op. cit., p. 327, said that in e. Ala. and w. Ga., "We jawed for 'bout an hour."

An accidental meeting was expressed in several ways. Sixty per cent used ran into; 20 per cent, ran up on 'em; 20 per cent, ran across.

At parting for a long or short time 60 per cent of the informants said goodbye; 20 per cent, good luck to you; 20 per cent, see you again. One informant said that she did not like to say goodbye; another always said ta-ta⁴⁷ when she was young.

A person who is closely economical was called stingy by 60 per cent of the informants, tight⁴⁸ by 10 per cent, close by 20 per cent, and close fisted by 10 per cent.

An active old person was said to be spry by 80 per cent, right peart⁴⁹ [pirt] by 10 per cent, and lively by 10 per cent. One remarked spry as a cricket.

Seventy per cent of the informants called a person who was untidy in dress or physical appearance slouchy;

⁴⁷Rollins, op. cit., p. 224, finds this expression used in w. Texas.

⁴⁸Taylor, op. cit., p. 197, lists it with his s.w. Mo. words, and Payne, op. cit., p. 343, finds it used in e. Ala.

⁴⁹Payne, op. cit., p. 343, notes that the word is used in e. Ala. Wentworth, op. cit., p. 447, quotes from Ga., Ark., Va., Mo., "I'm feeling right peart today."

10 per cent, messy; 10 per cent, tacky;⁵⁰ and 10 per cent, slovenly.

A person easily offended was called sensitive by 60 per cent of the informants, touchous⁵¹ by 20 per cent, cranky by 10 per cent, and high tempered by 10 per cent.

One whose temper was aroused was mad as a hornet⁵² by 50 per cent of the informants and mad as a wet hen⁵³ by 30 per cent. He was said to be on a high horse⁵⁴ by 10 per cent and to fly off the handle⁵⁵ by 10 per cent.

A person tired or exhausted from work or play was said to be worn out by 20 per cent of the informants, dog tired by 20 per cent, tuckered out⁵⁶ by 20 per cent,

⁵⁰Rollins, op. cit., p. 224, lists this with his w. Texas words. J. W. Carr, in "A List of Words from Northwest Arkansas," D. N., II (1900-1904), 416, records it. Wentworth, op. cit., p. 619, finds it used in Ky., Tenn., and n.w. Ark.

⁵¹Nixon, op. cit., p. 42, cites it in her Va. word list. Taylor, op. cit., p. 223, records it in his list from s.w. Mo.

⁵²G. L. Hanford, "Metaphor and Simile in American Folk-Speech," D. N., V (1918-27), 170, finds this expression used in Ala.

⁵³Ibid. Also, Payne, op. cit., p. 285, finds it used in e. Ala.

⁵⁴Hanford, op. cit., p. 166, says this term is used in Ala., but it means prosperous.

⁵⁵Ibid., p. 162, lists this expression from Ark. and Ala.

⁵⁶Wentworth, op. cit., p. 665, notes that this usually occurs in rural or homely speech in n.w. Ark., e. Ala., and w. Ga. Also, Carr and Taylor, op. cit., p. 392, find it used in n.w. Ark.

used up by 10 per cent, worn thread bare by 10 per cent, fagged out by 10 per cent, and played out by 10 per cent.

A lazy, unambitious person was called good-for-nothing by 10 per cent, trifling by 20 per cent, no-'count⁵⁷ by 30 per cent, onery⁵⁸ by 10 per cent, sorry⁵⁹ by 20 per cent, a regular drag by 10 per cent, and lazy by 10 per cent.

A woman whose husband is dead was called a widow⁶⁰ by 50 per cent, a widow lady by 20 per cent, a widow woman⁶¹ by 20 per cent, and a widder woman⁶² by 10 per cent.

⁵⁷ Ibid., p. 414, says that it is found in s.e. Ky., e. Tenn., w. N. C., n.w. Ark., e. Ala., and w. Ga. Crumb, op. cit., p. 304, lists it with his s.e. Mo. words. Carr, "A List of Words from Northwest Arkansas, II", op. cit., p. 68, records it. Also, Payne, op. cit., p. 285, lists it with the e. Ala. words.

⁵⁸ Weeks, op. cit., p. 235, cites it as a Mo. word. Crumb, op. cit., p. 304, finds it used in s.e. Mo. Wentworth finds it in Ky., Miss., w. N. C., e. Tenn., W. Va.

⁵⁹ Wentworth, op. cit., p. 580, says that in Texas "frequently non-Southern Americans are amused upon hearing Southerners refer to a sorry fellow, tire, or book . . . indicating depreciation."

⁶⁰ Ibid., p. 709, finds that this word is usual in e. Texas, w. N. C., and e. Tenn.

⁶¹ Payne, op. cit., p. 285, states that this is common in e. Ala. Carr and Taylor, op. cit., p. 392, list it with the n.w. Ark. words.

⁶² Wentworth, op. cit., p. 709, says that it is a universal tautological phrase, and it is found in w. Texas, s. W. Va., s.w. Mo., n.w. Ark: Ozarks, and e. Ky. Cumberlands.

Various names were given for negro. Colored seemed to be the general term, but each informant had other suggestions. Forty per cent said darky; 50 per cent nigger⁶³ 10 per cent, coon;⁶⁴ 10 per cent, black man. One remarked that his grandson said jigaboo. Also a negro child was called a pickaninny.⁶⁵

One from the back country was called country jake⁶⁶ by 10 per cent of the informants, hayseed⁶⁷ by 70 per cent, hick⁶⁸ by 20 per cent, and hillbilly⁶⁹ by 10 per cent.

⁶³Crumb, op. cit., p. 304, finds it used in s.e. Mo. Carr, "A List of Words from Northwest Arkansas, II," op. cit., p. 68, records it.

⁶⁴John P. Fruit, "Kentucky Words," D. N., I (1890-1896), 299, gives an example, "There is a strange coon in town." Payne, op. cit., p. 300, notes this used in e. Ala.

⁶⁵Payne, op. cit., p. 357, says that the word is known only in "coon" songs and is not colloquial in e. Ala., but Crumb, op. cit., p. 342 finds it used in s.e. Mo. Allen Walker Read notes that it is listed in "Boucher's Linguistic Pastoral of Colonial Maryland," D. N., VI (1928-1939), 359.

⁶⁶Wentworth, op. cit., p. 136, finds it common in Tenn., Miss., N. C., Mo., n.w. Ark., and W. Va. Carr and Taylor, op. cit., p. 392, cite its use in n.w. Ark.

⁶⁷Ibid., p. 281, says that it is common in n. Texas, Parker County, s.w. Texas, and s.w. Va.

⁶⁸Ibid., p. 291, finds it used in w. cent. W. Va. It is U. S. slang.

⁶⁹Taylor, op. cit., p. 210, lists it with words from s.w. Mo. Payne, op. cit., p. 320, notes its use in e. Ala. Carr, in "A List of words from Northwest Arkansas," D. N., II (1900-1904), 418, records it. Wentworth, op. cit., p. 294, notes its use in n.w. Ark., s.w. Mo. Ozarks and w. N. C.

For an expression of mild disgust 20 per cent said darn,⁷⁰ 30 per cent, plague [plɛg] take it;⁷¹ 10 per cent, the dickunce⁷² [dickens]; 10 per cent, gosh; 20 per cent, gentle river; 10 per cent shucks;⁷³ 10 per cent, fiddlesticks.

The expressions said of persons who weigh too much were too heavy by 10 per cent of the informants, fleshy⁷⁴ by 20 per cent, stout⁷⁵ by 20 per cent, fatty by 10 per cent, and too fat by 40 per cent.

A stupid person was called a dunce by 20 per cent of the informants, saphead⁷⁶ by 20 per cent, dumb by 20 per

⁷⁰Carr and Taylor, op. cit., p. 211, find it used in n.w. Ark.

⁷¹Wentworth, op. cit., p. 458, says that the expression is common in Miss., n.w. Ark., e. Ala., and w. Ga.

⁷²Payne, op. cit., p. 304, records it in his e. Ala. words. Also, Wentworth, op. cit., p. 161, finds this use in e. Ala. and w. Ga.

⁷³Crumb, op. cit., p. 329, cites the word in s.e. Mo. and Payne, op. cit., p. 369, in e. Ala. Wentworth, op. cit., p. 555, notes this exclamation in Miss., s.e. Mo., w. N. C. and e. Tenn.

⁷⁴Wentworth, op. cit., p. 222, finds this use in w. N. C. and e. Tenn.

⁷⁵Nixon, op. cit., p. 40, lists it with her Va. words. Wentworth, op. cit., p. 602, notes the use in w. N. C. and e. Tenn.

⁷⁶Carr and Taylor, op. cit., p. 207, record it with words from n.w. Ark. Wentworth, op. cit., p. 530, says that sap-skull is the word used in Ky. Mts.

cent, gump⁷⁷ by 10 per cent, half-wit by 10 per cent, and simpleton by 20 per cent. One informant had heard such a person called minus.

A person not yielding to reason was said to be hard headed by 40 per cent of the informants, stubborn by 30 per cent, contrary⁷⁸ by 20 per cent, and set in his ways⁷⁹ by 10 per cent.

⁷⁷ R. L. Weeks, "Notes from Missouri," D. N., I (1890-1896), 236, lists it, and also, J. W. Carr, in "A List of Words from Northwest Arkansas, II," op. cit., p. 82. Wentworth, op. cit., p. 271, records it with the words from w. Mo. and Miss. Payne, op. cit., p. 317, says it is very common in e. Ala.

⁷⁸ C. M. Woodard, A Word-List from Virginia and North Carolina, Am. Dial. Society Pub., No. 6 (Nov., 1946), p. 10, lists this word. Wentworth, op. cit., p. 131, notes that it is used in s.e. Va., Warwick County.

⁷⁹ Carr and Taylor, op. cit., p. 217, find this term used in n.w. Ark.

CHAPTER V

THE HOUSE; HOUSEHOLD GOODS; PREMISES; VEHICLES

In pioneer days the two-room house with a probable ell had little space for entertaining visitors. The big room, used by 10 per cent of the informants, contained the fireplace; here the family lived, using the little room for the beds. Later, as the farmer was able to build a larger house, there was a room at the front where guests were entertained. This was called the front room¹ by 40 per cent. Parlor was never used, for it was considered a town word. This special room was much finer in town than in the country; also, it was usually kept shut up and dark. One informant remarked that parlors came in with servants.

All informants gave hearth² as the name for the stone, brick, or tile floor of a fireplace; however, 80 per cent pronounced it [h ɜ θ].

A shelf over the fireplace was called a mantle by 30 per cent, a mantleboard by 30 per cent, and a mantlepiece by

¹Jay L. B. Taylor, "Snake County Talk," D. N., V (1918-27), 207, finds this word used in s.w. Mo.

²Harold Wentworth, American Dialect Dictionary, p. 284, records that [h ɜ θ] is used in e. Ala., w. Ga., and w. Va.

twenty per cent. A fireboard,³ used by 10 per cent, closed the fireplace when it was not in use.

All informants said that a gutter took the water off the roof.

A place for hanging one's clothes was called a closet by 90 per cent and a clothes closet by 10 per cent. The first houses had no closets. Clothing was kept in a trunk or "hangin' up agin' the wall" as one informant expressed it. Another used wardrobes instead of closets. She called them wadrobes because the boys "wadded up" their clothes in them.

Seventy per cent of the informants said that attic was the unfinished space at the top of the house. Twenty per cent had no name for this space. Ten per cent gave loft,⁴ which, one said, was older than attic.

The room for storing disused articles was called a store room by 70 per cent, plunder room by 10 per cent, and a trunk room by 10 per cent. The daughter of one informant

³L. R. Dingus, "A Word-List from Virginia," D. N., IV (1913-17), 183, says that fireboard usually means a shelf, but it can also mean a screen. Wentworth, op. cit., p. 217, also states that a screen may be meant.

⁴Taylor, op. cit., p. 213, finds this word used in s.w. Mo. Dingus, op. cit., p. 185, records it in his Virginia lists of words. K. L. Weeks, "Notes from Missouri," D. N., I (1890-96), 240, lists it. Wentworth, op. cit., p. 366, says that it also means the upper space in a barn as used in s.w. Va. and s.w. Mo.

remembered well the trunk room where she was taken to get her switchings.

A platform before the front or back door of a house, often roofed over and railed, was called a gallery⁵ by 80 per cent of the informants and porch, a later term, by 20 per cent.

Overlapping boards on the outside of the house were weatherboards⁶ according to 80 per cent of the informants and shiplap according to 20 per cent. One informant regretted that there were no more weather boards made, only shiplap.

Ninety per cent of the informants pronounced chimney correctly, but 10 per cent said chimley [tʃimlɪ].⁷

⁵D. S. Crumb, "The Dialect of Southeastern Missouri," D. N., II (1900-1904), 314, records it in his list. Taylor, op. cit., p. 207, finds it in s.w. Mo. J. W. Carr, "A List of Words from Northwest Arkansas, II," D. N., III (1905-1912), 80, notes its use. Wentworth, op. cit., p. 600, says that it is common in Ark., Tenn., e. Ala., w. Ga., and Texas Panhandle.

⁶R. H. Thornton, "An American Glossary," D. N., VI (1928-1939), 696, cites its use in Va. J. W. Carr, "A List of Words from Northwest Arkansas, III," D. N., III (1905-1912), p. 124, also records it.

⁷J. P. Fruit, "Kentucky Words," D. N., I (1890-1896), 67, lists this pronunciation. Abigail E. Weeks, in "A Word-List from Barbourville, Ky.," D. N., III (1905-1912), 456, notes the same. Horace Kephart, "A Word-List from the Mountains of Western North Carolina," D. N., IV (1913-1917), 409, records it. Wentworth, op. cit., p. 614, notes this use in Ky., e. Tenn., w. N. C., s.e. Va.

The black substance adhering to the sides of the chimney was smut according to 20 per cent of the informants and sut [sʌt]⁸ according to 80 per cent.

The daily sweeping and dusting was referred to as cleaning up by 80 per cent and straightening up by 20 per cent.

Sleeping room by 20 per cent and bedroom by 80 per cent were terms used for the room in which one sleeps.

All informants called the room in which food is cooked the kitchen.

For names applied to old, broken, useless things which accumulate and are eventually thrown away, the informants offered junk by 50 per cent, trash⁹ by 30 per cent, and rubbish by 20 per cent.

The informants were asked, "What is said to one who leaves the door open?" Each was emphatic in giving the following exclamations: Do you know what a door is for! by 10 per cent, Close that door! by 30 per cent, Shut the door! by 30 per cent, and Come back and shut the door! by 20 per cent. Another informant's quick response was "Drap

⁸L. W. Payne, Jr., "A Word-List from East Alabama," III (1905-12), 377, finds this pronunciation. Wentworth, *op. cit.*, p. 614, finds it common in S. C., Tenn., Miss., s.e. Va., e. Ala., w. Ga., N. C.

⁹J. W. Carr and Rupert Taylor, in "A List of Words from Northeastern Arkansas," *D. N.*, III (1905-12), 227, records this word.

[dræp]¹⁰ that curtain." She had said that there were no doors within the log houses; therefore, curtains were used. To the suggested saying, "Were you raised in a barn?" one answered that it was the "same as raised in a barn in the early days."

A piece of furniture with drawers included chest of drawers, chiffonier, bureau, and dresser. Forty per cent described the chest of drawers as high and having no mirror. Sixty per cent said that the chiffonier was high and narrow with or without a mirror. The bureau named by 60 per cent and the dresser by 40 per cent were usually low and with a mirror. One informant suggested another type of storage space, the quilt box, which was a low chest with a hinged lid.

The terms shades and blinds denote window shades fastened at the top to spring rollers. Curtains¹¹ were used first, then shades when the furniture stores came in.

¹⁰Taylor, op. cit., p. 206, notes this pronunciation in s.w. Mo. J. W. Carr, "A List of Words from Northwest Arkansas, III," D. N., III (1905-12), 134, says the same. Wentworth, op. cit., p. 178, finds it used in s.e. Mo., n.w. Ark., e. Ala., w. Ga., e. Tenn., w. N. C., and e. Texas.

¹¹Carr and Taylor, op. cit., p. 395, cite this use in n.e. Ark. Wentworth, op. cit., p. 149, gives the example from n.w. Ark.: "Curtain's off the roller."

Seventy per cent called them shades,¹² and 30 per cent called them blinds.¹³

A small room adjoining the kitchen where food or dishes were stored was called a pantry by 70 per cent. The other informants had no pantries. Ten per cent used a kitchen safe;¹⁴ 10 per cent, a kitchen cabinet;¹⁵ 10 per cent, a kitchen cupboard.¹⁶

The terms used for the piece of furniture designed primarily for lying on were called couch¹⁷ by 10 per cent, divan by 10 per cent, davenport by 10 per cent, and sofa by 70 per cent.

Various names were given to the irons which hold logs for burning. Fifty per cent of the informants said dogirons,¹⁸

¹²Wentworth, op. cit., p. 149, finds this to be the usual term in W. Va.

¹³Ibid., notes this use in Va.

¹⁴Mary Celestia Parler, "Word-List from Wedgefield, S. C.," D. N., VI (1928-1939), 84, records it. J. W. Carr, "A List of Words from Northwest Arkansas, II," D. N., III (1905-1912), 85, also cites it. Wentworth, op. cit., p. 527, finds this the usual expression in s.w. Va., n.w. Ark., e. Ala., and w. Ga.

¹⁵J. W. Carr, "A List of Words from Northwest Arkansas, III," D. N., III (1905-1912), 144, notes this use.

¹⁶Wentworth, op. cit., p. 527, says that in e. Ala. and w. Ga. safe is usual, and cupboard is heard only in nursery rimes.

¹⁷Ibid., p. 135, notes that the term is usual in e. Va.

¹⁸Taylor, op. cit., p. 205, records it in his s.w. Mo. list of words.

one pronouncing it [brns]; 20 per cent, firedogs,¹⁹ 20 per cent, andirons; and 10 per cent, andyirons, which is an example of folk etymology, for it contains an excrescent y. Some of the informants considered andirons as being fancy.

The term bucket²⁰ had many uses both as a metal container and as a wooden container. Eighty per cent described the water bucket²¹ as made of pine or cedar; 20 per cent gave the name piggin²² to a water or milk bucket. One informant said that the piggin was made of cedar and "bleached up pretty." Another told of using a brass kittle [kɪtl] ²³ which would canker,²⁴ that is, be covered with verdigris, a green deposit on brass.

¹⁹Carr and Taylor, op. cit., p. 231, note this use in n.w. Ark. Crumb, op. cit., p. 313, finds it in s.e. Mo.

²⁰Parler, op. cit., p. 84, observes this use in S. C. Payne, op. cit., p. 295, finds it in e. Ala. Crumb, op. cit., p. 308, lists it in his s.e. Mo. words. Wentworth, op. cit., p. 80, finds this term universal in the South.

²¹Wentworth, op. cit., p. 80, notes its use in Ga. and s.e. Va.

²²Ibid., p. 455, says it is very common in the South.

²³Kephart, op. cit., p. 413, notes this pronunciation in w. N. C. Payne, op. cit., p. 327, in e. Ala. Wentworth, op. cit., p. 339, says it is common in W. Va., n.w. Ark., e. Ala., w. Ga., s.w. Mo., w. N. C., and e. Tenn.

²⁴Wentworth, op. cit., p. 93, cites this use in s.e. Va. Warwick Co. as now dial.

The milk pail²⁵ by 40 per cent, the milk bucket by 10 per cent, and the milk vessel by 10 per cent were spoken of as metal containers. Fifty per cent kept the milk in crocks. One had tin coolers let down in the well for keeping the milk to drink.

Sixty per cent of the informants carried their lunches in a school bucket; 20 per cent, in a tin bucket; and 20 per cent, in a dinner bucket.²⁶ One informant remembered a friend's lunches which consisted of buttermilk, sausage, and soda biscuits in which she punched holes to pour the molasses that she carried in a quinine bottle.

The garbage pail was called slop bucket by 80 per cent and pig bucket by 20 per cent.

When wood was plentiful, the farmers had "heatin' stoves," as one expressed it, but later the coal stove was used. Eighty per cent of the informants brought in the coal in the coal scuttles; 10 per cent, in coal buckets;²⁷ and 10 per cent in coal hods.

²⁵Ibid., p. 80, finds it used in s.e. Va., rare in e. Ala. and w. Ga., and used interchangeably in S. C.

²⁶J. W. Carr, in "A List of Words from Northwest Arkansas," D. N., II (1900-1904), 417, records this term. Wentworth, op. cit., p. 80, says it is used in Ga., n.w. Ark., S. C., Miss., and n.e. Ky.

²⁷Cf. ibid., p. 417.

In denoting the cloth with which dishes were wiped dry after washing, the men had some difficulty. One man turned to his wife for help in naming the terms belonging to the household. Thirty per cent of the informants, who were men, said dryin' cloth or rag²⁸ but changed to cup towel, the term used by their wives. Ten per cent of the informants said tea towel; 10 per cent, dish towel; and 50 per cent, cup towel.

Forty per cent of the informants rench [rēnt]²⁹ their dishes and 60 per cent rinse them. One suggested scald.

All informants used wash rag³⁰ as a term for a piece of cloth used in bathing the face or body. One remarked that it was really a "raggedy rag" in the early days.

The flat-bottomed pan with a handle, used for frying, was given three names: a frying pan³¹ by 60 per cent, a

²⁸Wentworth, op. cit., p. 148, notes the term used in e. W. Va., Berkeley Co., but in Ark. and W. Va. tea towel is the usual term. The Negro in W. Va. says cup towel.

²⁹J. W. Carr, in "A List of Words from Northwest Arkansas, III," D. N., III (1905-1912), 153, records it. Payne, op. cit., p. 363, notes its use in e. Ala. Wentworth, op. cit., p. 514, finds it used in Miss., Ky., s.e. Va., s.e. Mo., and n.w. Ark.

³⁰Payne, op. cit., p. 386, says that the term is usual in e. Ala.

³¹Wentworth, op. cit., p. 562, observes this use in s.e. Tenn. and Texas.

fry pan by 10 per cent, and a skillet³² by 30 per cent.

Skillet was also used in another sense. A number of informants recalled the skillet with three legs used for cooking in the fire place.

The device to turn on water was called hydrant³³ by 30 per cent, faucet³⁴ by 60 per cent, and water funnel by 10 per cent.

Ninety per cent of the informants used a back log in the fire place; 10 per cent, who never had a fire place, had no name to offer.

The names given for various types of chairs were rocker by 30 per cent, rocking chair by 50 per cent, and platform rocker by 20 per cent. One informant preferred sitting in the straight-back cane-bottomed chair.

The informants were asked to name the bag or sack made of paper. Ten per cent of the informants used the term

³²Crumb, op. cit., p. 330, records it in his s.e. Mo. word list. Payne, op. cit., p. 370, notes this use in e. Ala. Wentworth finds it used in s.e. Mo., n.w. Ark., s.e. Ky., e. Tenn., w. N. C., and e. Texas.

³³J. W. Carr, in "A List of Words from Northwest Arkansas," finds it in common use. Wentworth, op. cit., p. 312, says that it is common in n.w. Ark. and Miss.

³⁴R. L. Weeks, op. cit., p. 238, notes this use in Mo.

poke;³⁵ 60 per cent paper sack,³⁶ and 30 per cent, paper bag.³⁷ One informant who always used the term paper sack said she had not even heard paper bag until long after she was married.

The oil used in lamps or for fuel was called coal oil³⁸ by 80 per cent of the informants, kerosene³⁹ by 10 per cent, and lamp oil⁴⁰ by 10 per cent.

An improvised bed made by arranging quilts on a floor was referred to as a pallet⁴¹ by all the informants. One

³⁵Paul E. Pendleton, "How the 'Wood Hicks' Speak," D. N., VI (1928-1939), 88, lists this word from Upshur County, W. Va. Taylor, op. cit., p. 217, notes its use in s.w. Mo. Hyder E. Rollins, in "A West Texas Word List," D. N., IV (1913-1917), 228, records it. Crumb, op. cit., p. 325, finds it in s.e. Mo.

³⁶Dingus, op. cit., p. 189, lists it in his Va. words. Payne, op. cit., p. 365, finds it in e. Ala. J. W. Carr, in "A List of Words from Northwest Arkansas," D. N., II (1900-1904), 420, records it. Wentworth, op. cit., p. 526, says it is universal in n.w. Ark., e. Ala., and w. Ga.

³⁷Ibid., p. 180, finds this term used in Va.

³⁸J. W. Carr, "A List of Words from Northwest Arkansas," D. N., II (1900-1904), 417, notes this use. Wentworth, op. cit., p. 121, says that it is the usual term in s.e. Mo., n.w. Ark., and e. W. Va.

³⁹Wentworth, op. cit., p. 121, notes that it is understood but rarely used in n.w. Ark.

⁴⁰Ibid., p. 121, finds this term used in s. W. Va. and e. Ky.

⁴¹Taylor, op. cit., p. 216, notes this use in s.w. Mo. Crumb, op. cit., in s.e. Mo. Dingus, op. cit., p. 187, lists it in his Va. words. Payne, op. cit., p. 355, notes the word in e. Ala. Wentworth, op. cit., p. 440, finds it used in s.e. Mo., w. N. C., e. Tenn., S. C., Ga., n.e. Ky., and e. Texas.

recalled the trundle bed used by the children. In speaking of beds another informant mentioned the folding bed which is no longer used. Another's children slept in rocker beds.

The babies were wheeled in baby buggies⁴² by 70 per cent of the informants, in baby carriages by 20 per cent, and in go-carts by 10 per cent.

The terms bedspread, coverlid, coverlet, and counterpin were offered for the cloth cover, often ornamental, which was spread over a bed "made up" for the day. The term coverlet was used by 10 per cent of the informants; coverlid,⁴³ by 30 per cent; counterpin,⁴⁴ by 60 per cent; and bed spread,⁴⁵ by 20 per cent. Coverlet and coverlid were considered older than counterpin. Both the coverlid and the counterpin were made on home looms. One informant still has her mother's coverlid.

⁴²J. W. Carr, "A List of Words from Northwest Arkansas," D. N., II (1900-1904), 416, cites it.

⁴³J. W. Carr, "A List of Words from Northwest Arkansas, II," D. N., III (1905-1912), 75, records this term. Vance Randolph, "A Word List from the Ozarks," D. N., V (1918-1927), 399, notes the word. Wentworth, op. cit., p. 137, says that it is universal in s.e. Va., Warwick Co., n.w. Ark., e. Ala., and w. Ga.

⁴⁴Kephart, op. cit., p. 410, finds the term used in w. N. C.

⁴⁵Carr and Taylor, op. cit., p. 209, note this use in n.w. Ark. Payne, op. cit., p. 289, finds it in e. Ala.

Heavy bed cover which was tacked rather than sewn was described as a comfort⁴⁶ by 90 per cent of the informants. Ten per cent had no tacked ones.

Two types of early fences were described. The worm fence⁴⁷ by 10 per cent and the railin' fence⁴⁸ by 70 per cent were laid zigzag; the stake and rider⁴⁹ fence by 20 per cent was one in which the rails rested in crotches formed by crossed stakes driven into the ground.

When one informant came to Ellis County in 1880 at the age of sixteen, barbed wire fences had been in use four or five years. This fence was called barb wire by 50 per cent of the informants, barbed wire by 30 per cent, and bob wire⁵⁰ by 20 per cent.

The synonymous terms picket and paling fence consisted of posts, "stringers" running from post to post, and upright pickets nailed to the "stringers." These pickets, named by

⁴⁶Payne, op. cit., p. 300, records it in his e. Ala. words.

⁴⁷Dingus, op. cit., p. 192, notes this use in Va. Taylor, op. cit., p. 224, finds it in s.w. Mo.

⁴⁸J. W. Carr, "A List of Words from Northwest Arkansas, II," D. N., III (1905-1912), 91, says the term is not common.

⁴⁹R. L. Weeks, op. cit., p. 237, lists it in his Mo. words. Wentworth, op. cit., p. 592, notes this use in Va. and n.e. Ky.

⁵⁰Wentworth, op. cit., p. 64, cites the word in e. W. Va. and Texas Panhandle.

20 per cent of the informants, or palings⁵¹ by 70 per cent were pointed at the top. The plank fence, described by 10 per cent, was constructed of planks six inches wide and four or five feet high nailed close together in an upright position.

The enclosure for penning cows was called cowpen by 70 per cent and cowlot⁵² by 30 per cent. Only the "milk" cows were kept in this lot, one farmer explained.

Eight per cent of the informants used the term horse lot⁵³ for the barnyard where horses were penned, and 10 per cent used stable lot.⁵⁴ To 10 per cent stable meant the building containing stalls in which horses were kept. In the early days the barnyard was called a corral.

Pig pen by 80 per cent and hog lot by 20 per cent pertained to the enclosure alone. Sty was considered by 10 per cent an older expression.

⁵¹Payne, op. cit., p. 355, in his e. Ala. words. Crumb, op. cit., p. 323, in his s.e. Mo. words says this is practically the only term used in the South. J. W. Carr, in "A List of Words from Northwest Arkansas," D. M., II (1900-1904), 419, records it. Taylor, op. cit., p. 216, lists it from s.w. Mo.

⁵²Wentworth, op. cit., p. 138, finds it in Ga.

⁵³J. W. Carr, "A List of Words from Northwest Arkansas, II," D. M., III (1905-1912), 83, notes this use.

⁵⁴Carr and Taylor, op. cit., p. 226, find this in n.w. Ark. Wentworth, op. cit., p. 43, notes the use in Ga.

All informants said corn crib⁵⁵ for the compartment where corn was stored; however, one also offered corn bin. They were 80 per cent in saying grainery, [grænəri]⁵⁶ instead of [grænrəri] for the building where grain is stored.

The upper part of the barn where hay was stored was regarded by all the informants as the loft or hay loft.

Ninety per cent of the informants called a heap or pile of hay a hay stack. One informant said hay rick but decided hay stack was better. Another informant had heard it called hay mow. One gave the term windrow denoting a long row of hay on the ground before it was baled.

The part of the farm set aside for grazing was called a pasture by all the informants. In the early days the pasture with no fences was called free range. A small enclosure was called a grass lot.

The rope with a loop for catching animals was called a lariat by 80 per cent and lasso by 20 per cent.

A rope for leading or tying a horse was referred to as a halter by 80 per cent and lead rope by 20 per cent. One said harlter, using an excrement r.

⁵⁵Carr and Taylor, op. cit., p. 210, note its use in n.w. Ark.

⁵⁶Wentworth, op. cit., p. 263, finds this pronunciation used in s.w. Mo., e. W. Va., s.e. Va., and s. U. S. in general. Taylor, op. cit., p. 209, finds the same in s.w. Mo.

The band which encircles the body of a horse to fasten a saddle on its back was called girt or gert⁵⁷ by 40 per cent of the informants, girth⁵⁸ by 30 per cent, bellyband by 40 per cent, and cinch by 10 per cent.

Farmers in the early days had no sheds for protecting tools, wood, or implements. Later, various types came into use. Fifty per cent of the informants had wood sheds while 20 per cent had an unprotected wood yard and 10 per cent had a wood pile in a room in the barn where the harness was hung. Tools were kept in the workshop or in a tool chest in the wood shed. Twenty per cent had an implement shed.

The implement used to sharpen cutting tools was called whetrock⁵⁹ by 20 per cent and whetstone by 80 per cent. One informant suggested file and another, emory.

Plow shares, scythes, and other tools were sharpened on a grindstone by 90 per cent of the informants and on a

⁵⁷Crumb, op. cit., p. 314, finds it in s.e. Mo. Carr and Taylor, op. cit., p. 231, record it in their n.w. Ark. words. Payne, op. cit., p. 314, notes its use in e. Ala.

⁵⁸Wentworth, op. cit., p. 252, says that gert is used in s.e. Mo. and n.w. Ark., while girt is used in s.e. Va. Both are used in e. Ala. and w. Ga.

⁵⁹Kephart, op. cit., p. 419, notes this word in s. N. C. Payne, op. cit., p. 387, lists it in his e. Ala. words. Wentworth, op. cit., p. 703, finds it used in w. N. C., e. Tenn., e. Ala., w. Ga., and n.w. Ark.

grindin' rock⁶⁰ by 10 per cent. Most of the sharpening was done at the blacksmith shop.

The term denoting a frame on which lengths of wood were laid when being sawed by hand was called saw horse by 40 per cent, wooden horses by 30 per cent, rack by 10 per cent, trestle [trɪsəl]⁶¹ by 10 per cent, and saw buck by 10 per cent. The daughter of this last informant remembered, "We kids sat on one end to keep it from bucking."

The large sack made of burlap was called tow sack⁶² by 80 per cent and gunny sack⁶³ by 20 per cent. "The niggers say croker sacks,"⁶⁴ one informant suggested.

Overalls was the term used by 80 per cent of the informants for the outer working garment. Ten per cent said

⁶⁰Ibid., p. 413, records this term in his w. N. C. word list. Wentworth, op. cit., notes the use in s.e. Ky., e. Tenn., and w. N. C.

⁶¹R. L. Weeks, op. cit., p. 242, finds it used in Mo.

⁶²Wentworth, op. cit., p. 658, notes this term in W. Ark., w. N. C., and e. Tenn.

⁶³J. W. Carr, in "A List of Words from Northwest Arkansas, II," D. N., III (1905-1912), 82, records it. Wentworth, op. cit., p. 271, says that the use is common in n.w. Ark. and w. Va.

⁶⁴Wentworth, op. cit., p. 145, finds it in Ala., n. W. Va., n.w. Miss., and w. Ga. Payne, op. cit., p. 302, says that the term is universal in e. Ala. Also, he states that it is made of coarse brown hemp; however, the first element was doubtless originally crocus, the final a being absorbed by the initial s of sack.

overalls,⁶⁵ the exocrescent h making it folk etymology, and 10 per cent, apron overalls.

When asked to name the kinds of saddles, 60 per cent offered side saddle; 20 per cent, a man's saddle; 10 per cent, a stock saddle; and 10 per cent, a horn saddle. Thirty per cent gave no names because they had no use for a saddle. The "Old Timer" always asked the traveler or visitor who stopped at his door to light an' set.

The two poles projecting from the front of a buggy drawn by a single horse were called shafts by 10 per cent and shavs⁶⁶ by 90 per cent.

A bar, called the singletree,⁶⁷ to which a horse is hitched was familiar to 90 per cent of the informants. One did not know a name for it. Twenty per cent did not know the name doubletree,⁶⁸ the bar to which two horses are hitched. Eighty per cent were familiar with the term.

⁶⁵Rollins, op. cit., p. 227, notes this use in w. Texas. Wentworth, op. cit., p. 436, finds it in s. W. Va., e. W. Va., Mineral Co., w. Ark., and e. Texas.

⁶⁶K. L. Weeks, op. cit., p. 241, finds it in Mo. Wentworth, op. cit., p. 545, in s.e. Va.

⁶⁷Payne, op. cit., p. 306, lists it in his e. Ala. words. J. W. Carr, in "A List of Words from Northwest Arkansas, II," D. N., III (1905-1912), 94, cites this use.

⁶⁸Cf. ibid., p. 306. J. W. Carr, in "A List of Words from Northwest Arkansas, II," D. N., III (1905-1912), 78.

The pronunciations of wheelbarrow were [hwilbarə]⁶⁹ by 50 per cent, [hwilbærə] by 40 per cent, and [hwilbærər] by 10 per cent.

The simplex plow was given by 70 per cent of the informants; then descriptions followed. The bull tongue plow broke the soil and the sweep-to cut grass from the plants. The sulky was a plow with a seat for the farmer. Thirty per cent described the buster as Georgia stock, a factory-made plow used to stir the soil, and plow stock, a man-made plow. The walking buster was used to dig up potatoes; also, its big long pointers made the furrows.

The simplex harrow was given by all the informants. Ninety per cent said [hærə], and 10 per cent said [harə].⁷⁰ A number of compounds were given as drag harrow, tooth harrow, disk harrow, section harrow, and V-harrow, which was home-made. In the early days the farmers cut logs to roll and smoothe the ground.

The operation of putting a horse to vehicle was called hitch up⁷¹ by 80 per cent of the informants, and 20 per cent

⁶⁹Wentworth, op. cit., p. 702, finds this pronunciation in Miss, w. N. C., e. Tenn., and e. Texas.

⁷⁰Payne, op. cit., p. 319, notes this pronunciation in e. Ala. Wentworth, op. cit., p. 278, in e. Ala., w. Ga., w. N. C., and e. Tenn.

⁷¹Carr and Taylor, op. cit., p. 398, list it as a n.w. Ark. word.

gave the term hook up.⁷² One informant described the operation as first harnessing, then hitching the horse to the buggy. In the "horse and buggy" days people had uppin(g)-blocks⁷³ before their houses.

⁷²J. W. Carr, "A List of Words from Northwest Arkansas, II," D. N., III (1905-1912), 83, says this term is common. Payne, op. cit., p. 321, notes it used in e. Ala. Carr and Taylor, op. cit., p. 398, find it in n.w. Ark.

⁷³Wentworth, op. cit., p. 678, notes that the term is from s.w. N. C.

CHAPTER VI

ANIMALS; CROPS; FOODS; MEALTIME;

VARIOUS EXPRESSIONS

The farmers had several methods for summoning the horses from the pasture. Twenty per cent of the informants called them by name; the name was preceded by come here. Thirty per cent used the common expression kope,¹ and 30 per cent whistled. Ten per cent had the shepherd dog bring them in; another 10 per cent "just drove them to the lot."

To start horses hitched to a vehicle when they have been standing still, 80 per cent said get up; 10 per cent, git up; and 10 per cent let's go [*les go*].

The call to horses to stop them was whoa,² which was used by all the informants.

The sounds made by horses while feeding, when asking to be fed, or under other circumstances were neigh, used by

¹J. W. Carr and Rupert Taylor, "A List of Words from Northwest Arkansas," D. N., III (1905-12), 223, note this use. W. H. Carruth, "The Language Used to Domestic Animals," D. N., I (1890-96), says that kope is used in Va.

²D. S. Crumb, in "The Dialect of Southeastern Missouri," D. N., II (1900-1904), 335, finds the same use. Also, Harold Wentworth, American Dialect Dictionary, p. 707, records the use in e. Ala., w. Ga., and cent. Ky.

20 per cent of the informants; nicker³ used by 40 per cent; and whinny⁴ used by 40 per cent.

The horse on the left side in plowing or hauling was called the near horse by 10 per cent, off horse by 10 per cent, and off side⁵ by 10 per cent. The horse of the right side was called the lead horse by 30 per cent. Fifty per cent said that gee⁶ was a word of command to horses, directing them to turn right, and haw⁷ was a word directing them to turn left.

Eighty per cent of the informants defined an unbroken horse as a wild horse; 20 per cent, as a bronc,⁸ and 10 per

³J. W. Carr, in "A List of Words from Northwest Arkansas, III," D. N., III (1908-12), 148, notes this word. L. W. Payne, Jr., "A Word-List from East Alabama," D. N., III (1905-12), 352, and L. R. Dingus, "A Word-List from Virginia," D. N., IV (1913-17), 186, record it in their lists. Also, Jay L. B. Taylor, "Snake County Talk," D. N., V (1918-27), 215, finds it used in s.w. Mo. Wentworth, op. cit., p. 412, notes the word used in s.e. Va., e. Ala., w. Ga., s.w. Mo. and cent. Ky.

⁴Wentworth, op. cit., p. 704, finds the term used in s.e. Va., Warwick Co.; w. Ga.; and s.w. Mo., McDonald Co.

⁵Taylor, op. cit., p. 216, records this word in his s.w. Mo. list.

⁶Ibid., 208, notes the use in s.w. Mo.

⁷Cf. ibid., 210.

⁸H. Tallichet, "Spanish and Mexican Words Used in Texas," D. N., I (1890-96), 188, lists this word. R. T. Adams, Western Words, p. 19, finds it in w. U. S., and w. Texas. Wentworth, op. cit., p. 77, also notes this use in w. U. S. Haldeen Braddy, "Cowboy Lingo of the Texas Big Bend," D. N., VI (1928-39), 619, records it.

cent of the informants, as a horse that had never been made bridle-wise.⁹

When a horse tries to throw the rider, 50 per cent called the act bucking,¹⁰ and 50 per cent called it pitching.¹¹

Only one informant knew the word cavvy¹² for a band or herd of saddle horses.

In explaining the use of the word horse, 60 per cent said that it may refer to any member of the "horse breed." One explained it by saying, "Horse will fit either way; also, a mare is a horse, but a horse isn't always a mare. It is a stallion."¹³ Another said that horse meant stud¹⁴ and that the female was mare, or filly.¹⁵

⁹Adams, op. cit., p. 19, finds the term in w. Texas.

¹⁰J. W. Carr and Rupert Taylor, op. cit., p. 221, say that in n.w. Ark. the word means "to jump stiff-legged" when used of a horse.

¹¹Adams, op. cit., p. 116, says that it is a Texan's name for bucking.

¹²Wentworth, op. cit., p. 102, finds the word used in s.w. Texas w. of the pecos River. Also, Adams, op. cit., p. 30, finds it to be a w. Texas word. Braddy, op. cit., p. 618, says it is cowboy lingo in Texas.

¹³Wentworth, op. cit., p. 592, says the word is used in s.w. Mo. McDonald Co. but not in mixed company.

¹⁴J. W. Carr, "A List of Words from Northwest Arkansas, III," D. N., III (1905-12), 159, notes this word.

¹⁵Adams, op. cit., p. 59, lists it as a w. Texas word.

When calling to cows in the pasture to get them home, 60 per cent of the informants said sook cow;¹⁶ 10 per cent, sook jersey; 10 per cent, sookie;¹⁷ and 10 per cent, bossy, each call being in three repetitions. Where no calls were used, the dog brought them in.

The expression used to make a cow stand still while she was being milked was saw [sɔ] ¹⁸ by 90 per cent and so jersey¹⁹ by 10 per cent.

The words used to designate the sounds made by a cow during feeding or when crying to be fed were bawl²⁰ used by 30 per cent, moo by 60 per cent, and low by 10 per cent.

The calls to calves were similar to the calls to cows. Thirty per cent said sook calfie;²¹ 10 per cent, socey; 10 per cent, bossy; and 10 per cent, calfie, calfie, calfie.

¹⁶Wentworth, op. cit., p. 609, finds the word in Mo., Miss., and N. C. Carr and Taylor, op. cit., p. 404, note this use in n.w. Ark.

¹⁷J. M. Steadman, Jr., "North Carolina Word List," D. N., V (1918-27), 19, records this term.

¹⁸Wentworth, op. cit., p. 575, finds the word used in e. Ala., w. Ga., and s.w. Va. Scott Co.

¹⁹Ibid., p. 575, notes this word in Ga. Carr and Taylor, op. cit., p. 404, find it in n.w. Ark.

²⁰J. W. Carr, in "A List of Words from Northwest Arkansas, III," D. N., III (1905-12), 126, lists it. Crumb, op. cit., p. 306, notes this use in s.w. Mo.

²¹Dingus, op. cit., p. 190, records it in his words from Va., and Payne, op. cit., p. 373, notes its use in e. Ala.

Thirty per cent of the informants called the calf by a given name.

A motherless calf was called a dogie²² by 10 per cent, maverick²³ by 10 per cent, and orphan calf by 80 per cent.

Chick(ie) was used by the majority of the informants in calling chickens. Chickie, chickie, chickie was used by 20 per cent, and chick, chick, chick by 60 per cent. Ten per cent said baby, baby, baby, and 10 per cent said coo chickie, coo chickie.

The time of day when the farmer must perform all his routine work, such as milking, feeding, and filling the wood box, was designated chore time²⁴ by 60 per cent and night work²⁵ by 40 per cent.

²²Adams, op. cit., p. 51, finds the word used in s.w. U. S. and w. Texas. Braddy, op. cit., p. 621, lists it with his Texas Big Bend words.

²³Hyder E. Rollins, "A West Texas Word List," D. N., IV (1913-17), 227, says that the term is derived from the name of a Texas ranchman, Samuel A. maverick, who did not brand his calves. Braddy, op. cit., p. 620, finds the term used in the Texas Big Bend. Adams, op. cit., p. 97, finds it used in s. Texas where S. A. Maverick owned cattle. Wentworth, op. cit., p. 381, calls it a Texas calf in the Panhandle.

²⁴Taylor, op. cit., p. 203, lists this term.

²⁵Wentworth, op. cit., p. 112, says, "Boys in . . . St. Nicholas stories used to 'do chores' at the time when the Southern boy was 'doing his night's work'."

The small black animal with the white stripe down its back was readily identified as the polecat²⁶ by all the informants.

The informants pronounced squirrel as [skw ʒl].

Some of the informants thought of the frog as a particular species. Bull frog²⁷ was given by 30 per cent, toad frog²⁸ by 20 per cent, and horned frog by 10 per cent. Forty per cent used the simplex frog [frɔg].²⁹

The worthless dog was known as a cur by 50 per cent, hound [haun]³⁰ by 30 per cent, pooch by 10 per cent, and fiste³¹ by 10 per cent.

²⁶Ibid., p. 466, says that it is the usual term in e. W. Va. Berkeley Co. but is frequently replaced by skunk in mixed company.

²⁷Carr and Taylor, op. cit., p. 221, find this word in n.w. Arkansas.

²⁸Wentworth, op. cit., p. 285, finds it used in w. N. C., e. Tenn., e. Ala., w. Ga., s.w. Mo., and n.w. Ark. Ozarks. Mary C. Parler, "Word-List from Wedgefield, S. C.," D. N., VI (1928-39), 86, lists it. Dingus, op. cit., p. 192, notes this use in Va. Payne, op. cit., p. 382, finds it in e. Ala., and Crumb, op. cit., p. 313, in s.e. Mo.

²⁹J. W. Carr, D. N., III (1905-12), 313, says this use is very common in e. Ala.

³⁰Wentworth, op. cit., p. 305, notes this use in W. Va. Berkeley co., w. N. C., and e. Tenn.

³¹Ibid., p. 213, finds it used in n.w. Ark., e. Ala., w. Ga., Mo., and Ark. Ozarks. H. A. Edson, "Tennessee Mountains," D. N., I (1890-96), 371, records it. Crumb, op. cit., p. 313, notes the word fist in s.e. Mo., and so does Payne, op. cit., p. 310, in e. Ala.

The bird having a more or less boldly patterned plumage and a hard, chisellike bill for boring into wood after insects was identified as a woodpecker by 80 per cent. Twenty per cent of the informants through the use of metathesis said peckerwood.³²

The insect which has its hind legs fitted for leaping and which is very destructive to vegetation was called by all informants a grasshopper. One suggested the term locust.

The informants were asked for names of any of the larger, harmless insects which feed on mosquitoes and other insects. Thirty per cent gave dragon fly, and 40 per cent gave snake doctor.³³ Another insect named by 20 per cent of the informants was the praying mantis, or the devil's ridin(g) horse,³⁴ which is remarkable for its manner of holding the forelegs doubled up as if in prayer. Ten per cent suggested

³²Rollins, op. cit., p. 227, finds it in Texas; Dingus, op. cit., p. 187, in Va., and Crumb, op. cit., p. 324, in s.e. Mo. J. W. Carr, "A List of Words from Northwest Arkansas, III," D. N., III (1905-120, 150, records it. Wentworth, op. cit., p. 447, finds it used in Tenn., Miss., s.e. Mo., w. N. C., n.w. Ark., e. Ala., and w. Ga.

³³Wentworth, op. cit., p. 372, lists it with his e. Ala. words. D. A. E., p. 2160, quotes from Bagby, Old Virginia Gentleman, 92: "The water is full of all manner of nasty and confounded 'mud-kittens,' 'snap'n turtles,' and snake doctors."

³⁴D. A. E., p. 756, lists the term used in Va. and Texas. Carr and Taylor, op. cit., p. 230, find devil's horse used in n.w. Ark., and so does Crumb, op. cit., p. 311, in s.e. Mo.

gallynipper,³⁵ the large American mosquito. Ten per cent called this mosquito galanipper [gələnɪpə]. Another thought of the stingia(g) lizard,³⁶ that is, a scorpion.

The wasp which builds cells of mud or paper for its larvae was called mud dobber³⁷ by 20 per cent of the informants, dirt-dobber³⁸ by 30 per cent, dirt douber³⁹ by 40 per cent, and yellow jacket⁴⁰ by 10 per cent.

The bird of prey, chiefly nocturnal, with a broad head and with large eyes was called a screech owl⁴¹ by 20 per cent, hoot owl⁴² by 20 per cent, and chicken hawk by 10 per cent. Sixty per cent gave the simplex owl.

³⁵Wentworth, op. cit., p. 241, notes the use in n.w. Ark. Also, J. W. Carr, in "A List of Words from Northwest Arkansas, III," D. N., III (1905-12), 137, records it. D. A. E., p. 1093 finds it in Ga.

³⁶Frieda W. Van Emden, Sure Enough, How Come? p. 48, notes this use in e. Texas. Taylor, op. cit., p. 222, records it in his s.w. Mo. list of words.

³⁷J. W. Carr, in "A List of Words from Northwest Arkansas, III," D. N., III (1905-12), 147, includes this term.

³⁸Wentworth, op. cit., p. 165, finds it in s.e. Va. Warwick Co. Also, Dingus, op. cit., p. 182, finds it in Va. Payne, op. cit., p. 305, notes the use in e. Ala.

³⁹Ibid., p. 165, cites this term in s.w. Mo., n.w. Ark.

⁴⁰Carr and Taylor, op. cit., p. 220, list it in their n.w. Ark. words.

⁴¹John P. Fruit, in "Kentucky Words," D. N., I (1890-96), 233, notes this use.

⁴²Carr and Taylor, op. cit., p. 398, find the term in n.w. Ark.

Eighty per cent designated the winged insect "with a light in its tail" as a lightning bug,⁴³ and 20 per cent as a firefly.

Seventy per cent of the informants called the small insect that bores into the skin a chigger;⁴⁴ and 30 per cent, red bug.⁴⁵

The worm used for fish bait was named grub worm⁴⁶ by 30 per cent, earthworm⁴⁷ by 40 per cent, red worm⁴⁸ by 10 per cent, ground worm by 10 per cent, and wiggle worm by 10 per cent.

The furcula of a chicken was called wishbone by 40 per cent and pully-bone⁴⁹ by 60 per cent. This bone is the

⁴³Wentworth, op. cit., p. 359, says it is the usual term in n.e. Ky. and n.w. Va. Payne, op. cit., p. 346, notes the use in e. Ala.

⁴⁴J. W. Carr, in "A List of Words from Northwest Arkansas, III," D. N., III (1905-12), 74, records it. Crumb, op. cit., p. 318, finds it in s.e. Mo. Rollins, op. cit., p. 225, says that the spelling and pronunciation chigoe are never used in Texas.

⁴⁵J. W. Carr, "A List of Words from Northwest Arkansas, II," D. N., III (1905-12), 92, says that chigger is more common in n.w. Ark.

⁴⁶Payne, op. cit., p. 317, finds it in e. Ala.

⁴⁷Wentworth, op. cit., p. 22, records the word from e. Ala., w. Ga.

⁴⁸J. W. Carr, in "A List of Words from Northwest Arkansas, II," D. N., III (1905-12), 92, says that it is a common term. Taylor, op. cit., p. 218, finds it in s.w. Mo.

⁴⁹Wentworth, op. cit., p. 482, says that the term is common in e. Ala., w. Ga., s.w. Mo., and n.w. Ark. Van Emden, op. cit., p. 22, notes that it is a Southern word.

object of several old superstitions. Fifty per cent mentioned the belief that if two young people broke the bone between them, the one holding the shorter fragment would be the first to marry. Ten per cent said that if two girls named their sweethearts, then the one holding the broken cross bone would know that the young man was in love with her. Twenty per cent related that if two persons made a wish and then broke the bone, the one holding the shorter fragment would have his wish come true. According to one informant the longer part of the broken wishbone made the wish come true. Another said that the one who holds the longer fragment will get a big house.

The majority of the informants knew no signs or sayings about cobwebs. One informant had heard the saying, "where cobwebs grow no beaus go." Another reported that webs in a field are a sign that it is going to "fair up if it has been raining." None of the informants believed in these superstitions and signs.

Fresh corn served on the cob was described as roastin(g) ears⁵⁰ by 70 per cent of the informants, boiled corn by

Payne, op. cit., p. 360, finds it used in e. Ala., and Dingus, op. cit., p. 188, in Va. Taylor, op. cit., p. 218, cites this use in s.w. Mo.

⁵⁰Crumb, op. cit., p. 327, lists it with his s.e. Mo. words. Carr and Taylor, op. cit., p. 235, cite this use in n.w. Ark. Wentworth, op. cit., p. 517, finds it used in s.e. Mo., n.w. Ark., and Va.

10 per cent, and corn-on-the-cob⁵¹ by 20 per cent. All informants called the outer leafy cover of ears of corn shucks.⁵²

Beans cooked and served in the pods were named snap beans⁵³ by 50 per cent of the informants, green beans⁵⁴ by 40 per cent, and string beans by 10 per cent.

All informants said that the large flat beans were butter beans.⁵⁵

The Mexican brown beans were called pinto beans by 60 per cent, chili beans⁵⁶ by 20 per cent, and brown beans by 20 per cent.

⁵¹Wentworth, op. cit., p. 517, notes this expression in e. Ala. and w. Ga.

⁵²J. W. Carr, in "A List of Words from Northwest Arkansas," D. N., II (1900-1904), 421, records it. Payne, op. cit., p. 369, notes the use in e. Ala. Wentworth, op. cit., p. 554, finds it used in s.w. U. S., Va., s.e. Mo., n.w. Ark., e. Ala., and w. Ga.

⁵³J. W. Carr, in "A List of Words from Northwest Arkansas, III," D. N., III (1905-12), 157, records it. Wentworth, op. cit., p. 573, says that the term is used in w. Ga., e. Ala., and s. W. Va.

⁵⁴Wentworth, op. cit., p. 573, observes the use in n.e. Ky.

⁵⁵Wentworth, op. cit., p. 561, says that the term is used in e. cent. S. C. (Wedgefield) and that lima beans is never heard; also, cf. Parler, op. cit., p. 83. "Anyway, Everybody Likes 'em," Christian Science Monitor, XXXIII (March 3, 1941), 14, says, "The woman from Nashville has to ask for lima beans in Chicago if she wants butter beans."

⁵⁶J. W. Carr, in "A List of Words from Northwest Arkansas, III," D. N., III (1905-1912), 130, records it.

Ninety per cent of the informants said cling⁵⁷ for the peach whose meat sticks to the seed, and 10 per cent said plum peach.⁵⁸ For the peach whose meat doesn't stick to the seed 10 per cent gave Elberta; 60 per cent, freestone; 20 per cent, clear seed;⁵⁹ and 10 per cent, open seed.

The hard center of a peach was called seed by all the informants.

The hard center of a cherry was called stone by 30 per cent, pit by 20 per cent, and seed by 50 per cent.

All the informants said that the small cake made from stiff sweet dough, dropped, rolled, or sliced, and then baked was called tea cake; however, 20 per cent said that sweet cakes was an earlier term. Ten per cent called the small cakes cookies.

The term for food eaten between meals was snack,⁶⁰ used by 90 per cent of the informants; 10 per cent called it lunch.

⁵⁷Wentworth, op. cit., p. 118, finds this term very common in the South. Also, J. W. Carr, in "A List of Words from Northwest Arkansas, III," D. N., III (1905-12), 131, cites it.

⁵⁸Dingus, op. cit., p. 187, notes this use in Va. Payne, op. cit., p. 358, observes it in e. Ala. Carr and Taylor, op. cit., p. 234, cite the use in n.w. Ark.

⁵⁹Payne, op. cit., p. 299, notes this term in e. Ala.

⁶⁰Wentworth, op. cit., p. 572, finds this word used in s.w. Mo. and n.w. Ark. Ozarks. J. H. Combs, "A Word List from the South," D. N., V (1918-27), 117, records it with his Ky. words. Edson, op. cit., 370, finds this use in the Tenn. mountains. Dingus, op. cit., p. 190, notes this use in Va., and Payne, op. cit., p. 372, in e. Ala.

A sweet liquid served with pudding was designated as sauce by all the informants. One said that it made a "larripin"⁶¹ good dish." Twenty per cent named this liquid dip,⁶² which was an older term. Twenty per cent had heard the term dip, but did not use it regularly. Another informant was reminded of sillabub,⁶³ a mixture of wine and sweet milk which forms a soft curd.

There were several terms used for homemade cheese. Fifty per cent said cottage cheese;⁶⁴ 30 per cent, curds;⁶⁵ 10 per cent, clabber cheese;⁶⁶ and 10 per cent, cottage-clabber cheese, a redundant expression.

⁶¹Wentworth, op. cit., p. 346, says it is used in Texas, but in n.w. Ark. the spelling is larruping. Cf. J. W. Carr, "A List of Words from Northwest Arkansas, II," D. N., III (1905-12), 86.

⁶²Mary Dale Buckner, "Ranch Diction of the Texas Panhandle," A. S., VIII (Feb., 1933), 27, records this word. Vance Randolph, in "More Words from the Ozarks," D. N., V (1918-1927), 474, lists it. J. W. Carr, in "A List of Words from Northwest Arkansas, II," D. N., III (1905-12), 77, also includes this term.

⁶³Wentworth, op. cit., p. 558, finds this use in N. C. and n. W. Va.

⁶⁴J. W. Carr, in "A List of Words from Northwest Arkansas," D. N., II (1900-1904), 417, says that this term is used in W. Va. Cf. Wentworth, op. cit., p. 185.

⁶⁵Wentworth, op. cit., p. 185, says that the term is current among older people in Miss. and W. Va. Upland.

⁶⁶Ibid., p. 185, notes this use in n.w. Ark. J. W. Carr, "A List of Words from Northwest Arkansas," D. N., II (1900-1904), 417, records it.

Milk that has soured and thickened was called clabber⁶⁷ by all the informants.

When milk is beginning to sour, it was spoken of as turning by 10 per cent. Eighty per cent said the milk was blinky.⁶⁸ Twenty per cent called it blue-john.⁶⁹

The terms used for home-cured bacon are numerous. Thirty per cent said dry salt bacon; 10 per cent, side meat;⁷⁰ 30 per cent, sowbelly;⁷¹ 20 per cent, fat salt pork; and 10 per cent, fat meat. One informant said that sowbelly was an "old-timey" word.

⁶⁷Payne, op. cit., p. 299, finds this use in e. Ala., and J. W. Carr, in "A List of Words from Northwest Arkansas, II," D. N., III (1905-1912), 75, notes this use.

⁶⁸Dingus, op. cit., p. 181, cites this word in his Va. word list; Rollins, op. cit., p. 225, in his w. Texas list; and Horace Kephart, in "A Word-List from the Mountains of Western North Carolina," D. N., IV (1913-17), 408. J. W. Carr, "A List of Words from Northwest Arkansas, II," D. N., III (1905-12), 70, records it. Wentworth, op. cit., p. 62, finds it used in N. C. mountains and Mo.

⁶⁹Wentworth, op. cit., p. 63, notes this use in s.w. Mo. n.w. Ark. Ozarks, and Tenn. J. W. Carr, in "A List of Words from North west Arkansas, III," D. N., III (1905-12), 127, records it.

⁷⁰Ibid., p. 557, finds the term used in n.w. Ark., s.e. Mo., e. Ala., w. Ga., and N. C. Payne, op. cit., p. 369, observes the word in e. Ala. Carr and Taylor, op. cit., p. 236, note its use in n.w. Ark. Crumb, op. cit., p. 329, lists it with the words from s.e. Mo.

⁷¹Dingus, op. cit., p. 190, cites the use in Va., and Taylor, op. cit., p. 221, in s.e. Mo. Wentworth, op. cit., p. 582, finds it used in n.w. Ark., s.w. Va., s.w. Mo. McDonald Co., Ky., and n.e. Ala.

Griddle cakes made of wheat flour were called batter-cakes⁷² by 70 per cent of the informants, hot cakes⁷³ by 20 per cent, and pancakes⁷⁴ by 20 per cent. One said that flitter⁷⁵ was an old name for these cakes and that she used it only when she was joking.

Pressed meat loaf made of hogs' jowls was known as souse⁷⁶ by all the informants; however, one suggested head cheese.

Terms denoting carbonated water containing flavoring were soda pop,⁷⁷ used by 30 per cent; cold drink, by 30 per cent; and soda water, by 10 per cent.

⁷²Parker, op. cit., p. 79, lists it with her S. C. words. Wentworth, op. cit., p. 440, notes this use in e. cent. S. C. (Wedgfield).

⁷³Wentworth, op. cit., p. 440, says it is used in the West instead of griddle cake.

⁷⁴J. W. Carr, in "A List of Words from Northwest Arkansas, II," D. N., III (1905-12), 89, records the word.

⁷⁵Ibid., p. 79, says this use is rare. Wentworth, op. cit., p. 440, records that it is rare in n.w. Ark. Common only in "flat as a flitter." It is said by older people in e. W. Va.

⁷⁶Wentworth, op. cit., p. 581, finds this word used in n.w. Ark. and e. cent. S. C. (Wedgfield). Carr and Taylor, op. cit., p. 404, note its use in n.w. Ark.

⁷⁷J. W. Carr, "A List of Words from Northwest Arkansas, III," D. N., III (1905-12), 157, records this term.

The cake made of "unraised" dough, ring-shaped, and fried in deep fat was called doughnuts⁷⁸ by all the informants.

The bread made of corn meal had various names. Seventy per cent of the informants gave the term corn bread,⁷⁹ and 30 per cent, corn dodger.⁸⁰ In addition to the above terms the informants suggested the following variants: pone corn bread,⁸¹ poney bread,⁸² dodger bread,⁸³ egg bread,⁸⁴ hoe cake,⁸⁵

⁷⁸Wentworth, op. cit., p. 175, says that it is used in the West instead of cruller; however, it is the usual term in n. W. Va. Carr and Taylor, op. cit., p. 211, find it used in n.w. Ark.

⁷⁹Ibid., p. 133, finds this term used in n. W. Va. and Ga.

⁸⁰Fruit, op. cit., p. 64, records this word. Also, Crumb, op. cit., p. 310, notes the same use in s.e. Mo. J. W. Carr, in "A List of Words from Northwest Arkansas, III," D. N., III (1905-1912), 132, cites it. Wentworth, op. cit., p. 133, finds it used in s.e. Mo., n.w. Ark., e. Ala., w. Ga., n.e. Ky., and e. Cent. S. C. (Wedgfield).

⁸¹Crumb, op. cit., p. 325, notes this use in s.e. Mo.

⁸²Wentworth, op. cit., p. 468, says it is used in the Tenn. mountains.

⁸³Carr and Taylor, op. cit., p. 230, note this use in n.w. Ark., and Crumb, op. cit., p. 311, in s.e. Mo.

⁸⁴J. W. Carr, "A List of Words from Northwest Arkansas, III," D. N., III (1905-12), 135, cites it. Payne, op. cit., p. 308, notes the use in e. Ala., and also Crumb, op. cit., p. 311, in s.e. Mo.

⁸⁵Carr and Taylor, op. cit., p. 232, list the word with their n.w. Ark. words. Payne, op. cit., p. 320, notes the use in e. Ala., and Crumb, op. cit., p. 316, in s.e. Mo. Wentworth, op. cit., p. 295, finds it used in Va., Miss., s.e. Mo., n.w. Ark., e. Ala., and w. Ga.

and Johnny-cake.⁸⁶ Corn meal stirred into salted boiling water and cooked until thick was known as mush⁸⁷ by all the informants.

The homemade wheat bread baked in loaves was called light bread,⁸⁸ and the bread bought in the store was called baker's bread⁸⁹ by all the informants.

⁸⁶Wentworth, op. cit., p. 331, says that perhaps it is from journey cake and that it is used in e. Ala., w. Ga., e. Ky. Cumberlands, Va., and Md. Payne, op. cit., p. 325, notes its use in e. Ala. J. L. Kuethe, "Johnny-cake," A. S., X (Oct., 1935), 202, says that johnny-cake has usually been considered a corruption of journey cake, and he quotes Will H. Lowdermilk in his History of Cumberland, Maryland: "A favorite article of diet amongst these (Shawanese) Indians was a cake made of maize beaten fine. The trappers followed the Indians' example in the baking of 'Shawnee cakes.' The lapse of a few years was sufficient to corrupt the term into that of Johnny-cake so familiar throughout the South.

⁸⁷J. W. Carr, in "A List of Words from Northwest Arkansas, III," D. N., III (1905-12), 147, records it. Wentworth, op. cit., p. 403, says that it is used in the Southern states and in the West instead of cereal.

⁸⁸D. A. E., p. 1421, finds it used in the South. Wentworth, op. cit., p. 358, says it is common in Ark., Va. Warwick Co., and s.e. Mo. Crumb, op. cit., p. 319, notes its use in s.e. Mo. Payne, op. cit., p. 345, finds it used in e. Ala., and Dingus, op. cit., p. 185, in Va. "Anyway, Everybody Likes 'Em," Christian Science Monitor, XXXIII (March 3, 1941), 14, says, "If the traveling man from Columbus, Ohio, stopping at a hotel in Richmond, Virginia, wants store bread instead of that ambrosial batter-bread the chef has placed on his plate, he had better ask for light bread, with the accent on the "light."

⁸⁹J. W. Carr, "A List of words from Northwest Arkansas, II," D. N., III (1905-12), 90, says, "Get three pones of baker's bread."

A quantity of the stalks of wheat bound together after reaping was named sheaf by 20 per cent, bundle by 40 per cent, and shock⁹⁰ by 40 per cent.

For the term used of eggs dropped whole, with the shell unbroken, into boiling water, 70 per cent gave boiled eggs, and 30 per cent hard boiled eggs.

Eggs dropped whole from the shell into boiling water were called poached eggs by 60 per cent and poarched,⁹¹ with an excrement r, by 40 per cent.

The terms denoting the yellow center of an egg were yoke⁹² used by 40 per cent and yolk⁹³ by 50 per cent. One informant recalled that her mother said yelk.⁹⁴

The informants were asked to use other words besides make in the statement, "I am going to make some coffee." Twenty per cent said fix;⁹⁵ 40 per cent, boil, an old

⁹⁰Carr and Taylor, op. cit., p. 226, record this use in n.w. Ark. Wentworth, op. cit., p. 551, finds it used in Tenn. and n. W. Va.

⁹¹Wentworth, op. cit., p. 463, finds this form used in Texas.

⁹²Ibid., p. 728, notes its use in s.e. Va. Warwick Co.

⁹³R. L. Weeks, in "Notes from Missouri," D. N., I (1890-1896), 242, lists this term.

⁹⁴Wentworth, op. cit., p. 728, finds this use in n. W. Va. and s.e. Va.

⁹⁵J. W. Carr, in "A List of Words from Northwest Arkansas," D. N., II (1900-1904), 418, records this term.

expression; 20 per cent, brew; and 20 per cent, perk, which is a modern term.

Food that is left over from one meal and is heated to be served again, usually on the following day, was said to be warmed over by 80 per cent. Twenty per cent spoke of this meal as left overs.

The expressions used to call the members of the family to the table to eat were Dinner is ready used by 70 per cent; Come out to dinner by 20 per cent; and Come, dinner is ready by 10 per cent. One informant said that her family always used a bell to announce that dinner was ready. Another added that she sometimes said Come and get it.

The phrases used by the head of the family when a dish of food was to be passed from hand to hand around the dinner table were Have some? by 50 per cent of the informants; Will you have some? by 20 per cent; You want some of this? by 10 per cent; Care for some? by 10 per cent; and Help yourself by 20 per cent.

Some set formulas used at the dinner table in refusing an offer of food were as follows: No, thank you, I've had enough by 10 per cent; No, thank you by 40 per cent; I have plenty, thank you by 30 per cent; and Had plenty by 10 per cent.

Walking diagonally across a street was named jay-walking by 30 per cent, catty-cornered⁹⁶ by 60 per cent, and anglin' by 10 per cent.

Eighty per cent of the informants said He dove in⁹⁷ and 20 per cent said He dived in.

In response to the question, "How are you feeling?" 40 per cent answered fine;⁹⁸ 30 per cent, pretty good; 20 per cent, fairly well; and 10 per cent, tops. Also, the same question was answered by 40 per cent with under the weather, 10 per cent with poorly [porli],⁹⁹ 10 per cent with not up to par, 10 per cent with feeling bum, 10 per cent with feel tough, 10 per cent with could hardly go 'long, and 10 per cent with feel bad. One informant had heard puny.¹⁰⁰

⁹⁶Weeks, op. cit., p. 236, observes this use in Mo., and Payne, op. cit., p. 297, in e. Ala. Wentworth, op. cit., p. 101, finds it used in Tenn., n.w. Ark., e. Ala., w. Ga., and e. W. Va.

⁹⁷Carr and Taylor, op. cit., p. 211, note this use in n.w. Ark. Taylor, op. cit., p. 205, lists it with his s.w. Mo. words. Wentworth, op. cit., p. 176, notes the use in e. Ala., w. Ga., s.w. Mo., and n.w. Ark. Ozarks.

⁹⁸J. W. Carr, "A List of Words from Northwest Arkansas, II," D. N., III (1905-12), 79, records the term.

⁹⁹Parler, op. cit., p. 84, records the word in her Wedgefield, S. C., words. Taylor, op. cit., p. 217, notes the use in s.w. Mo. Crumb, op. cit., p. 325, lists it from Mo., n.w. Ark., and cent. Ky.

¹⁰⁰Crumb, op. cit., p. 326, lists it from s.e. Mo., and Taylor, op. cit., p. 218, from s.w. Mo. Wentworth, op. cit., p. 483, finds it used in s.e. Mo., n.w. Ark., e. Ala., w. Ga., s.w. Va. Scott Co., e. Ky. Cumberlands, w. N. C., and e. Tenn.

All informants gave the veiled or softened passed away as a synonym for died. The jocular synonyms for died were kicked the bucket,¹⁰¹ used by 60 per cent; and turned his toes to the daisies,¹⁰² by 20 per cent. Twenty per cent never used jocular terms.

Names for the visible or invisible beings which are thought to haunt houses, usually associated with the spirits of the dead, were ghosts by 30 per cent, spooks¹⁰³ by 50 per cent, ha'nt [hænt]¹⁰⁴ by 10 per cent, and booger [bugə]¹⁰⁵ by 10 per cent.

The informants were asked for names of the Devil. Eighty per cent said bad man;¹⁰⁶ 10 per cent, Old Satan; and 10 per cent, booger man.¹⁰⁷

¹⁰¹Payne, op. cit., p. 326, notes this use in e. Ala. G. L. Hanford in "Metaphor and Simile in American Folk Speech." D. N., V (1918-27), 168, lists this expression from Ala.

¹⁰²Hanford, op. cit., p. 179, finds this term used in Ark.

¹⁰³Wentworth, op. cit., p. 587, records this use in n.w. Va. Preston Co.

¹⁰⁴Ibid., p. 276, finds this word in Ky., Miss., w. N. C., s.w. Mo. Ozarks, e. Ala., w. Ga., n.w. Ark., e. Tenn., and e. Texas. Fruit, op. cit., p. 65, notes the use in Ky. Carr and Taylor, op. cit., p. 398, record it from n.w. Ark. Payne, op. cit., p. 318, cites it from e. Ala.

¹⁰⁵J. W. Carr, "A List of Words from Northwest Arkansas, II," D. N., III (1905-12), 71, says it is a common term. Weeks, op. cit., p. 235, notes the use in Mo. Wentworth, op. cit., p. 67, observes it used in Miss. and n.w. Ark.

¹⁰⁶Dingus, op. cit., p. 180, notes this use in Va.

¹⁰⁷Cf. Ibid., p. 180.

Some jocular terms for jail were calaboose¹⁰⁸ by 80 per cent, lock-up by 10 per cent, and soup-house by 10 per cent.

During the interviews various expressions of interest were volunteered by the informants. One said that an illiterate person placing his finger on the pen as his name was signed to a legal paper by some one else spoke of the signing as touched the quill.¹⁰⁹

Another informant related that his grandson called the lint whirling around under the bed boozily,¹¹⁰ a word he learned in the college dormitory.

A saying in regard to a person who does not want to work on Saturday, which one informant gave, is that His hair gets kinky on "Saddy" [*'sæ:di*], the Negro's day off.

An informant gave the expression the whole shebang,¹¹¹ meaning the entire outfit or the whole lot, either of things or persons.

¹⁰⁸Wentworth, op. cit., p. 90, cites the word from e. Ala. and w. Ga. Tallichet, op. cit., p. 188, finds it used in Texas, and Payne, op. cit., p. 296, in e. Ala.

¹⁰⁹In a personal interview I. T. Gilmer of Graham, Texas, said that tot the pen was an old Mississippi saying. The Negro said totched [*tətʃt*] with the later corruption tot [*tət*].

¹¹⁰Wentworth, op. cit., p. 68, says that boozy means dizzy in w. N. C. and e. Tenn.

¹¹¹Payne, op. cit., p. 268, finds this expression used in e. Ala.

One said that a person who walked leisurely or lazily was described as polin' along.¹¹²

¹¹² Carr and Taylor, op. cit., p. 225, note the term used in n.w. Ark. Wentworth, op. cit., p. 465, also finds this use in n.w. Ark.

CHAPTER VII

CONCLUSION

This study has revealed the many homely words and expressions used by the oldest residents of Ellis County; also, most of these terms correspond in large part with the same usage in the states of the Old South. With one exception the informants or their parents came from Tennessee, Alabama, Arkansas, and Virginia. The study reveals three classes of words: dialect words brought from other states, standard words in general use, and words peculiar to Texas.

Some of the dialect words of the Old South are used today in Ellis County, as onery, widow woman, country jake, kinfolks, gallery, bucket, tow sack, night work (chores), chigger, and pulley-bone. Other words, either rare or obsolete, are pappy, buss, satchel, galluses, primp-up, play party, parlor, fireboard, kitchen safe, piggin (a cedar bucket), poke (a paper sack), lamp oil, coverlid, and grinding rock.

There are many standard words which are not found in the references used for this study because they are in common use in the United States, as creek, prairie, poison ivy, pool, purse, umbrella, dunce, plow, and woodpecker.

A few words which seem largely peculiar to Texas are pararie (prairie), nigger shooter (sling shot), to starch one's face (to use powder), hog lot, bob wire (barb), corral, bronc, bridle-wise, pitching (bucking), cavvy, filly, maver-ick, and stinging lizard (scorpion).

Some of the trends in the speech of the pioneer Ellis County farmer are set forth in the following humble words. It is recognized that many of the following terms may be in use in the South in general; they are not, however, found in the word lists examined for this work. Too, many of the words are perhaps in fairly wide usage over the country. They are included here simply because they do represent lexical areas of homely speech in Ellis County.

The Ellis County farmer uses the topographic terms ravine, washout, prairie, pasture land, bald pararie, raw pararie, thicket, wilderness, brush, paved roads, black top roads, hard-surfaced roads, trough, pond, poison oak, waste land, raw-hide soil, barren land, washed land, ditching, black waxy land, top soil, loamy soil, elm thicket land, black cheese land, rich land, strong soil, heavy land, thin soil, country road, by-road, wagon road, farm-to-market road.

When the farmer speaks of the various weather conditions, he says clearing off or up, breaking up of clouds, wind's gettin' higher or stronger, blowing a gale, long dry spell for drouth, thunderstorm.

In telling time he says fifteen till or quarter till the hour.

Words relating to family life are looks like, takes after, has ways like some member of the family, his or her in-laws, brought up children, grandad, kid, shaver, kiddy-dee, buster for a boy.

In connection with the social life these terms are used: strand of beads, pocket book, handbag, satchel, sling shot, a treat, May I see or take you home? nickle store, variety store, five and ten, doll-up, spruce-up, dress-up, future wife, bride-to-be, promised wife, jilted, give him the g. b. (grand bounce), camp meeting, gabbing, chatting, confab, chewing the fat, courting, smacking (kissing), Brother and Sister so-and-so for the pastor and his wife, ran into a friend, ran upon 'em, ran across, hello, girl friend, goodbye, good luck to you, see you again.

In speaking of persons and their characteristics, the farmer used these words: stingy, close, close fisted, lively (said of an old person), cranky, high tempered, dog tired, worn out, worn threadbare, fagged out, played out, good-for-nothing, a regular drag, darky, black man, jigaboo, fatty (overweight), dumb, half-wit, minus, simpleton, hard headed, stubborn, gentle river and fiddlesticks (mild exclamations).

The farmer used these terms in connection with his house: big room, little room, parlor, mantle, mantleboard,

mantlepiece, clothes closet, wardrobes, porch, shiplap,
store room, plunder room, trunk room, smut, the daily clean-
ing up or straightening up, sleeping room, bedroom, kitchen,
pantry.

The terms for household goods are junk, quiet box,
bureau, dresser, divan, sofa, davenport, andirons, andyirons,
crocks, tin coolers, milk bucket, milk vessel, school bucket,
tin bucket, slop bucket, pig bucket, cup towel, tea towel,
dish towel, water funnel (hydrant), trundle bed, folding bed,
rocker bed for the baby, go-cart, baby-carriage, coal stove,
back log.

On the farm premises there were barb wire fence, plank
fence, sty, cowpen, pig pen, hog lot, hay stack, free range,
grass lot (small enclosure), stable, corral, corn bin, lariat,
lasso, lead rope, harlter, bellyband, cinch, halter, hay loft,
hay stack, winrow, woodshed, woodyard, whetstone, file, emory,
grindstone, saw horse, wooden horses, saw buck, overalls, side
saddle, man's saddle, stock saddle, horn saddle, shafts.

The words for vehicles used on the farm are bull tongue
plow, sweep-to, sulky, walking buster, drag harrow, tooth
harrow, disk harrow, section harrow, V-harrow (home made),
harnessing or hitching to the vehicle.

In connection with the animals on the farm, the farmer
used the following terms: get up, git up, let's go, neigh,
near horse, off horse, lead horse, wild horse (unbroken),

horse, mare, bossy, moo, low, sooey, calfie, orphan calf,
chick(ie), baby to a chick, coo chickie, horned frog, cur,
hound, pooch, woodpecker, grasshopper, locust, dragonfly,
praying mantis, galanipper, chicken hawk, firefly, ground
worm, wiggle worm, wishbone, cobwebs.

The terms for crops and food are boiled corn, string
beans, pinto beans, Elberta peach, freestone, open seed,
seed, stone, pit, tea cake, sweet cakes, cookies, lunch,
sauce, turning (to sour), dry salt bacon, fat salt pork,
fat meat, head cheese, cold drink (carbonated water), soda
water, sheaf, bundle, boiled eggs, hard boiled eggs, poached
eggs, make (to prepare), boil, brew, perk, warmed over, left
overs.

At mealtime the following terms were used: Dinner is
ready; Come out to dinner; Come, dinner is ready; Come and
get it; Have some? Will you have some? You want some of
this? Help yourself; No, thank you, I've had enough; I have
plenty, thank you; Had plenty.

Some terms in general are jay walking, anglin', ghosts,
Old Satan, jail, soup-house, lock-up, passed away (died).

The state of one's health was expressed in the following
terms: Pretty good, fairly well, tops, under the weather,
not up to par, feeling bum, feel tough.

This study has presented the homely vocabulary of the
pioneer Ellis County farmer as related to his family, his
farm, and his small community.

APPENDIX I

BIOGRAPHIES OF THE INFORMANTS

Name of Informant: Mrs. Myra Mae Thomas.

Age: 72.

Education: Attended a one-teacher six-months school
for a few years.

Birthplace: Milford, Texas.

Residence in Present Community: Fifty-two years.

Birthplace and Home of Parents: Pickens County, Alabama.

Name and Location of Community in Which Informant Lives:
Five Points, six miles south of Waxahachie.

Type of Community: Farming.

Further Characterization of Informant: Uses metathesis,
folk etymology, and excrescent letters.

Name of Informant: John Mickeal Baumgartner.

Age: 74.

Education: None.

Birthplace: Machiagamme, Marquette County, Michigan.

Residence in Present Community: Sixty-two years in
Ellis County.

Birthplace and Home of Parents: Germany.

Name and Location of Community in Which Informant Lives:

Ike, Ellis County, five miles northeast of
Waxahachie.

Type of Community: Farming.

Name of Informant: Mrs. P. Q. Rockett.

Age: 74.

Education: A few years in a county school.

Birthplace: Lancaster, Dallas County.

Residence in Present Community: Forty-four years.

Birthplace and Home of Parents: Virginia.

Name and Location of Community in Which Informant Lives:

Waxahachie, in the center of Ellis County.

Type of Community: County seat, farming, and at present
manufacturing.

Further Characterization of Informant: Tends to use
old terms such as dreen [drin] and ellum [eləm].

Name of Informant: J. R. Colvard.

Age: 74.

Education: Taught at home by his father, a former
schoolteacher.

Birthplace: Arkansas.

Residence in Present Community: Eighteen years in
Ellis County.

Birthplace and Home of Parents: Arkansas.

Name and Location of Community in Which Informant Lives:

Rented different farms.

Type of Community: Farming.

Name of Informant: Mrs. Joe Smith.

Age: 80.

Education: Ungraded country school.

Birthplace: Reagor Springs.

Residence in Present Community: Forty-nine years.

Birthplace and Home of Parents: Alabama.

Name and Location of Community in Which Informant Lives:

Waxahachie in the center of Ellis County.

Type of Community: County seat, farming, and now manufacturing.

Name of Informant: William F. Smith.

Age: 85.

Education: Attended school two months in the winter and one month in the summer.

Birthplace: Salsburby, Henderson County, Tennessee.

Residence in Present Community: Seventy years.

Birthplace and Home of Parents: Tennessee.

Name and Location of Community in Which Informant Lives:

Trumbull, seventeen miles northeast of Waxahachie.

Name of Informant: Mrs. J. O. Ray.

Age: 85.

Education: Attended a pay-school held in a church.

Birthplace: Reagor Spring.

Residence in Present Community: Fifty-six years.

Birthplace and Home of Parents: Mother in Tennessee
and father in Texas.

Name and Location of Community in Which Informant Lives:

Waxahachie, in the center of the county.

Type of Community: County-seat, farming, and now
manufacturing.

Name of Informant: Mrs. W. T. Harris.

Age: 85.

Education: Attended a country school.

Birthplace: McClennan County, Texas.

Residence in Present Community: Fifty years.

Birthplace and Home of Parents: Tennessee.

Name and Location of Community in Which Informant Lives:

Waxahachie, in the center of the county.

Type of Community: County-seat, farming, and now
manufacturing.

Name of Informant: Mrs. T. S. Middleton.

Age: 80.

Education: attended school in Bethel Springs, Tennessee.

Residence in Present Community: Forty-three years.

Birthplace and Home of Parents: Tennessee.

Name and Location of Community in Which Informant Lives:

Waxahachie, in the center of the county.

Type of Community: County-seat, farming, and now
manufacturing.

Name of Informant: Mrs. J. A. Fox.

Age: 76.

Education: Concluded seventh grade.

Birthplace: Dawson, Navarro County, Texas.

Residence in Present Community: Thirty-four years.

Birthplace and Home of Parents: Murry County, Tennessee.

Name and Location of Community in which Informant Lives:

Waxahachie, in the center of the county.

Type of Community: County-seat, farming, and now
manufacturing.

APPENDIX II

WORK SHEETS

The Weather

SUNRISE (sun-up)

The sun ROSE at six o'clock (riz, raised, rised, come up)

Weather is CLEARING UP (fairing up, fairing off, It looks
to me like clearing up.)

THUNDERSTORM (electrical storm, etc.) (Jocular terms: crasher,
pealer, smasher.)

VERY HEAVY RAIN (gulley-washer, goose-drownder, etc.)

The wind is GOING DOWN (easing up, laying)

STRONG COLD WIND FROM NORTH (blizzard, norther, wet norther,
blue norther, etc.)

LONG PERIOD OF DRY WEATHER (drough, dry spell)

Other terms

The wind is GETTING STRONGER (increase in strength, picking
up, jumping up, coming up fresh)

FOG (mist, The fog's got whiskers on it.)

We had a FROST (white frost, hoar frost, killing frost,
freeze up)

Topography

- SMALL STREAM (creek, run, branch, brook, bayou, small fresh water streams, etc. Distinguish)
- DRY CREEK-BED (arroyo, etc.)
- DEEPLY CUT VALLEY OR GULLY (canyon, gorge, gulch, washout, gutter, etc. Describe)
- COVE, BAY. INLET; BACKWATER (resaca, etc. Describe)
- LOW GROUND (in a valley) (bottoms, bottom land, etc.)
- FLAT GRASSY COUNTRY (prairie, llano, etc.)
- HIGH, FLAT LAND (mesa, etc.)
- THICKET (of mesquite) (chaparral)
- MAPLE TREE (sugar tree, sugar maple, etc.)
- SYCAMORE (buttonwood, buttonball, etc.)
- CEMENT ROAD; PAVED ROAD (hard road, hard-surface road, etc.)
- MAIN IRRIGATION DITCH (acequia, sakey, sakey ditch, etc.)
- POOL OR POND WHERE LIVESTOCK ARE WATERED (tank)
- POISON IVY (poison vine, etc.)
- WASTE LAND (particularly lava-covered) (malpais, badlands, etc.)
- CATTLE GUARD (gap, etc.)
- DRAINING (ditching, trenching, dreening)
- LOAM (top soil, leaf mould, muck)
- FERTILE (good, rich)
- HE THREW A STONE OR ROCK (describe difference)

HILL, KNOLL (a small elevation in land, hummock, mound)

LANE, SIDE ROAD, CROSS ROAD (roads other than through roads)
(highways)

MEADOW

The House

ROOM AT FRONT WHERE GUESTS ARE ENTERTAINED (parlor, sitting
room, etc.)

HEARTH (The stone, brick, tile of a fireplace.)

SHELF OVER FIREPLACE (mantel, mantelpiece, fireboard, etc.)

TROUGHS TO TAKE WATER OFF ROOF (eaves, troughs, spouts,
gutters, etc.)

CLOSET FOR CLOTHING

UNFINISHED SPACE AT TOP OF HOUSE (attic, garret, etc.)

PORCH (at front door; describe) (piazza, veranda, gallery,
stoop, etc.)

OVERLAPPING BOARDS ON OUTSIDE OF HOUSE (clapboards, siding,
weather-boards)

ROOM FOR STORING DISUSED ARTICLES

MAIN RANCH HOUSE (big house, hacienda, etc.)

Other Terms

CHIMNEY (chimley, chimbley)

SOOT (smut)

She CLEANS-UP every morning (the daily sweeping and dusting)
(tidies, tidies up around)

BEDROOM (the room in which one sleeps, sleeping room, bed chamber)

KITCHEN (the room in which food is cooked)

RUBBISH (names applied to old, broken, useless things which accumulate and are eventually thrown away) (trash, junk, refuse)

SHUT THE DOOR (what is said to one who leaves the door open?)
(close the door; were you brought up in a barn?)

Household Goods

CHEST OF DRAWERS (describe) (dresser, bureau, chiffonier, etc.)

WINDOW SHADES (on rollers) (blinds, curtains)

PANTRY

SOFA (lounge, couch, davenport, etc.)

HOUSEHOLD GOODS (plunder, etc.)

IRONS TO HOLD LOGS FOR BURNING (dog irons, fire dogs, etc.)

WOODEN VESSEL FOR WATER (bucket, pail)

METAL CONTAINER FOR CARRYING DINNER OR LUNCH

METAL VESSEL FOR WATER, MILK, etc. (bucket, pail)

GARBAGE PAIL (for scraps, slop, etc.)

CONTAINER TO BRING IN COAL (hod, bucket, scuttle)

CLOTH FOR DRYING DISHES (tea towel, cup towel, dish towel)

(the cloth with which dishes are wiped dry after washing)

WASH CLOTH (washrag)

FRYING PAN (Skillet, etc.)

DEVICE TO TURN ON WATER (in kitchen or bathroom; outdoors)
(tap, spigot, spicket, faucet, hydrant)

LARGE JAR FOR DRINKING WATER (olla, etc.)

CHAIR (armchair, easy chair, spring rocker)

LOG (backlog, forelog, frontlog, firelog)

BUREAU (chiffonier, dresser)

PAPER BAG (sack, poke, etc.)

KEROSENE (coal oil, lamp oil)

BEDDING SPREAD ON FLOOR (bunk, pallet, shakedown, etc.)

BABY CARRIAGE (baby buggy, baby cab, baby coach, etc.)

FANCY DAYTIME COVER FOR BED (coverlid, counterpin, counter-
pane, etc.)

HEAVY BED COVER (tied rather than sewn) (hap, comfort,
comforter, comfortable, etc.)

WOOD USED TO START FIRE (pine, lightwood, kindling wood, etc.)

Time; Distance

PART OF THE DAY BEFORE SUPPER TIME (evening, afternoon)

FIFTEEN MINUTES BEFORE ELEVEN (quarter of, quarter to,
quarter till)

SUNDAY (A) WEEK (past or future)

FOR QUITE A WHILE (spell, etc.)

A LITTLE WAY; A LONG WAY (ways, piece, etc.)

Two miles is THE FARTHEST he can go (all the further, etc.)

Other terms

GOOD MORNING (in meeting, rarely in parting) (from daybreak to midday) (some avoid it after 9 or 12 o'clock; then hello, how are you)

AFTERNOON (midday to sunset, dark or supertime)

EVENING (beginning at or after supertime)

SUNRISE OR SUNUP (before dawn, before daylight)

SUNSET AND SUNDOWN (worked until dark, or after dark, to dark)

The Premises; Farm and Ranch; Vehicles

WALL MADE OF ROCKS OR STONE (rock wall, rock fence, stone fence, etc.)

RAIL FENCE (zigzag and other types)

BARB(ED) WIRE FENCE

PICKET FENCE; PICKETS (paling fence; palings)

PEN FOR COWS

HORSE PEN (lot, horse lot, corral)

FEED BAG ATTACHED TO HORSE'S HEAD (feed bag, nose bag, morral)

PIG PEN (hog pen, hog house, etc.)

ROPE WITH LOOP (for catching animals) (lariat, lasso, reata, etc.)

BARNYARD (cow lot, barn lot, etc.)

SADDLE GIRTH; TO TIGHTEN THE GIRTH (cinch, to cinch up)

CORN CRIB

SHED (for wood, tools, etc.)

WHETSTONE

GRINDSTONE

LEATHER LEGGINS (chaps)

WOODEN RACK FOR SAWING PLANKS (trestle, sawhorse, sawbuck)

ARMFUL OF WOOD (turn, armload)

WOODEN DEVICE FOR SAWING LOGS FOR FIREWOOD

SHAFTS (of a buggy) (shave, fills, thills)

BAR TO WHICH A SINGLE HORSE IS HITCHED (whippletree, whiffle-
tree, singletree)

BAR TO WHICH TWO WHIFFLETREES ARE ATTACHED (doubletree, etc.)

ROPE HALTER (hackamore)

KINDS OF SADDLES (stock saddle, fuste, etc.)

WASTE FOOD TO BE FED TO PIGS (swill, slop, etc.)

LARGE SACK MADE OF BURLAP (tow sack, feed sack, grass sack,
croker sack, gunny sack, burlap sack, etc.)

COWBOY (cowhand, wrangler, buckaroo, etc. Distinguish)

OUTER WORKING GARMENT (overalls, levis, etc.)

Other terms

LOFT (over the barn floor) (mow, bay or place for hay in the
barn)

HAY STACK (round) (in the field) (oblong) (rick), mow

DAIRY

PASTURE

WHEELBARROW (Pronunciation)

LUGGED (to carry a heavy weight) (tote, tug, shoulder,
heave, haul)

PLOW

HARROW (ground smoother or soil pulverized)

WAGON TIRE (tire, rim, hoop) (band of iron around the wagon
wheel)

WAGON TONGUE (the long tapering piece of wood that projects
from the front of a vehicle and extends between two
draft animals) (pole, center tongue, neap)

HARNESS (verb) (hitch up, hook up, gear up, rig up)

REINS (lines, ribbons, webbings fastened to snaffle bars)
(by which the rider or driver governs)

HAULING (drawing, carting, teaming--that is, out, in, down,
away--depending on the stage of action)

AUTOMOBILE (auto, car, motor)

GREASE; GREASY

Animals

SKUNK (polecat)

CHIPMUNK (ground squirrel)

TOAD (toadfrog, etc.)

CALL TO HORSES TO STOP THEM (whoa, he, etc.)

CALL TO HORSES TO MAKE THEM GO (get up, come up, giddap, etc.)

- CALL TO HORSES IN THE PASTURE (cope, quepe; whistling, calling by name)
- CALL TO COWS IN PASTURE (to get them home) (co boss, sook, sook cow, etc.)
- CALL TO COW WHILE MILKING (to make her stand) (so, so boss, saw, histe, etc.)
- CALL TO CALVES (sook calfie, etc.) (any affectionate terms)
- CALL TO CHICKENS (chick, chickie, cluck, cut)
- CALL TO TURKEYS
- GENTLE NOISE MADE BY HORSE (at feeding time) (whinny, nicker, neigh)
- NOISE MADE BY COW (at feeding time) (low, moo, etc.)
- BAND OR HERD OF SADDLE HORSES (remuda, caballada, caviard, cavy, etc.)
- INDIAN PONY (pinto, paint, etc.)
- HORSE ON THE LEFT SIDE IN PLOWING OR HAULING (near horse, nigh horse, etc.)
- UNBROKEN HORSE (bronc, mustang, etc. Define)
- TO TRY TO THROW THE RIDER (buck, pitch)
- MOTHERLESS CALF (maverick, dogie. Distinguish)
- STALLION, STUD (euphemisms and nicknames)
- BULL (1) euphemisms and nicknames (2) veiled terms
- SMALL VARIETY OF JACKASS (donkey, burro)

WORTHLESS DOG, OR DOG (cur, scrub, fice, fiste mongrel,
hound dog, mut)

WOODPECKER (peckerwood)

DRAGON FLY (mosquito hawk, snake doctor, etc.)

GRASSHOPPER (hoppergrass)

WASPS (mud daubers, dirt daubers, etc.) (hornet, yellow jacket)

OWL; SCREECH OWL

BUG THAT GLOWS AT NIGHT (firefly, lightning bug, etc.)

WORM USED FOR FISH BAIT (rainworm, mudworm, eacworm, earth-
worm, angleworm, angledog, fish worm, fishing worm, etc.)

SMALL INSECT THAT BORES INTO THE SKIN (makes red, itchy spots)

Other terms

HORSE (meanings and use of horse)

WISHBONE (superstitions)

CHORETIME (feeding time, milking time)

SPIDER WEB (signs or sayings) (cobweb, dust web)

Crops; Foods; Mealtime

FRESH CORN SERVED ON THE COB (green corn, sweet corn, roast-
ing ears, etc.)

BEANS COOKED AND SERVED IN THE PODS (green beans, snap beans,
snaps, etc.)

LARGE FLAT BEANS (butter beans, lima beans) (describe)

MEXICAN BROWN BEANS (pinto beans, frijoles)

PEACH WHOSE MEAT STICKS TO SEED

PEACH WHOSE MEAT DOESN'T STICK TO SEED

HARD CENTER OF PEACH (seed, stone, pit) (hard shelled seed
of a peach)

HARD CENTER OF CHERRY (seed, stone, pit)

SMALL CAKE (brioche, etc.)

FOOD EATEN BETWEEN MEALS (piece, bite, snack, lunch, etc.)

ROUND, FLAT SHEET OF PECAN CANDY (praline, etc.)

SWEET LIQUID SERVED WITH PUDDING (dip, dope, etc.)

HOMEMADE CHEESE (Dutch cheese, pot cheese, sour milk cheese,
clabber cheese, smear-case, etc.)

MILK THAT HAS SOURED AND THICKENED (clabber, bonnyclabber,
connyclabber, lobbered milk, loppered milk, thick milk,
curds, cruds, sour milk, clabbered milk, etc.)

MILK IS BEGINNING TO SOUR (is blinky, etc.)

SALT PORK; HOME-CURED BACON (fat salt pork; sowbelly; fat
back)

GRIDDLE CAKE (of wheat) (pancake, battercake, wheat cake, etc.)

PRESSED MEAT LOAF MADE OF HOGS' JOWLS (head cheese, souse,
etc.)

SOFT DRINK (pop, soda pop, cold drink, sody water, etc.)

DOUGHNUT, CRULLER (describe) (fried cake, fat cake, etc.)

CORN BREAD (various kinds)

WHITE BREAD (light bread; Baker's Bread) (ask for bread not
baked in the home)

SPOON BREAD (egg bread, batter bread, etc.)

BUNDLE (of wheat) (sheaf)

CHICKEN BONE THAT CHILDREN PULL APART (lucky bone, pully bone, pull bone, pulling bone, wish bone, etc.)

OUTER LEAFY COVER OF EARS OF CORN (husks, shucks)

Other terms

CORN BREAD (bread made of corn meal) (Johany bread, corn muffins)

CORN MEAL MUSH (corn meal stirred into salted boiling water) (gruel, hasty pudding, porridge)

BOILED EGGS (name of eggs dropped whole, unbroken shell, into boiling water)

POACHED (porched) (scrambled, dropped whole)

YOLK (word denoting yellow center of an egg) (yelk, elk)

I AM GOING TO MAKE SOME COFFEE (other words besides make)
fix, boil (up), steep, brew

WARMED OVER (food that is left over from one meal and is heated to be served again, usually on the following day) (warmed up, het, cooked over)

SIT DOWN; DINNER IS READY (to call or to invite the members of the family to the table to eat) (pull up, come and get it)

HELP YOURSELF (used by head of family when serving food by passing from hand to hand around the table) (dig in, have some, take hold and help yourself)

I DON'T CARE FOR ANY MORE (used at the dinner table in refusing an offer of food) (I don't want any, I don't wish any, I don't want no more, No, thanks, I've had plenty)

The Family

He RESEMBLES his father (takes after, etc.)

Her RELATIVES (relations, folks, kinfoles, etc.)

Her PARENTS (folks, etc.)

she has BROUGHT UP three children (raised, reared, etc.)

GRANDMOTHER (usual term and terms of affection) (gram, granny, nanny)

GRANDFATHER (usual term and terms of affection) (gramp, granther, granddad)

MOTHER (usual term and terms of affection) (ma, maw, mama)

FATHER (Usual term and terms of affection) (pa, paw, pop, poppy)

MY WIFE (the old lady, my old woman, the Missus, etc.) (also familiar and facetious terms)

MY HUSBAND (also familiar and facetious terms) (I must ask my husband, my man, my old man, the boss)

ILLEGITIMATE CHILD

MIDWIFE (granny woman)

Other terms

KID (A pet name for a child) (kiddy, tot, tad, tyke, shaver, skeesicks)

PREGNANT (What do you call the condition of a woman who is expecting a baby?) (Her apron string is getting short, in a family way, carrying a young 'un, expecting a little one)

Social Life; Greetings

STRING OF BEADS (strand, pair)

He is COURTING her (wooing, etc.) (If a young man is interested in a girl or in love with her and takes her out, what do you say he is doing?) (sparking, smitten, sweet on her)

KISSING (bussing)

NOISY BURLESQUE SERENADE AFTER A WEDDING (describe) (shivaree, belling, skimmelton, callathump, etc.)

HARMONICA (mouth organ, harp, mouth harp, French harp)

BOY'S WEAPON MADE OF RUBBER STRIPS ON A FORKED STICK (sling, slingshot, beanie, nigger-shooter, etc.)

MERRY CHRISTMAS (Christmas Gift)

BONUS OR GIFT GIVEN WITH A PURCHASE OR WHEN BILL IS PAID
(pilon) (lagniappe)

May I TAKE you home (on foot; in a vehicle) (carry) (addressed by a young man to a girl after a dance or some similar occasion)

VARIETY STORE (racket store, etc.)

THE LOCAL PREACHER; AN UNPROFESSIONAL, PART-TIME, LAY
 PREACHER (parson, dominie, the reverend, Brother so-
 and-so; jackleg preacher, yard-ax, chair-back, Bible
 banger, etc.)

YOU (plural) (you-all, you-uns, youse, you folks, etc.)

HELLO (familiar form) (hi, hey, etc.)

Other terms

PURSE (a container for money) (pocket book, wallet)

UMBRELLA (bumbershoot, parasol, sunshade)

SUSPENDERS (straps which hold trousers up) (galluses, braces)

DRESS UP (to be concerned with one's personal appearance)

(rig up, primp, pretty up, spruce up, doll up)

HER SWEETHEART (what do you call the young man who is
 "courting"?) (sweetie, beau, steady, fellow, flame)

HIS SWEETHEART (girl friend, lady love, darling, dear)

HIS FIANCEE (1) meaning engaged, affianced (wife), intended
 (wife), wife-to-be (2) meaning being courted without
 yet becoming engaged) (sweetheart, love, friend, steady)

She GAVE HIM THE MITTEN (refused his proposal of marriage, or
 jilted him after having accepted his proposal of marriage)
 (the gate, the air, his walking papers)

SOCIAL GATHERING (get together, party, big doings, church
 social, sociable)

CHAT (a talk for a long time about nothing) (gab, chin, jaw,
 blab, yap, gossip, palaver)

I ran ACROSS him (accidental meeting) (come across, run or bump into, run agin)

HOW ARE YOU? (how be you? hello, howdy)

I'm MIGHTY GLAD to see you (happy, pleased, right, real)

GOODBYE (at parting for a long or short time) (goodday, so long, bye bye)

YOU'RE WELCOME (don't mention it, don't speak of it, that's all right)

Persons; Personal Characteristics

STINGY; A STINGY PERSON (closely economical) (tight, chinchy, etc.; tightwad, pennypincher, etc.)

She's QUITE LIVELY (an active old person) (right spry, right peart, chipper, frisky, etc.)

SLOVENLY (slouchy, tacky, etc.) (untidiness in dress, physical appearance or housekeeping, sloppy, shabby, mussy)

EASILY OFFENDED (touchy, waspish, quick to take offense, etc.) (thin-skinned, testy, peppery)

ANGRY (mad, riled, het up, red hot, temper aroused, etc.)

(when one is very angry, mad as a wet hen, a hornet, a wildcat, she bear)

TIRED, EXHAUSTED (worn out, tuckered out, bushed, fagged, petered out, pegged out) (One who has been working, running, or playing a strenuous game)

LAZY, UNAMBITIOUS (no-account, ornery, onery, etc.)

WOMAN WHOSE HUSBAND IS DEAD (widow woman, etc.)

ITALIAN (also nicknames)

IRISHMAN (also nicknames)

JEW (also nicknames) (Sheeny, Heemy, Ikey)

ACADIAN FRENCH (also nicknames)

MEXICAN (also nicknames)

NEGRO (neutral, polite, derogatory and nicknames) (colored man, nigger, darkey, coon, Sambo)

A POOR WHITE; A RUSTIC; ONE FROM THE BACK COUNTRY (yokel, hick, hayseed, sharecropper, hillbilly, redneck, etc.

Distinguish)

HAUNCHERS (hunkers)

EXPRESSIONS OF MILD DISGUST (darn, durn, dad-gum, etc.)

STOUT (Said of persons weighing more than they should) (plump, chubby, fleshy, paunchy, pot-bellied)

FOOL (Stupid person) (dunce, simpleton, sap, chump, nut)

OBSTINATE (not yielding to reason, argument, or other means) (set, stubborn, sot, contrary, cranky, pig-headed)

Various Activities; Verb Forms and Syntactical Peculiarities

I WANT TO GET OFF (I want off)

I'LL WAIT FOR YOU (on you)

LEAVE VERY FAST (light a shuck, etc.)

She CLEANS UP the house (tidies up, reds up, etc.)

She RINSES the dishes (renches, etc.)

He DRAGGED a log (drug)

SEESAW; They are SEESAWING (teeter-totter, teeter-board,
tilting board, dandle, etc.)

IT WASN'T ME (wasn't I; wan't, weren't, etc.)

QUOTS (horseshoes, quates, quakes)

A GOOD DEAL (right much, right smart, etc.)

JAIL (jocular terms) (calaboose, hoosegow, etc.)

He THREW A STONE at a dog (throwed, flung, chunked, chucked;
a rock, a dornick, a donnick, etc.)

SWITCH (for punishing children)

He OUGHTN'T to go (hadn't ought)

He walked CATTY-CORNERED across a field (kitty-cornered,
catty-wampus, antigodlin)

He DIVED in (dove, div)

The baby CREEPS on the floor (crawls)

He CLIMBED UP a tree (clim, clum, clome, clammed, etc.)

I DREAMED all night (drempt, drempt)

I WOKE UP (waked up, wakened, wakened up, etc.)

He MIGHT have HELPED me (mought; help, holped)

He SAW me do it (seen, see, seed)

He LUGGED (a heavy suitcase) (packed, toted)

He SWEATED hard (sweat)

I MIGHT BE ABLE to do it (might could, maybe could)

PRETTY GOOD (right, quite, tolerable, etc.)

THE DEVIL; THE BAD MAN (also veiled and jocular terms)
(beggar man, etc.)

GHOST; GOBLIN (spook, ha'nt, spirit, booger, etc.)

Other terms

He is FEELING BAD (poorly, bum, miserable, under the weather, blue, rotten)

PRETTY WELL (How are you feeling?) (fair to middling, tolerable, fine, so-so)

PASSED AWAY (synonyms of died) (1) Veiled or softened: passed on, out, over, beyond (2) Jocular: kicked the bucket, croaked, went west, passed in his checks, turned up his toes.

DON'T WORRY (an exhortation of encouragement or cheer) (don't fret, stew, fuss, get worked up)

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