

America Eats  
Albert St. George  
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## LAUNDRY WORKERS' S T A G

A dozen years ago the laundry Workers of Butte sponsored an outdoor stag usually around Commercial day, and it has been my good luck to be invited to several of these blowouts.

In the first instance all women were entirely eliminated, wife or mother, did not contribute even a sandwich to the affair, and all male children of the Laundry Workers were welcome, whether they had one or a half a dozen.

### E v e r y t h i n g P u r c h a s e d

All food, soft drinks for the kids, beer, liquor, cigars and gas and the total cost equally borne by the adult members taking part in the stag which was usually around twenty five and as many kids. One truck was provided for the food supplies and another for the drinks.

### C a v a l c a d e A s s e m b l e s

The cavalcade assembled at the Independent laundry as that was the most convenient, anywhere from 8 to 10:30 P. M., preceeding the holiday when a caravan of a dozen cars would start for the open spaces like a caravan of Gypsies.

Those who weren't already plastered before the start were certain to be before we reached camp. The cars would stop every 10 miles or so and a round of moon, beer and soft drinks for the kids would be served. The final camp grounds were reached between 4 and 5 o'clock the next morning, which this year happened to be the Twin lakes in the Jackson hole valley. Here the gang would flop in the cars, under trees or any convenient spot for a nap. Well, with this accomplished, we had yet to eat!

## B r e a k f e a s t

Here, my brother, who up to this time had whipped the streams, lakes and rivers in the Big Hole valley for nearly thirty years, went into high gear with probably one of the best equipped camp outfit of any sportsman in the state. As a Maitre de Cuisine on an outdoor camp fire or gasoline stove he rates second to none.

A special fire started to accomodate an extra large coffee pot and one or two pails would start the proceedings. Soon steaming coffee with an aroma that would make a French Count turn over in his grave was ready for the stiff with their shot of moon for an eye opener.

By this time the Chef had several frying pans of Montana ham and eggs going, and so appetizing in appearance, when eaten, I can guarantee will fairly take your breath! The kids usually came first, whether you liked it or not, when a boy is hungry--that is just what it means.

Well, the Chef's biggest problem was just beginning as he had to mix and cook skillet after skillet of nice brown hot cakes to be served to an exacting clientele with syrup and honey.

## L o v e o f O u t d o o r L i f e

How a man could take so much punishment--I never could figure it out. Yet, I've seen my brother do this for nearly 40 years! It was his life, his love, his avocation, he had his kids out on the river banks before they quit wearing dippers. His love for camping or fishing carried him to all parts of Western Montana, with his passing recently Montana has lost one of its finest sons and sportsman.

With breakfast over the task of cleaning up was performed with zest and alacrity, with this done, some would fish, some thought they could fight, but too stewed to fish or fight.

### Light Weight Wrestling Champ

We had the champion light weight Cousin Jack 'rassler' in Montana with us, that is according to his own accounts, after he had a few shots of moon. However, his claim was not entirely unsupported as he was willing to back his assertion. He issued a challenge to every man in the party big or small!

He rassled three or four men and put up an excellent exhibition of acrobatics, but failed to win a match! However, he maintained his title was still intact as the bouts were at catch weights, and the other men had him outweighed.

On another occasion I attended another stag on the Madison river and it also was a riot of fun.

### Laundry Workers Go Soft

Last year the Laundry Workers went softie, they held their picnic near the 19 mile and permitted the women to attend. They served all you wanted to eat or drink, but there was no all night cavalcade, hot breakfast or wrestling matches.

Source of Information:

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