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Deer Lodge County
Si Stoddard,
Anaconda, Mont.

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FEEDING BY HAND

By Si Stoddard,
Anaconda, Mont.

"Did you ever notice that food eaten from the hand tastes better than when taken from a plate," an old Anaconda cowpoke remarked yesterday. Apparently he knew considerable about the subject.

"After a study of cooking utinsils I have come to the conclusion they have a tendency to spoil the taste of food to a certain extent," he continued. "Food served in delicate fashion from fancy dishes, with parsley decoration and eaten with a spoon or fork, is served at a disadvantage. The delicate surroundings of the vituals often results in an overestimation of the taste or the tenderness by the eater. Lifting the food to the mouth with a fork or spoon gives the eater another moment to appreciate the sight of the food before it disappears down one's esophogus, while food eaten from the hand stands on the merits of its own taste.

"If you are unable to understand my remarks and imagine your ancestry reverts back to Missouri, just wander

out into the hills some day. Fish you head off if you so desire, but keep at it until you have a hollow feeling inside. Then recover the remnants of your Limburger or Swiss sandwich from the bottom of your fish basket, and pick out a shady nook. By the time you have pulled the stopper from your ----"

"Your what?" burst from one of the bystanders, whose mouth was showing signs of watering.

"Why your thermos bottle, of course," the old-timer replied, as he calmly touched a match to his pipe that had died out while he was talking.

It was all of a half-hour before those in the gathering began to realize the old-timer had failed to explain how the lunch terminated.

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