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America Eats ,
Res, Field Wk. Ears C Winter.
Date, ,Nov. 7th, 1941community
Source. Interviews with community people and self experience.

America Eats.

The eats and drinks of the American people and of this community are varied to the extent that it represents a great variety of foods and drin drinks,originated to a great extent from homelands of the Scandenavians, English, Italians ,Dutch and in fact from nearly all over the world. These mixed with tha American foods and drinks make an almost endless variety.

From the American corn bread , hot cakes, corm mush and milk,pork and beef,prepared in a dozen different ways ,to the Irishman with his potatoes ,and considerable whisky,and gin, to the blond Swedes and Norwegians with their lefse ,and grub(made from potatoes and flour with salt and sugar added?) and lutefisk, rosetts, sunbakel and fatimun, and rice grot,all of which the Americans have adopted to a great extent, and learned to like and relish with an appetite almost equal to their Scanda. neighbors. In fact in this community at social affairs, and ladies aid suppers and picnic dinners the Americans are almost as likely to call for these dishes as are the Scandenavians them selves.

There is a great knack in preparing these dishes , especially lefse and grub as you have to have a certain kind of rolling pin for lefse so as to roll out in large thin pieces. Grub is made of potatoes grated fine and then rolled in a ball and boiled and served with bacon grease or melted butter,with salt ar sugar added to suit the taste.

Often times the old ladies from "the old country" have to be called upon if you want an excellant job done.in preparing these dishes. Often times in asking for lefse ,some one will say "pass the napkins, or pass the horse blankets" as they are rolled out very thin and do somewhat resemble the old fashioned table napkin.

Then there are the Italians of which Havre is well represented like their

spagette and macoroni which they know how to prepare in many ways to tempt the appetite almost anyone who likes good food.

The average American have adopted many of these dishes and can almost equal the Italian chef so as to make ones mouth water to see them on the table in front of you and to get a whif of the aroma from them when they are set in front of you piping hot.

Then there are the Dutch and Germans with their linberger cheese, which would "beat the Dutch" or anyone else who happened to get a whif of it. The American "DutchCheese" or cottage cheese ,which is made from sour milk is adopted and prepared by almost all people and has become a famous dish which is universally used by all nationalities.

Common brick cheese and cheese sandwiches are relished by all.

The midnight lunch served at the Saturday night dances consists of sandwiches (ham, eggs, cheese and many other varieties) and served with coffee to wash them down, and might include a doughnut or piece of cake. The lunch is usually served on paper plates with paper cups for the coffee, and when the supper waltz is played the crowd begins to line up in front of the lunch counter and take their turn to receive the lunch, which is usually serverd by some private individual or ladies club . Of cource they pay for the lunch and procede to find some place to sit and eat as best you can. Often times someone who has had too much corn liquor , or Milwaukee beer spill his or her coffee on the floor,but than doesn,t seem to spoil their fun.

Some scattered couples take their lunch outside to their cars ,and whet up their appetite with something stronger than near beer or a drink from the town pump, No doubt a little"necking" (used to call it "sparkin,") is indulged in by the modern young folks as they eat and drink. I would,nt be suprised if some of the "almost have beens" are at it too sometimes,but I guess that is alright too,anyway they all seem to have a good time ,and after all that is part of our life.

There is a sprinkle of Boheimens in this territory and they still are strong for garlic ,so one can often tell the nationality you meet though the night may be dark.

Ihe,"niggers" quite a few of which are in the Havre community still cling to the famous chicken and corn on the cob,with a desert of watermelon. At one time in the early days of Havre" Ma Plaz" (Mrs Pleasant) one of the best cooks that ever landed in Havre (white orBlack) was noted for her Thanksgiving dinners ,consisting of roast turkey and chicken, with cranberry sauce, and pumpkin pie Etc. Practically all Americans are caught with an appetite for turkey and chicken prepared in a dozen delicious ways. Most Americans inthis locality fall for watermelon and muskmellons almost equal to the Negro. Of course they always taste better when a person can find the patch and sneak a few out through the fence and sit down by the side of a stump and just eat the heart out of them ."Oh Boy what fun". While our appetites are all whetted up and our mouths water for the good things we often ingulge in until we are sure to get the "belly ache" we must not forget the fun and frolic which all young people have , aspecially at , school and Sunday school picnics when there is a weiner or marshmellow roasting. This is where the young Americans have a glorious jolly time ,chasing around a bond fire with a weiner on the end of a stick and poking it into the fire until it is cooked nice and brown(sometimes black) and then eating it while it is hot, and having a nice cup of hot cocoa to wash it down."Oh'such fun, boys and girls laughing and singing and chasing each other around the bond f fire and having the fun of their lives.

Oh' to be young again and take part in the frolic at a weiner roast , is the wish of the has beens ,but a wish that never becomes a reality. The nearest to this for the old folks is the"Fourthof July Picnic" when they all throw in together and spread a blanket on the ground

in a nice shady nook and all get down on their "prayer bones" and gobble up chichen and noodles ,pickles ,sweet and sour, potatoes both Irish and sweet, bread made into sandwiches,of a half dozen varieties, salads of fruit , potatoes. cabbage,and many other kinds, stewed beef, roast pork a variety of pies,apple , pumpkin, mince, lemon etc.take your choice. Of course there is plenty of coffee and lemonade,to drink. and the men might have a keg of something stronger hid in the bushes.

Then to pack their stomaches already too full comes the ice cream ,which the kids have been waiting so long for. This company may consist of a half dozen nationalities ,all joined in one big family to celebrate the freedom our forefathers fought so hard for, and gave us the best country in the world in which to live. They may be Swedes,Norwegians, English, Dutch, Slaves. or Russians by decent, but all Americans at heart and all loyal to the American flag which stands for freedom and liberty to,all. After the dinner is over the men may have a game of horse shoe, or flop on the ground and swap yarns, while the women clean up the dishes and sort out their belongings which they usually have marked in some way.

And then when this lunch is over, and the men are flopped
in the clover,
And Pa and Ma and old auntSue, are so dog gone full they
don,t know what to do,
The day so hot they sit and sweat,until their clothes
are soaking wet,
And one will say I'll,I,ll chance a bet, that we can lick "Ø/Ø
"Old Hitler yet",
Another says we,ll tan his hide ,and hang it on
the fence ,till dried.
Just about that time it starts to rain,and they all rush
home ,the cows to drain,
When they go to bed and roll all night,with a "BellyAche",
Oh' what a plight,
But wake in the morning as fresh as the dew,and say" we
sure had a good time too".