THE OZARK DIALECT

by

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Approved by:

[Signatures]

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PREFACE

On a haphazard holiday ten years I had the rare pleasure of meeting the "native Ozarker." With no thought of reproducing his volubility I listened to his individual conversation with unlimited delight. I heard from him new words, new phrases; and even his intonations differed from those we had known at home farther north.

This piqued my curiosity. At the suggestion of my kindly mentor, Miss Josephine Burnham, I have tried to capture here the elusive and fleeting conversation of the mountain folk of the Ozarks.

At first I was completely "at sea." No one seemed ever to have heard of such a thing as an Ozark dialect. As I went on, however, I gleaned many interesting and enlightening facts about southwestern Missouri and northeastern Arkansas. To various literary workers and scholars I am most deeply indebted, and I wish to thank them for their help:

The Reverend Mark Gross, S.J., Mr. Alanson Mason Haswell, Miss Rose Wilder Lane, The Reverend J.G. Woerner, Mrs. May K. McCord, Mr. O.G. Harmon, Dr. Vance Randolph, and Sir William Craigie.

My deepest gratitude and appreciation are for Miss Josephine Burnham. It was she who suggested my task; and without her it would not have been performed. Like Dante, I "found me in a gloomy wood astray," and hers was the helping hand and friendship that lightened the heavy task and made accomplishment possible.
INTRODUCTION
TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION

I. A Typical Ozark Conversation . . . . . . . . . . . i

II. Grammar of the Ozark Dialect . . . . . . . . . . . vi

III. Pronunciation of the Ozark Dialect . . . . . . . xxi

IV. Middle English Survivals in the Ozarks . . . . xxxii

V. The Hill Talk in Prose and Poetry . . . . . . . . xlili

GLOSSARY

1. Agricultural Words and Farm Implements 1.


3. Articles of Clothing 21.


5. Expressions Used in Courtship 27.

6. Family Ties 29.

7. Government and Law 34.

8. Household Terms 37.

9. Institutions 41.

10. Literature and Music 51.

11. Money and Numerals 54.

12. Physiological Terms 55.

13. Religious Words 68.

(Continued)

15. Things to Eat 79.
17. Topographical Words 89.
18. Transportation 96.
22. Miscellaneous Words 115.

Bibliography

A. Representations of the Dialect. 276
B. Linguistic Aids. 278
C. History and Character of the Ozark People. 280
D. Geography and Travel. 280
E. Miscellaneous. 281
I

A TYPICAL OZARK CONVERSATION
Selected from Dialect Notes 1926 Vol.V
Part IX pages 197-199 "Snake County Talk" by Jay L.B.
Taylor

Last summer's a year ago, me an' Spike Randolph was a-settin' out yander on the gallery a-smokin' an' a-jawin' one another, an' d'rockly Spike he h'isted his heels up on the railin' an' rared his cheer back ag'in the wall an' 'en he retch fer his ol' pipe an' commenced a-fillin' hit 'ith some o' my long green. Atter he got lit up an' taken a puff 'r two he says, "Taylor," says he, "how long you-all been hyar 'n Snake County, anyways?"

"Well," says I, "le's see. Pap an' Mam they brung me hyar f'm Newbrasky when I's 'bout ten year ol'. I'm right at forty now, so I 'low 'l must 'a' been hyar 'bout thirty year, off an' on. Why?"

Spike he sortuh scrooched futher down in his cheer so's he c'd lay on his shoulder blades an' 'en he jist sot that a-lookin' off up Bresh Creek like he was study-in' right hard 'bout suthin; 'peeded like he hadn't give no min't what I says an' I b' gun't figger he didn't aim on answerin' me a-tall. But purty soon he scrooched down a leetle futher an' says, "Well," says he, "I 'low you ortuh be right handy 'ith Snake County talk, then."
"Yeah," says I, "'Low I am. Why?"

"Hit's changed a right smart sence you-all come hyar, I s'pose."

"Well, I sortuh mulled that over an' dad-blame' 'f he wasn't right! Hit shore has changed. W'ly, I rickollect when Pap an' Mam fus' come in hyar they mighty nigh like t' died a-laughin' at whut they hyeard,—but they haint no call fer a-gorn on about that.

Me an' Spike we sot thar an' sich words ortuh be sounded an' whut they meant an' 'en him a-tellin' me whur they come frum an' all sich's that, an'd' reckly Spike he says, "'Fears like some fellur ortuh git up a word list fer this neck o' bresh."

"A whut?" says I.

"Word list," says he. "All the quair words you-uns has got. W'ly, I been a-hyearin' words sence I come hyar 't they don't nobody else on airt' ever use. No, sir! Not no one! Reckon y' caint make up sich a list?"

"Well," says I, bein' sortuh riled at them remarks, "I don't reckon hit'd be sech a all-fired long un at that. We-all aint s' dad-blame' ign'r'nt back hyar 'n the hills 's you-uns mought 'a' hyeard tell we was."
"Aw, now," says he, easy like, "keep y'r shirt on an' ca'm down. You shorely got sense enough t' see hit'd be a favor t' the world fer you t' make up a list. Prob'ly thirty year ago you-alls had words hyar 't you don't never hyear no more. Haint I right?"

He shore was, an' atter I studied about what he said I tol' him so.

"Yes," he says, "an' hit'll just keep a-gorn that-away till d'reckly you Southwest Missourians' talk'll be a dead language, so's hit ortuh be rea-sorded an' more-served whilst hit kin be. Reckon how many o' you-all's words they air, anyways?"

"Oh, prob'ly twenty-thirty," says I, "nobbe forty, but they shore aint fifty, an' I know plumb good an' well they haint nothin' like no hundred er so."

But he kep' at me till I fin'ly tol' him I would try an' git up a list, so's I come back hyar'n the house an' b' gun writin' down the ones I c'd rickollect, an' dad-blame my hide 'f I didn't git better'n a hundred right off! An' the next evenin' atter I got done a-woedin' the ingorn patch, w'y I written down suthin' like fifty more--'nored like ever' time I pulled up a week I ketched a new word. Next day I thunk up a lot more, an' the day atter that I dug out some more till d'reckly I gethered me up a hull dan'
passel o' the dad-burn things, and hit shore did seem like Spike was right whenever' n he said we-alls had a language of our own, a home-made language, he says.

But if he's right an' the world ralely does want suthin' done about keepin' track o' how we-alls talk, w'y hyar's the list.

I'd be mighty proud to fix up a rule er two fer usein' sich words as You an' you-all and You-uns an' We-all an' We an' We-alls an' We-uns, but they haint no way o' doin' that less'n I jest written down all the ways I ever hyeard 'em used, an' they haint nary man on airth kin do that atter he's been a-sayin' an' a-hyean' 'em for thirty years.

Nother trouble is 't right hyar lately we been a-havin' a right smart better schools 'n we did back yander 'bout the time I kin first rickollect. Futhermore all them ol' fellers 't come in hyar f'm Tennessee an Car'liney an' them places has mos'ly died off an' don't talk no more, so' they's sev'r'l o' the ol' time words 't haint never used no more much. An' 'en b'sides all that these touristers keep a-fotch'in' in new words so's 'ithout a chance they's sev'r'l o' our words plumb petered out an' gone an' give way fer new-uns.

But I've done set down all the rale Snake County
words I've met up with so fer. O' course a feller mought
hyear some of 'em somewhrs else, like down in Arkansas
er over yender 'n the Territory (hit's Oklahoma, now)
but he'll shore-hyear mighty nigh ever' one of 'em if he
stops in these parts long.

I'm right sorrow I caint show jest how they ortuh
be called ever time--seems like they haint no letters
fitten fer a-spellin' 'em like they sound--but Spiko he
says he knows a lot o' leetle marks t' put up over some
o' the letters so's the editor kin make out what I'm a-
tryin' to show him an' I 'low that ortuh be good enough.

An' let me say in partin' that if they's anyone a-
aimin' on awritin' ary other novel about us hill billies
down hyar in the Ozarks an' haint shore 't he kin make
his book people talk like we-all do, w'y I'll be proud
t' he'p him out, for I rickollect readin' a book onceot
about a feller a-herdin sheep down this side o' Springfield--
sortuh preacher, he 'peared like--an' the feller 't writ-
ten that book made him git off talk 't never was hyeard
'n these parts, an' if it had 'a' been, hit'd a' shore
a-started a fight, so's I remain,

Yores Resp'y,
II

THE GRAMMAR OF THE OZARK DIALECT

The chief differences between the Ozark dialect and
the standard conversational language used in the United
States in general are matters of pronunciation and vo-
cabulary rather than of grammar. An adequate study of
the Ozark pronunciation is still to be written, but fairly
comprehensive word-lists have been made by Carr, Crumb,
Taylor, and Randolph, and have been published in Dialect
Notes. These I have assembled, and I have noted that they
add to my observations of the daily speech of the Ozark
mountaineer, which is practically unknown and foreign to
the majority of people.

One of the most striking grammatical peculiarities
of the Ozark speech is concerned with the tense forms
of the verbs. Sometimes the hill man seems to have a
perverse preference for the weak conjugation, and re-
joices in such uncouth preterites as blowed, ketched,

1 Carr, Joseph William, "Words from Northwest Arkansas,"  
 Dialect Notes, Vol. II, part 6, Vol. III part 1,  
 part 2, part 5.

2 Crumb, D.A., "The Dialect of Southeastern Missouri,"  

3 Taylor, J.L.B., "Snake County Talk" Dialect Notes Vol. V  
 part 6.

4 Randolph, Vance, "A Word List From the Ozarks," Dialect  
drawed, dranked, knoved, seed and throwed. In other cases, however, we find a transfer from the weak conjugation to the strong, which gives us such pretorites as clum, div, drug, het, snuck, skun, and so on. The past participles of words like take and write are nearly always substituted for the past tense forms, so that the sentences I taken a drink and she written a letter are perfectly good Ozark dialect. The substitution often works the other way round, too, the preterite being regularly used in place of the past participle, so that the hillman says I have took a drink, and she has wrote a letter.

The following paradigm shows this tendency in the verb to take:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tense</th>
<th>Indicative</th>
<th>Subjunctive</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Present</td>
<td>I take</td>
<td>Ef I take</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Present Perfect</td>
<td>I have took</td>
<td>Past Perfect</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Past</td>
<td>I taken</td>
<td>Ef I had</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Future</td>
<td>I will</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>take</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Ef I had of took</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The past tense of to take is always taken, as indicated above, except in a few peculiar idioms. For example, the hillman usually says: Paw he tuck down 'ith pneumonia fever.

In general, however, the tendency is to break down all distinctions between the preterite and past participle forms in nearly all irregular verbs, and when the two are different they are often used interchangeably. This trend is illustrated by the principal parts of some common Ozark verbs:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Present</th>
<th>Preterite</th>
<th>Past Participle</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>bear</td>
<td>beared</td>
<td>beared</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bring</td>
<td>brang, brung</td>
<td>brung</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>buy</td>
<td>boughten</td>
<td>boughten</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ketch</td>
<td>ketched</td>
<td>ketched</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>climb</td>
<td>clum, clum, clom</td>
<td>clum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dive</td>
<td>div, dove</td>
<td>dove</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>do</td>
<td>done</td>
<td>done</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>break</td>
<td>broke</td>
<td>broke</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dream</td>
<td>dremp</td>
<td>dremp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>drink</td>
<td>drank, drunk</td>
<td>drank, drank, drank</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>eat</td>
<td>et, eat</td>
<td>et, eat, ate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>give</td>
<td>give, giv</td>
<td>give, gave</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hear</td>
<td>heard, heern</td>
<td>heerd, heern</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>heat</td>
<td>heat</td>
<td>heat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>heave</td>
<td>hove</td>
<td>hove</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>help</td>
<td>holp</td>
<td>holp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lean</td>
<td>lent</td>
<td>lent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pick</td>
<td>puck</td>
<td>puck</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
There are many peculiar combinations of tense forms, as in the following sentences: Lee Gifford's done dead--Th' chores done ben done--She's done went t' Bentonvillo. An a sound is regularly prefixed to the present participle in the progressive tense forms--a-runnin', a-drinkin', a-fightin', a-lovin' and so on.

The hill man's use of the auxiliary verbs is very remarkable. He says I did plow or I done plowed rather than use the simpler form I plowed. The negative I never did see is regularly preferred to the less emphatic I never saw. Most Ozarkers frequently use been instead of the past was --- I ben so puny I couldn't of eat nothin' nohow. The hill man generally prefers the future progressive form to the simple future tense; he does not say I'll
hunt roun' but I'll be a-huntin' round' thar. The subjunctive of to be is very seldom used in the Ozarks; one always hears of I was you, never if I were you. Were is not used with the second person, either—the hill man says: You wasn't wet, was you? Some of the older people use war instead of was in some situations. Will is invariably substituted for shall, even in the imperative, but the negative form shain't is heard occasionally. The auxiliary should is sometimes used in indirect discourse to indicate a certain degree of doubt, as in this sentence: "Cordin' t' Bill, Sam sh'd a said I was a liar." One very rarely hears should; it has given way before ought to. The auxiliary may is not used at all except in the combination nebbe, and here it has lost its verbal significance and means no more than possibly or perhaps. Might is used in the ordinary sense, but is often pronounced so as to rhyme with cut. Doesn't is never heard, don't being substituted in almost every case, third person singular and all. Ain't does duty for am not, is not and are not; has not and have not are usually rendered haint, although the simple ain't is quite respectable even here. Could have and might have are sometimes pronounced in three syllables, something like could-a-of.

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might-a-of, but would have is usually contracted to would-a.

Many of the most effective Ozark verbs are crudely fashioned from nouns, as in the following sentences.

"Don't fault th' young-un jos' fer boin' pun." "They done churched ol' Mis' Price fer cyard playin'!" "Thet 'ar shote'll meat th' hull fambly a month, easy." "We-uns caint muscle no sich a rock as thet'ar noway." "Th' ol' cow she fell down, but we-uns finely made out t' tail her up agin." "I aim t' go a-fishin' soon's I jung out this hyar barn." "Him he figgers on a-vealin' that ar calf."

A number of good verbs are coined from adjectives, too. 7 For example: Lem he got drunk an' plum bonasted hisse'f.--I shore didn't aim t' contrary that ol' heifor fr'm Bell Holler.--You-all caint green that air Howard gal noway. (To green is to tease or ridicule.) The adjective sultry is frequently turned into a verb meaning to smother or suffocate--I mighty nigh sultered down in that 'ar holler.

A few nouns like post, nest, beast, and vest take, from our point of view, a superfluous vowel in the plural, reviving such ancient forms as postes, nestes, beastes, and vestes. The word folk is never heard in the Ozark country, but folks and folkses are both common, and seem

7 Randolph, Vance, "Grammar of the Ozark Dialect" (Manuscript) Page 6.
to be used interchangeably.

A few singular nouns are always used as if they were plural: How many molasses hov you-uns got?—These hyar license aint wuth a dam! in Oklahoma. Maw shore did git a good scald on them cheese. --Th' ol' mare thowed Sally right down in them gravel, and so on. Some forms are made to serve as both singular and plural, and we often hear such phrases as seven year back, twenty rod off, six foot high, and the like. On the state highway north of Neosho, Missouri, there is a large sign which reads, "Joplin, Seven Mile From Here." Most natives use mile for both singular and plural, but some of the old-timers use the plural form mille. Such words as bushel, pound, dozen, head, rick, cord, pair and kind seldom have any plural form—never when preceded by a numeral word. The same thing is true of many animal names—singular forms like, coon, skunk, mink, fawn, wolf, fox, bar and panter are regularly used as plurals. In some other cases the plural form is invariably used; it is almost impossible to get a hill man to say tomato, for example—he always avoids the singular by saying one of them termates.

Some of the best Ozark nouns are really converted verbs, as in the following examples: Did you-uns hyear
the give-out at the church-house? give-out meaning an-
nouncements. Wal, I reckon hit don't make no differ.
Adjectives are sometimes employed in the same way: Thom
Pea Ridge folks is all hateful, an' if they're a-lookin'
fer trouble they'll shore git a lavish of it. Occasionally
we find adverbs doing duty as nouns, as in the follow-
ing: If I hed m' rathers I shore wouldn't be a-sittin'
in this hyar jail-house. This usage is almost universal,
though sometimes the word is pronounced rathers, or even
druthers. Combinations like tooth-dentist, sick-patient,
grape-vineyard are also in common use.

The hill man handles his personal pronouns with a
magnificent disregard for the case distinctions that is
truly Elizabethan. One of his commonest idioms involves
the use of the objective forms where the nominatives are
required in Standard English, as in the following examples:
Hit shore is me.--Us fellers caint git out o' this hyar
jail-house.--Me an' her was a-sparkin'--No sir, not me.--
Him an' his woman they fit scar'rous.

The absolute form of the possessive is often marked
by a final n sound, instead of the s which distinguishes
this form is Standard English. Thus we have yourn, hisn,
hern, ourn, and theirs in common although not exclusive
use. The final n perhaps represents the old adjective
termination which is concealed in mine and thine.
The plural forms *you-all* and *we-all* are very common and generally thought to be plural, though occasionally *you-all* is employed as singular. *You-uns* is nearly always plural in the Ozark country. The related pronouns *us-uns*, although rare, is not altogether unknown to the hill people. Some of these peculiar combinations have possessive forms also, and the general situation is summarized in the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First Person</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Singular</strong></td>
<td><strong>Plural</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nom.</td>
<td>I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poss.</td>
<td><em>my</em>, <em>mine</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Obj.</td>
<td>me</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Second Person</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Nom.</strong></td>
<td><em>you-all</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Poss.</strong></td>
<td><em>yourn</em>, <em>you-all's</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Obj.</strong></td>
<td><em>you-all</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Third Person</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Nom.</strong></td>
<td><em>he</em>, <em>she</em>, <em>hit</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Poss.</strong></td>
<td><em>hism</em>, <em>hern</em>, <em>hit's</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Obj.</strong></td>
<td><em>him</em>, <em>her</em>, <em>hit</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sometimes the Ozark pronoun agrees with its antecedent in number, but frequently it does not. *Anybody'd be gravel-led t' ketch their woman a-talkin' t' that feller and each gal better git their own basket* are both correct sentences in the Ozarks. In the intensive forms the moun-
tain man always says *hissef* rather than *himself*, and frequently adds emphasis by interpolating the word *own*—
he done it his own self.

The relative pronouns, *who, which, what, and that* are used very much as in Standard English, but *whose* is not common, and *whom* is never heard in the Ozarks at all. That is very generally substituted for *whom*, as in th' feller that I shot. What is often used in place of that—

Them's the kind o' gals what I like. The hyphenated pronouns *who-all* and *what-all* are common, particularly in interrogative sentences, as *who-all* was at th' frolic? and *what-all* did them folks hev t' eat? The possessive form of *who-all* is also frequently heard—*Who all's is this hyar chippin' axe?*

The demonstrative pronouns *this* and *that* are frequently turned into *this hyar, that thar, and that 'ar*, the adverb being used to emphasize the proximity or remoteness of the object referred to. The plural form *these hyar* is sometimes heard, but *those* is rather rare, and is never combined with the adverbs *here and there*. The personal pronoun *them* is also used as a plural demonstrative, sometimes alone and sometimes in connection with the adverb as *them thar*. Two other common demonstratives are best rendered *this' in* and *that' in*—evidently degenerate contractions
of this one and that one. Some of these principles are illustrated in the following sentences. What's this hyar digmas fer?—That 'ar licker aint fitton t' drink.—These hyar city gals is all skinny legs.—Them's th' best britches we-uns has got.—Them fellers aint no good.—They's bars in them 'ar mountains, gal.—This'n aint no good, an' that'n cain't be ketched noway. The word it is sometimes used almost as a demonstrative. Looking first at his rifle and then at that of Dr. Randolph, a hill man once said, How'd you—all swap hit for hit?

Adverbs are regularly replaced by adjective forms in the Ozarks. The hill man always says I ketched him easy, she hollered terrible, he was shore hurt bad, and so on. It is only in cases where there is an obvious difference in meaning between the adverb and the adjective that this confusion disappears. In the sentence I caint hardly see no more the adverb is always used; nobody would say that he couldn't hard see. The same thing is true of such words as lately, scarcely, really and generally. The adverb up is used to intensify the meaning of a verb; it seems to me, much more frequently than in Standard English. Such combinations as meet up, rick up, love up, hook up are very common.

Frequently a number of prepositions and adverbs are
strung together—Ab he lives away back in upcn Sugar Creek. The proposition to is often used superfluously in an infinitive after have or had, as in the sentence:
Ol' Stan Lee hed three shots t' die on him las' week.
The peculiar use of at in where does th' revenue live at? is almost universal in the Ozarks. It is regularly substituted for to in such sentences as jes' listen at th' dam! fool shollerin'. The preposition on is sometimes used instead of of—he's th' dangdest fool I ever heard tell on. Something of the same sort occurs in cut'n and off'n—she run out'n th' house and drug Ike off'n his horse. Of replaces with in the sentence what's th' matter of you, and is used superfluously in such statements as I don't remember of it.

Occasionally a number of superfluous adverbs are used in a sentence—I mostgenerally allus rocks them 'turnal dogs off'n th' place.

Taylor⁸ says that the adverb plum means completely, and may be used to modify adjectives. It certainly means completely or quite in such sentences as Dave he jes' plum gin out and I aint plum shore 'bout that 'ar preacher-man. But in other cases it seems to mean very, as in the sentence he'll git byyr plum soon. The word plum has still an-

---
other meaning in such a sentence as she up an' slapped me right plum in the mouth.

The word which some dialect writers render nare is simply a rustic pronunciation of never, and is equivalent to the old form ne'er, used in many of the old English ballads which the hill man knows in some degenerate version or other. Any and nary are derived from e're and ne'er e., but the common use of any another shows how much of the original significance has been lost. The form not any is sometimes substituted for nary, but the latter seems to be somehow more emphatic. More forcible still is the double negative not nary, as in the expression not nary one o' them fellers.

The double negative, as in I never done nothin', is the rule rather than the exception. Often the word nohow is added for greater emphasis, and we have a triple negative. Even the quadruple form--I aint never done nothin' nohow--is not at all uncommon. A peculiar negative form is sometimes employed for emphasis, so that the phrase I wonder ef he don't really means he certainly does.

Simple adjectives, except for their confusion with the adverbial forms, are usually managed very well. In their comparison, however, the hill man constantly uses the

er and est terminations, often producing such superlatives as beautifullest and perfectest. Sometimes he fancies both the more and the er ending, and we hear more better, more harder, more higher, and the like. To return for a moment to the adverb: the comparative form of far is sometimes used in a peculiar sense; all the farther means "as far as" in such sentences as two miles was all th' farther he could run. The word is usually pronounced further or farther, however, and even furder is heard occasionally.

Some very striking adjectives are participial forms, as the word thoughted in this sentence: Bill he tried t'eddicate fer a doctor, but pears like he war'nt thoughted enough. The word thoughted is also used to mean thoughtful, or considerate of other people's feelings. The verb last, meaning to endure, has a derivative adjective them's th' lastiest overhauls I ever seed. Sometimes a noun is regularly used as an adjective, as in the sentence they's too dang many fool laws in th' settlement. In the following sentence, the word master is made to function in the same way—my boy's th' masterest fiddler in these parts.

Compound adjectives like dog-bit are very frequently heard; a horse-throwed man, for instance, rolled down the mountain and died in a tangle of wind-blowed trees. The
peculiar form onliest is very common, that 'ar is th' on-
liest axe we-all has got. A final n sound is sometimes
added to certain adjective forms—the mountaineer's eyes
are always blood-shotten rather than blood-shot. When pre-
sent participles are used attributively they are compared
like any other adjectives—Lucy is a lovin' er gal as
Dolly, but Mary is th' lovin' est gal I ever seed. Super-
latives of this type are very common—fightin'est, dancin'
est, shootin'est, growed-uppest, tore-downdest, and so on.
Often a number of similar adjectives are strung together—
he's jest a common, ord'n'ry, everyday feller, or I seed
a leetle, small, puny-lookin' bar a-settin' under a bush.
The most striking characteristic of the Ozark dialect is the vocabulary, of course, but the pronunciation is easily second in importance. The only adequate way of preserving the data of pronunciation is by means of phonographic records, but this method is not practicable in the Ozark Mountains at present. The Weaver Brothers have composed and presented on the vaudeville stage, a very lively and enjoyable act, which is the only popular reproduction of Ozark dialect that I have ever heard. The material gathered here, I find, is representative of eight counties: McDonald, Barry, Stone, and Taney counties in Missouri, and Benton, Washington, Carroll, and Boone counties in Arkansas.

Many of my friends who have made their homes in the Ozarks, Dr. Vance Randolph of Pineville, Mr. Oliver McBride of Camp Leale Taneycomo, Mr. Price Overbeck of a neighboring resort, have told me that one of the most striking features of the Ozark pronunciation is the disconcerting fashion in which the vowels are shifted about. The vowel in care, share, and scarce, is pronounced almost exactly as though the words were spelled keer, sheer, and skeerce. Calm and balmy are regularly pronounced cam and banny. The word gargle, too, is invariably turned into gaggle—the a being pronounced
precisely as in hat. In narrow, arrow, barrel, and the like, the accented vowel has exactly the same sound as the a in father; such words are often reduced to monosyllables--narr', arr', bar'l, and so on. When tramp and stamp are used substantively they are correctly pronounced as in Standard English, but the corresponding verbs are always tramp and stomp. The verb dare is usually dar, but in the negative form the vowel sound is shortened and the r replaced by s--I dass'nt do no fishin' of a Sunday. The a in what is usually replaced by the vowel of but; far is pronounced like fur, and rather is nearly always turned into ruther.

The short a of have is frequently pronounced like short o, so that the word sounds pretty much like hay, while the same sound in hasn't and haven't becomes a as in state, providing us with the negative form ha'nt. The proper name Rafe, which is the Ozark form of Ralph, is always given the long a sound. The short a in catch and gather is replaced by short o, so that these words are written ketch and gather. The word drain is usually pronounced dreen, while the preterite of eat is nearly always et, and naked is invariably turned into neckid. In words like any and many the a sounds much like short i, and the nape of the neck is always made to rhyme with cap. The a in paltry is frequently given the sound of long o, so that the word sounds like poultry. One very rarely hears almanac and tabernacle.
pronounced as they are in Standard English—they usually sound like almanick and tabornickle.

The final unstressed a is often turned into short y, particularly in proper names: Clara becomes Clary, Laura is pronounced Laury, and Ida is turned into Idy. The word alfalfa is pronounced alfally, extra is nearly always entry, and soda is invariably turned into sody. Idea becomes either idy or idoe, the latter form being the more emphatic of the two. Something of the same sort occurs in words like pneumonia and malaria, which are nearly always pronounced neumony and malary.

A replaces the long e sound in the verb roar, which is always pronounced rare or rar, and is substituted for e in such words as yellow and celery—yaller and salory. The word certain is nearly always certain. Thresh and wrestle have been converted into thresh and wrassle and mesh is usually pronounced mesh, while in other cases the e is lengthened to something like long a as in after, so that egg and leg sound very much like aig and laig. The e in the proper name Eva is usually short in the Ozarks, for some reason or other. Such words as port and perch are usually rendered peort and peerch. Deaf is invariably given the long e sound—deef, and clock becomes click. Such words as kettler, chest and get are almost universally
pronounced little, chist and git. Set is very often turned into sot, and terrible is generally turrible.

Such words as fire, iron, wire, and hire have a vowel much like the a in far; little, itch, inch, idiot, and obligation, have the sound of oo, while such words as bitch, hitch and pitch keep the standard vowel. The noun is pronounced whip, but the verb is turned into something between whup and whoop. The i sound is sometimes replaced by o, as when stint and bin are pronounced stent and ben, while the verb hinder usually sounds like hender. Spirit and pith fall into the same category; the Ozarker always says sperrit and peth. Right and fight are sometimes made to rhyme with out.

The sound of o is lost when close becomes clus and crop is turned into crap. In such words as cover the vowel is given a short i sound—kiver. The final o in potato always becomes er, so that the word sounds like potter, and not infrequently the first o is modified in the same way, so that the form pertater is often heard. The same principle applies in words like tomato and tobacco, which are nearly always pronounced termater and terbacker. The final o sound represented by ow is very often replaced by er in an unaccented final syllable, giving us such words
as holler, beller, feller, swallow, widder and winder.

The word on is usually pronounced on, but in the combination upon the last syllable is sometimes rhymed with gun. In a few words, yonder for example, the o is turned into a as in man-yonder. Two and too are pronounced as in Standard English, but the o in to is often elided, or given a sound pretty much like ter. The proper name Jordan, which is rather common in the hill country, is always pronounced Jordan or Jurdan.

The sound of the vowel of but, too, is replaced by other vowels in a number of common Ozark words. Brush is always brush, such becomes such, judge is usually pronounced like jedge. Sure is invariably turned into shore.

In such words as until, unwell, unhook and the like u assumes an o sound, so that these terms become until, onwell, and onhook. The long u sound in ewo has been lost entirely, and no hillman would think of calling a female sheep anything but a yo. The u in pure is always turned into long o, and preceded by a y sound, so that the word must be spelled pyore or puore. The noun gum, meaning the flesh about the teeth, is invariably pronounced goom.

A shifting of vowel sounds makes sauce, saucy, haunt, gaunt and jaundice become: sass, sassy, hant, sart, and janders. The vowel of aunt is usually pronounced like short
a, but many of the older people give it something like a long a sound, so that the word can hardly be distinguished from aint. In a few words--audacious, for example--au is pronounced like the ow in plow. The verb wash nearly always sounds like woish, and douche is invariably made to rhyme with couch. Ai becomes ee in chair, but the reverse exchange occurs in queer, which is nearly always turned into quair or quar.

The word earth is usually sounded something like airth, but sometimes one hears an initial y sound--yairth. The ea in toot is always turned into short i, and we have the word used everywhere as tit. Touch becomes tetch, while the word snout, oddly enough, is nearly always pronounced snoot. The ou in your sounds exactly like the oo in poor--both are reduced to long o. In such words as spoil, hoist, poison, oil, boil, roil, and join the oi takes the sound of long i--spile, sile, hist, pizen, ile, bile, rile, and fine.

Among consonants the letter t is always bobbing up in unexpected places. Vermin is pronounced varmint, sudden is always suddint, wish, becomes wisht, and trough is regularly turned into trawft. The final excescent t is found in many other words--once, close, cliff and chance become
onct, clost, slift and chanct—the vowel sounds being unchanged. Such nouns as post and nest drop the t in the singular, but in the plural form the t is pronounced distinctly and an unaccented syllable added—nestes and postes. T replaces the final d in words like salad, ballad, killed, errand; salat, ballet, kilt, errant. Occasionally the final t is replaced by a k sound, as when vomit is turned into vomick.

The f in after is usually elided, so that atter is the standard pronunciation all through the Ozark country. The Ozarker nearly always pronounces the t in often, but in such words as slept, crept, kept and wept the t is invariably dropped. Let us or let’s is always pronounced less. The word cloths is not used, since most Ozarkers say rags. Ask, asks and asked are usually cut to act, although the forms ask and askt are heard on occasions. The d sound is very frequently dropped from the word used, particularly in the combination used to—which is pronounced user ter, while in such words as handle the d is practically always elided.

Further is pronounced futher or furder, nearer becomes nearder, partner, is turned into pardner, and the t sound in brittle is replaced by ok. Any one who listens to the preachers of the hill country will sooner or later hear some reference to the brickle bread o' life. A th sound replaces
the final t in height, and some of the older people change the vowel sound too, so that the word is pronounced like haith—the ai as in rain. The initial d of dubious has become j, and the word sounds pretty much like juberous. Something of the same sort occurs in the case of tedious, which is nearly always pronounced toejous. The sk sound in such words as muskrat, muskmelon and tusk is usually softened to sh as in rush. In other words a medial th is replaced by t—thus panther is nearly always pronounced panter or painter.

Heathen, for some reason or other, is almost invariably pronounced heathern, and the intrusive r is heard in several other words of the same type. In a few cases l is replaced by r, as when walnut is turned into warmut. In his article on the Snake County Talk Jay L.B. Taylor says that the natives of southwest Missouri introduce r into the participial form of go, as in the sentence I seed that feller a-gorn down th' road. The present writer, however, agrees with Rose Wilder Lane and Harold Bell Wright, in not hearing the r sound in this word—it sounds like a-goin'. Singe is pronounced swinge, and an interpolated y turns card and garden into cyard and gyarden. Here is generally rendered hyar, but the verb hear preserves the vowel sound unchanged, and the y is much less distinct than in hyar. Ear is invariably pronounced exactly like year. In such words as always the
w is lost, and the word becomes allus. Melt is often pronounced whelt, shrivel is generally transformed into swivel, and coil is nearly always quite. The r in Gerald, which is a rather common name in the Ozarks, is always hard, as in gallop.

Rinse sounds almost like wrench, picture becomes pitchor, and a superfluous b is introduced into words as family and chimney—famly and chimly. Overalls are invariably called overhauls. A w sound is always heard before the first vowel in singletree, so that the word sounds like swingle tree. In one case, at least, a medial s is replaced by x—the word escape is usually pronounced escape. Corner is frequently turned into cornder, and drowned is the regular past tense of drown. The same interpolated d is found in the popular superlative tore-down-dest. Most writers of dialect seem to imagine that it is always pronounced nit, which is by no means the case, but when unusual emphasis is desired, and at the beginning of a clause, hit is used.

Some consonants, particularly l and r, are frequently shifted about, producing such oddities as interduce, hundord, childern, prespiration, reform, afteerd, brethorn and so on. The final r is usually sounded, despite the dialect writers like Monteith who would have the hill man say suh when he means sir. The medial r in such words as curse, burst and
parcel, however, is nearly always dropped, so that the
words sound like cuss, bust and passel. The same thing
is true of carry, which is often reduced to something
very like the last syllable of decay. The word mixture,
oddly enough, is nearly always pronounced mixtry.

The ing ending is always pronounced in, with the
short i sound very distinct, never turned into an inde-
terminate or neutral vowel; the Ozarker says sleepin'--
ever sleep'n, sleepon' or sleepun'. Sometimes the g
is dropped from the middle of a word also, as in strength
and length, which are nearly always pronounced stron'th
and len'th.

In the matter of accent, too, the Ozark dialect is
peculiar. The hill man usually places a strong emphasis
upon the first syllable of catarrh, parole, guitar, insane,
harangue, relapse, police, cement and hurrah. In mountain-
cous and mischievous he accents the penultimate, while in
genuine the final syllable is stressed, and pronounced exact-
ly like wine. Some other words are pronounced in a sin-
gularly flat, toneless fashion—settlement, government,
commandment, pulpit, infidel, implement, libel, and district.
The ment ending is always given the short i sound: mint.

The hill man frequently lops off sounds and syllables
at a great rate, and it is impossible to record his speech
without an excessive use of the apostrophe. External becomes 'ternal, tolerable is shortened to tol'able, and ordinary is nearly always reduced to ord'n'ry. This last contraction must not be confused with ornery, which is a different word altogether and means worthless or contemptible. In some cases the Ozarker insists upon adding superfluous syllables, so that tourist is pronounced tourister, musician becomes musicianer, and so on. A final m after l is sometimes lengthened into an extra syllable, which turns elm into ellum, film into fillum, and so forth.

An additional vowel is often used in plurals, too, as in postes, nestes, vestes, and folksees.
IV

MIDDLE ENGLISH SURVIVALS IN THE OZARKS

No other highlands, unless it be those of Scotland, have had as singular and as interesting a history as the Missouri Ozarks. Four hundred years ago Spain and France were eager to possess these mountains. However, the English were the original discoverers, and the name of Sebastian Cabot is linked with the Missouri Territory as early as 1497. John Pontio de Leon, a Spaniard in search for gold, silver and precious stones, found only Osage Indians. France wanted a water route to India, and a similar disappointment awaited one of her first explorers. Romance and adventure have sent many seekers and collectors into this land of El Dorado. Some have returned with spinning wheels, antique furniture, Spanish coins and firearms. But our twentieth century pleasure "seekers", lured by the shrewdly publicized hunting, fishing and scenery, have given scant attention to the unique treasure openly displayed before them. They have talked to the native mountain man and laughed at his "peculiar dialect." At first perhaps this dialect rude

10 Bradbury, "Early Western Travels", arranged by Thwaite (1904) p. 236.
11 Ibid.
12 Van Natter, F.M., "Highland of the Ozarks" National Republic
and amusing, but instead of being a degradation it is in reality a survival, an heirloom of the mother tongue handed down from the days of Middle English and the time of Chaucer.

Nationality and isolation have played the most important part in the preservation of the colonial English. When the people from mountain regions of Kentucky, Virginia, Tennessee and the Carolinas came west, they stepped aside from the avenues of commerce and thought. As a place of human habitation the Ozarks had one characteristic—a lack of communication. The highways were beds of streams, and commerce was dependent largely on horseflesh and saddle-bag. The ancestors of the present natives traveled by ox team from the Ohio valley and the mountains of the Carolinas, Virginia, Kentucky, and Tennessee, especially Tennessee. Their nationality was essentially British, and to this day the majority of the family names have a distinctly English flavor. These elemental people "up the creek" with their native and inherited conservatism still cling to old-fashioned ways and customs, and modes of speech and thought. In their log cabins has been preserved a contemporary speech which is almost Saxon. In remote parts of the United States there are still direct and almost pure-


blooded descendants of the early settlers of the Appalachian Highlands. Combs\textsuperscript{16} says, "Go among them, and you will hear more words from the Shakespearean vocabulary still alive and in common service than in any other place in the world, and more of the loose and brilliant syntax of that time." This is also true of the Ozarks of Missouri. In addition to Shakespearean language, Frost noted a Chaucer vocabulary in use thirty years ago in the Appalachian chain. He selects such words as pack for carry, gorm for mass, and feisty meaning full of life and impertiment to prove his point.

One cannot imagine these sturdy people moving from one mountain range to another, leaving their language and favorite poets behind. In this way Shakespeare and Chaucer came to the Ozarks from the Cumberlands.

Etymologists have pursued their science in the Ozark hills, not by wading through dusty tomes, but by examining living speech. Foremost among these investigators is Vance Randolph. Only two years ago, in a most detailed and careful study,\textsuperscript{18} he made it most evident that this hilly region is a veritable museum of archaic English, including Eliza-


\textsuperscript{17}Frost, W.C., "Our Contemporary Ancestors in the Southern Mountains," Atlantic Monthly, August, 1923.

benth and Chaucerian varieties. He makes mention of Shakespeare ten or more times. His examples of Chaucer's vocabulary are dar for dare, ketch for catch, watement-lying, wit, schette for shut, which the Ozarker pronounces shet, and axe for ask.

Chaucer was tremendously popular in his day, and enjoyed royal favor at the court, just as Shakespeare did. Among the colonists were men of education and culture, and doubtless the Canterbury Tales was a favorite with them. How strange that the descendant, the Ozark "hill billy," can and often does "talk" Chaucer without knowing it. The summer tourist should be interested in the fact that the language he hears is not an uncouth manner of speech but very like what his ancestors used from three hundred to six hundred years ago.

The passages which follow illustrate Chaucer's use of words and forms which are now obsolete or rare in Standard English, but which in the Ozarks remain in living use.
A-fered, pp.

afraid, 1379-83 Chaucer TROILUS AND CRISIYDE I, 972
And wostow why I am the lasse a-fered
Of this materre with my nece trete?

Axe, v.

to ask. 1379-83 Chaucer TROILUS AND CRISIYDE II, 894
Mon misten axe at scintes if it is ought fair in
heaven. to request, 1386-88 Chaucer KNIGHT'S TALES
A 1826. And they swore his axing fayre and wel.

Bait, v.

bait, feed. 1386-1388 Chaucer TALE OF THE MAN OF
LAW E B 466. On many a sory meel now may she bait.

Bitwix, prep.

between. 1385-6 Chaucer LEGEND OF GOOD WOMEN 729.
They mighte have been bitwex hem mariage.

Borwe, v.

borrow, 1386-88 Chaucer TALE OF THE MAN OF LAWE B
105. Maugree thy heed, thou most for indigence
Or steale, or begge, or borwe thy despence!

Bote, n.

advantage, profit. 1369 Chaucer BOOK OF THE DUCH-
esse 38. And yet my bote is never the nere.
Brent, v.

burned, 1369 Chaucer AMELIDA AND ARCITE 115.
That she na shewed hit him, er hit was brent.

Byword, n.

eexpression, proverb. 1379-83 Chaucer TROILUS AND CRISEYDE IV,769. For which ful oft a by-word here
I seeve. That, "roteless, mot grene sone days."

Cause, adj.

because, 1386-1388 Chaucer REVES TALE A 4144.
It mighte be not bet, and cause why.
There was no roumer herberwe in the place.

Chaunece, n.

accident, 1369 Chaucer BOOK OF THE DUCHESS 1285
In alle my youthe, in alle chaunce,
She took me in hir govenance.

Clomb, v.

past tense of climb, 1382-4 Chaucer HOUSE OF FAME
1118. But up I climb with alle pain.

Clout, n.

bit of cloth, 1386-88 Chaucer PARDONER'S TALE 0738.
Ye! for an heyre clout to wrappe me!

Bar, v.

dare, 1386-1388 Chaucer KNIGHT'S TALE A 1151
Or elles artow fals, I dar wel seyn.
For, adv.

far, 1386-88 Chaucer PRIOR SME TALE B 1781.

Til finally she gan so fer espye

That he last seyn was in the Jewerye.

Ferne, adj.


Fithiele, n.

violin, 1386-1388 Chaucer PROLOGUE A 296. Than robes riche, or fithiele, or gay sautrye.

Fresshe, v.

to refresh, Chaucer ROMAUNT OF THE ROSE 1515.

He thoughte of thilke water shene

To drinke and fresshe him vol withalle.

In-fere, adv.

together, originally in ferre, in company, 1386-88 Chaucer TALE OF THE MAN OF LAWE B 328. And when assembled was this folk in-fere.

She sette hir down, and sayde as ye shal here.

Kin, n.

kindred, Chaucer ROMAUNT OF THE ROSE 268. No she hath kin noon of hir blood.
Lepe, v.
to leap, 1385–1386 Chaucer LEGEND OF GOOD WOMEN 2008. The best achoked, he chyl on him lepe, To sleen him, or they comen more to-lepe.

Libel, n.
written declaration, 1386–1388 Chaucer SOMNOUR'S PROLOGUE D 1595. May I not axe a libel, sir Somnour.

Lofte, n.
upper room, 1385–1386 Chaucer LEGEND OF GOOD WOMEN 2708. And at the window leep he from the lofte.

Maister, n.
master, 1386–1388 Chaucer PRIORESS'S PROLOGUE B 1637. Sir gentil, maister, gentil mariner!

Mast, n.
fruit of forest trees as acorns and beech nuts, Chaucer MINOR POEMS IX, 7, 37. That noght but mast or apples is the rinne.

Minde, n. and v.
memory, to remember, 1386–1388 Chaucer SQUIERES TALE F109. If it so be that I have it in minde.

Shimering, n.
glimmer. 1386–1388 Chaucer REVES TALE A 4297 And saugh a litel shimering of a licht. For at an hole in shoon the mone bright.
moot, v.

might, 1386–1388 Chaucer MANCIPLE'S PROLOGUE

H 40. Foul esmoot thee falle!

Name, n.

good name, reputation, 1385–1386 Chaucer LEGEND OF GOOD WOMEN. 1781. Let men glewe on us the name;

Suffycath that we haue the fame.

Poke, n.

a bag, 1386–1388 Chaucer MILLERES TALE A 3780 Gerveys answerde, "Certes, were it gold,

Or in a poke nobles alle untold."

Pore, adj.

poor, 1385–1386 Chaucer LEGEND OF GOOD WOMEN

Prologue 388. Yit mot he doon bothe right, to

pore and riche.

Rusty, adj.

old, uncoth, unkempt, Chaucer ROMAUNT OF THE ROSE 159. Ful foul and rusty was she, this.

Shet, v.

shut, Chaucer ROMAUNT OF THE ROSE 529.

Til that I fonde a wicket smale

So shet, that I ne mighte in goon.
Sorry, adj.

miserable, 1386-1388 Chaucer MAUNCIPE'S PROLOGUE 55. So unwelde so this sorry palled fast.

Spewe, v.

vomit, 1386-1388 Chaucer PERSONES TALE 138. As doth the hound that returneth to eten his spewing.

Stout, adj.

strong, 1386-1388 Chaucer CANTERBURY TALES PROLOGUE 545. The Miller was a stout earl, for the nones.

Tollen, v.

attract, entice, 1377-1381 Chaucer BOETHIUS Book II Prose VII 18. But noneles, it may not drawen or tollen swiche herties as ben y-bought to the fulle perfeccion of vertu.

Yon, adj.

yonder. 1386-1388 Chaucer REVES TALE 4178. If that I may, yon wenche wil I swyve.
During the last fifty years there are scarcely twenty books in which an Ozark dialect is used. The search for this is very tedious. Only in places dealing with Ozark people and their life does the novelist lapse into the use of the local idiom, not from necessity but more for the sake of "atmosphere." Like most writers of dialect, the novelist exaggerates by using a distorted spelling. His misspellings are neither effective nor defensible. "Eye Dialect" is the new name to cover these distortions which change the looks of the word but not its pronunciation. Here are a few good examples thereof: bin for been, splict for spliced, plum for plumb, cum for come, uv for of, bunyon for bunion, tarnashun for tarnation—all used by Tuck: a-tall for at all, by Ellis; you for you, by Wright; razin' for rasing, by Case; nuthin' for nothing, by Kennedy; kurnel for colonel, by Woerner; hear for here by Haswell; sole for soul, by Dunn; k'in for

19 Tuck, Clyde Edwin, The Bald Knobber.
20 Ellis, John Breckenridge, The Little Fiddler of the Ozarks
21 Wright, H.B., Shepherd of the Hills.
22 Caso, John Homer, Jean Carroll; a Tale of the Ozark Hills.
can by Gross. Misspellings are not always unwarranted, however. The following words represent clearly the pronunciation intended: scripter, heft, skeered, hentry, kiver, clor used by Haswell; dest by Wright; seed for saw, spare for spoil, by Gross. Someone has suggested that the most accurate dialect is always found in mediocre literary work. But according to Randolph, "The truth is that all of the Ozark novels are so deficient, both in dialect and in literary qualities that no general conclusion can be drawn from them."

In the earliest of the Ozark stories one finds defects common in local color writing: the dropping of the final d in words like end and thousand; the distortion of such unstressed monosyllables as to and for. Parson Brooks has been called "the best Missouri Dialect book", but Randolph says "Monteith made a fine mess of it."

Randolph, as a scholar, authority, and resident, places

27 Gross, Mark S. Haunted Hollow.
28 Haswell, Alanson Mason, Daughter of the Ozarks.
29 Wright, Harold Bell, Shepherd of the Hills.
30 Gross, Mark S., Haunted Hollow.
32 Monteith, John, Parson Brooks.
33 Arnold, Chas., Missouri Ozarks as a Filled for Regionalism.
more faith in Harold Bell Wright's reproduction of the hill man's conversation. He says, 35 "Nowhere—save possibly in the works of H.B. Wright is there even a suggestion of the familiar vulgata of the Ozark country." Arnold also has a few words of commendation for this author when he says, "Wright drops final d and g and uses legitimate contractions: whar, katched, hit and 'gin. His choice of words, however, is more effective, as in right, smart, plumb." 36 Still if one were to turn the attention to Wright solely as the master of accurate dialect a word-list taken from his work alone would be very meagre.

Even the author of one of these novels, Haunted Hollow, makes no claim to being a master of dialect. Mark Gross, 37 regarding his own book, says:

I am afraid though that the dialect is hardly "orthodox." I wrote it mainly from boyhood memories. As a boy I spent nearly every vacation in the Ozarks, and really knew then how the natives talked. When I wrote "Haunted Hollow", however, I did not go back to those haunts but conceived the whole thing from memory. Hence, I would not undertake to swear to the absolute correctness of the dialect.

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36 Arnold, Charles, Missouri Ozarks as a Field for Regionalism pp. 133-134.

37 Gross, Mark S. March 8, 1927 Omaha, Nebr. Letter to the writer.
Again Gross\textsuperscript{38} expresses this same point of view:

I suspect that most of these fellows novelists made the dialect out of their heads. You can never trust a novelist for truth. So long as he approximates the genuine article he is satisfied. I know—I've been there. So long as the illusion is created with a certain amount of verisimilitude, the novelist rubs his hands and chuckles. You see this class of persons—I mean novelists—depend on their imagination. And imagination if notoriously a substitute for hard work.

He states correctly the disposition of the novelist toward faithful reproduction of the normo vulgaris, particularly of the Ozarks.

Of the stories containing Ozark dialect and having more literary value, one of the best is \textit{Hill Billy}, by Rose Wilder Lane. However, I agree with Randolph when he says,\textsuperscript{39} "The dialect is not that of the genuine hill-billy at all."

Miss Lane\textsuperscript{40} writes a very interesting letter from abroad:

I spent my childhood in the Ozarks, from the age of seven to fourteen, and as my parents still live on Rocky Ridge Farm, Mansfield, Missouri, I've frequently returned there during the past twenty years......You have surely noticed the Ozark dialect during your visits in that country. Thirty years ago the older people spoke distinctly Elizabethan English. Today you will notice the peculiar form of the present participle, and

\textsuperscript{38}Gross, Mark S. April 29, 1927 Omaha, Nebr. Letter to the writer.


\textsuperscript{40}Lane, Rose Wilder, Mar. 15, 1927 Tirana, Albania, Letter to the writer.
a few other fragments of old usage, such as 'years
like, for it seems, and 'tis for its kindred form
of its.

Her book, *Hill-Billy*, shows her to be fond of the Ozarks,
and the Ozark people, and between the lines one sees the
beauty of the hills and the interesting life that is
found there. In the introduction appears the following
strange legend concerning the origin of the mountaineers:

The people, long and very long ago, had come over
the lonesome sea. There has been a great man, a
lord of the old Country, whose name was Walter, Lord
Raleigh. He had brought the people far across
the sea and put them on an island given him by
the Queen of England and left them there saying
he would return in the spring. Then winter had come
upon the people with cold and hunger, and the In-
dians would let them have no food, but ringed 'round
them on the island like wolves around a weakly woods
creature, the people a-knowin' not what way to turn,
or what counsel to follow in a strange wild land.
Thar, betwixt the loneliness of the broad seas and
the fearsomeness of Indians and forests, many brave
men and women perished, till the remainder, in last
desperation, resolved no longer to abide Raleigh's
commands. Rather would they battle onward, perish',
itis might be, at hand of naked savage, than tamely to
endure till death on that thar island. It might be
Lord Raleigh returned in the spring, it might be he
never; nary one had means to learn the truth of that.
In time they come to restin' place, it was on the

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41 *Lanc, Rose Wilder "Hill-Billy" (1925-26) Introduction.*
loftiest peaks where the Indians ceased from amo'lestin' them, and there they abid{'e}, that place abid{'e} in North Carolina. Amongst theirselves they bred, arisin' up young ones in the wilderness teachin' them the words of the Book an' the ways of the woods. From that last time continued anny resumed the journey westward.

If one could believe this fanciful story, the presence of Elizabethan English among the hill folk would not seem surprising.

Woerner in *The Rebel's Daughter* renders a fair reproduction of what he hears. This is very remarkable considering that he was born in Germany. He is somewhat skeptical of the existence of an Ozark dialect, though he admits a "southern Missouri" form of speech. He says in a letter from Arcadia College:

As far as I know there is not a distinct Ozark dialect. The ordinary southern Missouri form of speaking is used by the people living in the Ozarks, as in every southern state, some of these people have a good ordinary education, are intelligent, progressive, others again are regular "hill billies," who never rode on the K.t. train. These people are bigoted and believe everything they see in print.

Haswell, both in his novels and in his poetry, writes very good dialect, considering the fact that he was born in Burma and never saw the Ozarks until he was twenty-one years of age. He has a very singular explanation of one of his terms,

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ginsang, which, by the way, Randolph calls sang root.

From the novels of Haswell it is but a step to his poetry. From his Wayside Verses I have been able to select just two as containing any definite dialect. I transcribe them here:

Southwestern Host

Want to git to stay, do yo?  
Well, I reckon, just light,  
We kin fix it up some way  
To keep ye one night,  
If you can make out with our fare;  
Ef yo'r tired I 'low ye won't care.

You John, come along now;  
Turn this horse in the lot;  
Don't give him no water  
Awhiles he's so hot.  
Jist a tie of blade fodder and oats,  
Mind now, shut the gate on them shoats.

You, sir; it's frosty tonight,  
And this fire feels right;  
Don't a stove, that it do;  
A heap better'n a flue.  
Kind you fellers favors in town;  
Don't blaze up like that, I'll be bound!

Come now, supper is ready,  
Jist pull up that cheer;  
So don't hav no style  
And I hope ye don't keen;  
Help yerself now, yo act handy by,  
Y'1l find something to eat of ye try.

These melodies is now  
But they tastes pretty good;  
Take some spare rib and sausidge,  
I sure wish yo would;  
And a piece of this sweet tater pie,  
Y'1l wish that yo had bime'by.

Well it's gittin' right late,  
And the old woman said,  
When ye want to fly up  
Why that there is the bed;  
And I 'low to git out afore day,  
Ye know that's an old farmer's way.

Sally Smallwood's Trip to Town

Me and Pap and Mam and Bud, we so done been to town;  
Pap went after bar'l salt, and Mam a cal'ker gown.  
Fust off Pap 'lowed Bud and me better stay to home,  
Tell Mam, she jist tuk up fer us, and then you bet we came!

So Bud he driv the oxens up and yoked in Broad and Borry,  
And Pap he forded Big North Ford ferment Jim Larkin's ferry;  
Mam she got her coat tail wet, water were so deep,  
Pap should hev driv the upper ford, its shallower than a hoop.

Up in Williams' Holler nigh front lichin pin bust,  
Wheel run off, and down we come! Laway how Pap cussed!  
Pullin' up of Finley hill cattle right give out,  
Skeered pap pow'fule that did, kace he 'lowed they mought.

Wal we got to town at last; seeh another place!  
Fust I 'lowed that all the folks was runnin' of a race!  
Hyar they went, and thar they went, and the doggondest clutter,  
Skeered me pow'ful till I seen as nothin' watn the matter.

So Pap he brought his barr'l of salt, and Mam she got her gown,  
And me and Pap and Mam and Bud sot out to see the town.  
We seen the electric hoss keers a slidin' on a wire,  
And ev'ry time them sheels went round they shot a streak of fire.

We seen the steam keers smokin', and I reckin shore's yore born,  
That snortin' engine thing could haul a hundred bar'l of corn!  
We seen a box nailed on the wall, and a fellor talkin' in it,  
To 'nuther fellor ten mile off! Didn't fool me any minute!

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45Haswell, A.W. Wayside Verses (1910) pp. 140-144
Thon Pap he got some whiskey, and him and Bud they said
They 'lowed to show them city dudes how Tancy paints things red!
Tol all Mam's ginsang money to pay the old man's fine;
And 'gainst I h.d Bud clar of it, it took plumb all of mine!
Quarter 'bove what Cowskin jines with Puncheon creek,
That's a bit of bottom land, as lays as flat and slick;
That's nary rock up n it, and it grows the masterest corn
That any body ever seen sence ever they was born.

Up in the fur corner thar's a cabin stands,
Pap built it forty year ago, when these was gov'ment lands,
Stranger, I'll bet ten soon skims, and plank the peltry down,
I wouldn't give that cabin thar, for any house in town!

O.G. Harmon, another poet, the writer of Ozark Ballads, uses
no dialect. In these words he gives his appreciation of
Haswell:

I have traveled many thousands of miles and been
in several different homes here, and read the major
part of all Ozark writings and can truly say that
Mr. Haswell's books Drama of the Hills and
Daughter of the Ozarks come nearer portraying the
real Ozark characters than anything I have ever read.
Knowing the Ozarks as I do, I know you have a real
job to write of the Ozark dialect.

The scarcity of dialect poems is on a par with that of
Ozark short stories. May K. McCord is the only one I have
found who has attempted that field. In her Buryin' in the
Ozarks she describes a native funeral very forcefully, though
the conversation contains little dialect. Another of her
storied deals amusingly with the coming of the railroad.

46 Harmon, O.G. March 30, 1927 Mountain Grove, Missouri, Letter
to the writer.


48 McCord, May K., "Coming of the Great Iron Horse", Sample Case,
Jan. 1925.
She has sympathy with the Ozarker, and interest in him, but she fails to get him to talk naturally and at great length.

The best and most accurate reproduction of the Ozark dialect has been produced by the collectors for American Speech and Dialect Notes: Crumb, Carr, Taylor and Randolph.
GLOSSARY
1. AGRICULTURAL WORDS & FARM IMPLEMENTS

Armstrong, n.


Betsey, n.

this term is applied to various tools & utensils, but chiefly to the big mallet used in driving fence-posts. 1927 Vance Randolph MORE WORDS FROM THE OZARKS Vol. V Part X 472 Dial. Notes. I'll take ol' betsey an jos' bust hell out o' that 'ar feller!

Biler, n.

boiler. 1926 May K. Mc Cord A BURYIN' IN THE OZARKS Dec. p.19 Sample Case. I never seed sich a set anyway. Right there I've been sence eight o'clock last night an they aint even made a biler o' coffee.

Bull tongue, n.

the simplest form of plow, or the steel point for such an implement. 1923 Jay L. B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V Part VI 202 Dial. Notes.
Dust out middles, v.phr.


Calf tongue, n.
a narrow, steel plow-shovel or point, much narrower, thinner and lighter but similar in shape to a bull tongue. 1923 Jay L.B.Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol.V Part VI 203 Dial. Notes.

Cant hook, n.

Chore, v.
to do small jobs of routine work, such as milking, cutting wood, feeding stock etc. 1923 Jay L.B.Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol.V Part VI 203 Dial. Notes.
Circle saw, n.

Clair, v. and adj.
to clear, as land for cultivation, clear. 1923 Jay L. B. Taylor Snake County Talk Vol. V Part VI 204 Dial. Notes.

Crop, n.

Crapper, n.
Double shovel,n.
a primitive form of one-horse cultivator
carrying two shovels or plows. 1923 Jay L.B.
Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol.V Part VI 205
Dial. Notes.

Ex,n.
axle, specifically, of a wagon. 1923 Jay L.B.
Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol.V Part VI 206
Dial. Notes.

Frame,n.
A rack on which to haul hay, a hay frame. Or
a slatted cover to confine hogs in a wagon, or
a 'hog frame.' 1923 Jay L.B.Taylor SNAKE COUNTY

Go-devil,n.
an implement used in laying off several rows
across a field at one time. Also a primitive
form of sled made from the crotch or 'forks'
of a tree. 1923 Jay L.B.Taylor SNAKE COUNTY
Grape-vine, n.

Hack, n.

Helve, n.
handle. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS VII.39. What fur does yo all follor the motla 'twixt the plough helves all day throu the hot sun till agin sundown.

Jagger, n.

Jobber, n.
anything that may be used for 'jobbing' or jabbing. A pointed steel bar used in punching holes in the ground for posts, or a 'post hole jobber'. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V Part VI 212 Dial. Notes.
Kag or kaig, n.


Kivor (to cut an!), v. phr.

to operate a turning plow in such a manner that a ridge of unbroken ground is covered over with loose dirt, a custom frequently resorted to when the plowman is working hurriedly. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V Part VI 212 Dial. Notes.

Lay by, v. phr.


Lay off, v. phr.

to plow furrows in which grain is to be planted by hand. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V Part VI 213 Dial. Notes.

Leever, n.

Now groun', n.


Prize polo, n.


Reapin'-hock, n.


Rimmim', n.


Ruk, v.


Scoop board, n.

a broad board used to facilitate the unloading of grain from a wagon. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V Part VI 220 Dial. Notes.
Sheers, n.

shares. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS I'll
we rent the land on sheers as a matter of course.

Sheor crapper, n.
a tenant farmer who pays rent with a certain
share of his products. 1923 Jay L.B.Taylor SNAKE

Stoodle, n.

staple. 1923 Jay L.B.Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK

Stillyerd, n.

steelyard, a balance. 1927 Vance Randolph MORE
(The term is applied to any primitive device for
estimating weight).

Swingle tree, n.

single tree or whiffletree. 1923 Jay L.B.Taylor

Take out, v. phr.
to quit work. Literally, to take the team out of
the field. 1923 Jay L.B.Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK
Twister, n.
a steel plow shovel equipped with a wing at
one side. 1923 Jay L. B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY
Work out a crop, v. phr.
to cultivate or weed or otherwise care for it.
1923 Jay L. B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK
2. ANIMAL LIFE

Animals, Fish, Birds, Fowls, Bugs, Reptile

Bear, v.

1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS VII, 53. I cant bar tew lose 'em m'goerl.

Bird wire, n.

a four-foot piece of thin wire, with a weight at one end. Cast into a covey of quails or other birds this primitive weapon is quite effective, and is widely used among the boys in the Ozarks. 1927 Vance Randolph MORE WORDS FROM THE OZARKS Vol. V Part X 473 Dial. Notes.

Brewts, n.

brutos. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS IX, 65. He saves his life, an the lifes of his brewts.

Bull, v.

Cheench, n.

Civvy-cat, n.

Cluck, adj.
That ol' hen's cluck(i.e., setting, or with chickens)

Coon, n.
raccoon. 1910 A. M. Haswell WAYSIDE VERSES, 140 Stranger, I'll bet ten coon skins, and plank the peltry down.

Cow brute, n.
any member of the ox family, but specifically a bull. 1923 Jay L. B. Taylor SHAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V Part VI 204 Dial. Notes.

Cow critter, n.
specifically, a bull, though the term may refer to any other member of the ox family. 1923 Jay L. B. Taylor SHAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V Part VI 204 Dial. Notes.
Cow stock, n.

Crawdad, n.

Cribber, n.
an animal, specifically a horse, addicted to the habit of gnawing or sucking at the manger or at trees or stumps. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol.V Part VI 204 Dial. Notes.

Critter, n.
usually applied to any male animal, especially a bull, which is kept exclusively for breeding purposes. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol.V Part VI 204 Dial. Notes. Critters, n., creatures. 1923 M.S. Gross HAUNTED HOLLOW I,13

Fust time I ever heerdo one o them critters behavin' that away.

Crower, n.
Emmet, n.

Fieldark, n.
meadowlark. 1927 Vance Randolph MORE WORDS FROM THE OZARKS Vol. V Part X 474 Dial. Notes. (Probably a contraction of field-lark. These birds are also known as medlars.)

Frier, n.

Gig, n. and v.
a fish spear, to spear a fish, to prod with a pole, to annoy with suggestive remarks or practical jokes. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V Part VI 208 Dial. Notes.

Granny cat, n.
a kind of square-nosed catfish, that is yellow. 1927 Vance Randolph MORE WORDS FROM THE OZARKS Vol. V Part X 474 Dial. Notes.

Gray back, n.
Hodge-bird, adj.

Hog molly, n.

Horse stock, n.

Hoss, n.
horse. 1907 H. B. Wright THE SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS VIII, 76. I wouldn't mind killin' a hoss neither, if I was t'git what you do at th' end o' the ride.
Hosses, n. horses. 1923 M. S. Gross HAUNTED HOLLOW I, 8. On a crow-fly bout five miles; but liker ten behind hosses.

Houn dawg, n.
Joree-bird, n.
the chewink or ground robin. 1926 Vance Randolph WORD LIST FROM THE OZARKS Vol. V Part IX 400 Dial.
Notes.

Line-sider, n.
the large mouthed blackbass. 1927 Vance Randolph MORE WORDS FROM THE OZARKS Vol.V Part X 475 Dial.
Notes. (Until recently this was the commonest term in the Ozarks, but now one often hears bass and government fish—since many streams have been stocked by the state hatcheries.)

Male, n.
any male animal kept for breeding purposes. Bull, boar, stallion and jack are not used in mixed company, although buck (a male sheep or goat) and corver (rooster) are not considered objectionable. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol.V Part VI 214 Dial. Notes.

Medlar, n.
Mountain boomor, n.

a large collared lizard, which the hillmen believe to be very poisonous. 1927 Vance Randolph

Mush rat, n.


Noodle, v.


Painter, n.


Pantors, n.

panthers, 1923 M. S. Gross HAUNTED HOLLOW I, 17
But them panters an catamounts is killin' 'em off.

Peckerwood, n.

Peerch, n.
a perch, also a species of fish. Also used in verb form. 1923 Jay L. E. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V Part VI 217 Dial. Notes.

Peltry, n.
pelts. 1910 A. M. Haswell WAYSIDE VERSES 140.
Stranger, I'll bet ten coon skins, and plank the peltry down.

Pinnywinkle, n.
(The term is usually applied to the little black water-snail so common in the Ozarks, but sometimes refers to the big land snail found along the lime-stone ledges.

Santy fay, n.

Shell duck, n.
Sow bug, n.


Squinch owl, n.


Stingin' lizard, n.


Thistle-bird, n.

the goldfinch, a small yellow bird which feeds upon the seeds of thistles. 1926 Vance Randolph WORD LIST FROM THE OZARKS Vol.V Part IX 404 Dial. Notes.

Toad-frog, n.

toad. 1927 Vance Randolph MORE WORDS FROM THE OZARKS Vol.V Part X 478 Dial. Notes. (The word frog is used with reference to both frogs and toads).

Trantler, n.

Tree dog, n.

any dog that barks when his quarry has been brought to bay. 1923 Jay L. B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V Part VI 223 Dial. Notes.

Turkeys, n.

turkeys. 1923 M.S. Gross HAUNTED HOLLOW I, 10

Leastways, a city feller down here two years ago said he wouldn't never shoot turkeys that-a-way.

Woodchuck, n.

woodpecker. 1927 Vance Randolph MORE WORDS FROM THE OZARKS Vol. V Part X 479 Dial. Notes. (The animal which the New Englander calls a woodchuck is always a ground-hog in the Ozarks.)

Wood-hen, n.


Woods colt, n.

Yank, n.


Yoe, n.

3. ARTICLES OF CLOTHING

Britchin's, n.


Calker, adj.

calico. 1910 A.M. Haswell WAYSIDE VERSES 140. Pap went arter bar'l salt, and Mom a calker gown.

Clout, n.


Corset-waist, n.

corset cover. 1926 Vance Randolph WORD LIST FROM THE OZARKS Vol. V Part IX 399 Dial. Notes. (These garments are still worn by elderly women in the mountains)

Didy, n.


Gallus, n.

Galluses, n.
suspenders. 1926-27 Rose Wilder Lane THE HILL BILLY III, 71 I'll reckon you'll want a new pair of galluses.

Govern'ment socks, n.
the bare legs (i.e. no socks at all). 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V Part VI 209 Dial. Notes.

Gown, n.
dress. 1910 A.M. Haswell WAYSIDE VERSES, 140 Pa went arter barl salt, and Mam a calker gown.

Hoe, n.

Newby, nooby, n.
a long knit scarf or muffler, usually wrapped twice around the neck. 1927 Vance Randolph MORE WORDS FROM THE OZARKS Vol. V Part X 476 Dial. Notes.

Overhauls, n.
Store clothes, n.
clothes purchased in a store, not homespun. 1926
Sample Case. 1926-27 Rose Wilder Lane THE HILL
BILLY Int. 8. That thar gun aint fittin' with yore
store clothes.

Zephyr, n.
a woman's wrap. 1927 Vance Randolph MORE WORDS
(Usually a knitted or crocheted diamond-shaped
thing worn over the head and shoulders. A similar
but more modern garment is known as a fascinator.)
4. EXCLAMATIONS

By jerps, inter.

a common expression of astonishment. 1927
Vance Randolph MORE WORDS FROM THE OZARKS

By juckies, inter.

an exclamation denoting surprise or excitement.
1927 Vance Randolph MORE WORDS FROM THE OZARKS

Consarn, exclam.

? 1923 M.S. Gross HAUNTED HOLLOW I, 7. Here!
You, Tige! You, Spot! Consarn the lot o' ye!

Dad blame, int.

used as exclamation. Also Dad burn, Dad blast,
Dad damn, Dad durn, Dad gone, Dad swizzle, or
any of these forms with the prefix Dad. All
forms frequently end in 'ed'. 1923 Jay L.B.
Notes.

Dad-burned, exclam.

? 1923 M.S. Gross HAUNTED HOLLOW I, 17. Been so
dad-burned long sence I been down this way I'm
most forgittin'.
Dad-durned, exclam.

? 1923 M.S.Gross HAUNTED HOLLOW I,17. But then
dad-durned hunters an catamounts is killin' 'em
off.

Gol darn ye, exclam.

? 1923 M.S.Gross HAUNTED HOLLOW I,10. Gee-darn,
gol darn ye!

Hoora, int.
hurry, shouted encouragement to hunting dogs, also
excited confusion. 1923 Jay L.B.Taylor SHAKE COUNTY
Hoora! What's all the hoora about?

Howdy, ex.

how do you do? 1923 Jay L.B.Taylor SHAKE COUNTY

How's all, exclam.

how's everybody. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS
I,7. Wai, I see yo've arriv' at laist, how's all?

Hullo, exclam.

hello. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS I,5.

Hullo thar! Whar's the dog, et?

Jeem's river, ex.
an exclamation indicating great surprise. 1923 Jay
Notes.
Jesus Christ, ex.
an expletive or exclamation common to both men
and women and considered by neither as in any
way profane. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY

Jumpin' Jesus, ex.
an exclamation of great surprise. 1923 Jay L.B.
Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V Part VI 212 Dial.
Notes.

Lawsy, exclam.
? 1910 A.M. Haswell WAYSIDE VERSES 140. Lawsy
how Pap cussed.

Poot!, inter.
a common exclamation of disgust. 1926 Vance Ran-
dolph WORD LIST FROM THE OZARKS Vol. V Part IX
402 Dial. Notes. (Also used as a noun) She aint
worth a poot!

Wal, exclam.
well. 1910 A.M. Haswell WAYSIDE VERSES 140. Wal we
got to town at last. 1923 M.S. Gross HAUNTED HOLLOW
I,8. Leastways, I'm goin' to, cause--waaal, taint no
business o' mine why y'all's a-goin' thar, is it?
1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS I,7 Wal, I see yo' ve
arriv' at laist, how's all?
5. EXPRESSIONS USED IN COURTSHIP

Bussy, n.
sweetheart. 1926 Vance Randolph WORD LIST FROM THE OZARKS Vol. V Part IX 398 Dial. Notes. (Not common. Clapin reports from the Tennessee mts. the Ozarkers who use it may be transplanted Tennesseans.)

Love, v.

Set up, v.

Spark, v.

Squirin', v.
courting. 1926-27 Rose Wilder Lane THE HILL BILLY III, 83. Who all are you a squirin'?
Talk to, v.


Notes. Th' ol' fool was a-talkin' to a widder-woman afore his wife was cold, scarcely.
6. FAMILY TIES

Children, Relatives

Chap, n.


Darter, n.

daughter. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS II, 20
This yer'e's my darter, she packs watch from the spring.

Fore-parents, n.

Notes.

Gaerl, n.

girl. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS II, 15
The oldest gaerl was married, but was obliged
tew git shet of her ole man.

Gal, n.

(familiar reference to a likeable woman, ir-
respective of her actual age.)
Gal, v. to seek feminine society. 1927 Vance Randolph MORE WORDS FROM THE OZARKS Vol. V Part X 474 Dial. Notes. The boys allus goes a-galin' of a Sunday. (Galin' is somewhat more respectable than tom-cattin' but considerably less so than sparkin', which latter term frequently implies serious matrimonial intentions.)

Gentlemens, n.


Gran'maws, n.

grandmothers. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS XIII, 85. The gran'maws andaints wants 'em tew cairy thar names.

Kin, v.

Mam, n.
mother. 1907 H.B. Wright THE SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS
I, 17. Pap and Mam they come from Tennessee. 1910
A.M. Haswell WAYSIDE VERSES, 140. Me and Pap and
Bud, we've done been to town. Mam, n. used in
speaking to or of mother. Also used in addressing
a woman, or in indicating that what she has said
has not been understood. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE
t' come hyar. Mam? Yes, Mam.

Mammy, n.
mother. Applicable also to the lower animals. Also
'Mommy.' 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK

Maw, n.
mother. 1864 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS IV, 30
I wudn't min' comin' ef maw's willin'.

Mistress, n.
formal pronunciation of Mrs. 1927 Vance Randolph
Notes. (In ordinary conversation the Ozarker says
Misz' or Miz, but on ceremonious occasions he pro-
nounces Mistress very distinctly. The word is
never used in a disparaging sense.)
Orphan, n.


Pap, n.


Shoot, n.

a person nearly mature, sometimes used for shot. 1926 Vance Randolph WORD LIST FROM THE OZARKS Vol. V Part IX 403 Dial. Notes. Polly's agittin' t' be a right smart shoot of a gal. I heerd th' shoot, but I never seen nobody arunnin'.

Wee one, n.

child. 1926-27 Rose Wilder Lane THE HILL BILLY III 83. He had known them since he was a wee one.

Widder, n.

Widderman, n.

Woman, n.

Young-un, n.
7. GOVERNMENT AND LAW

Halybi, n.

alibi. 1923 M.S.Gross HAUNTED HOLLOW I,14
There a fellor swore old Nick uz down Windy
Mountain way jes when the murder was committed.
Halybi, hit wuz.

Judge, n. or v.

judge, also a droll person. 1923 Jay L.B.Taylor
He shore is a judge (or clown). I made a judge
a' m' self (i.e. made a fool of myself).

Jug, n. and v.

a jail or other prison, to imprison. 1923 Jay
L.B.Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol.V Part VI 212
Dial. Notes.

Law, v. and n.

to enter into litigation, also an exclamation,
an officer. 1923 Jay L.B.Taylor SNAKE COUNTY
TALK Vol.V Part VI 213 Dial. Notes. They're a-
llawin' over the will. Yander comes the law.

License, n.

used as if plural in form. 1923 Jay L.B.Taylor
Them license aint no good fer they aint signed up.
Lie-bill, n.

libel. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK
Vol. V Part VI 213 Dial. Notes. He signed a lie-
bill (i.e., made a written retraction and confessed
therein that his previous statement was false).

Paw-paw, n.

an outlaw, a fugitive from justice. 1926 Vance
Randolph WORD LIST FROM THE OZARKS Vol. V Part IX
401 Dial. Notes.

Petty jury, n.

petit jury. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK

Revenue, n.

revenue agent. 1907 H.B. Wright THE SHEPHERD OF
THE HILLS, VII, 69. He's just some revenue.

Riding, v.

living as an outlaw, a fugitive from justice.
1927 Vance Randolph MORE WORDS FROM THE OZARKS
when th' James boys was a-ridin' an' many'a th'
time Jesse slep' right in this hyar cabin. (Often
used in reference to felons--bank robbers etc.)
Squire, n.

Justice of the peace. 1927 Vance Randolph
MORE WORDS FROM THE OZARKS Vol. V Part X 477
Dial. Notes. Th' squire has went a-fishin', but
he'll git back afore night.

Writin's, n.

Legal documents, a written agreement. 1923 Jay
L. B. Taylor SHANK COUNTY TALK Vol. V Part VI
224 Dial. Notes. Put that in writin's. I've
done got writin's on him.
8. HOUSEHOLD TERMS

Board, n.

A shingle split out with a fro and made by hand.

1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V
Part VI 201 Dial. Notes.

Cabin, n.

Small house. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS I, 8
In you cabin.

Cheer, n.

Chair. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS IV, 32
Step in. Hey a cheer. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE

Shakespeare Hamlet III 2, 229. An anchor's cheer
in prison be my scope.

Chimney, n.

Chimney. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK

Chimney corner laws, n. phr.

Customs that have been transmitted from generation
to generation until they finally assume the nature
of unwritten laws. The same term applies also to un-
professional and usually erroneous interpretation
of the statutes. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY
Clab-board, n.

Cornish, or carnish, n.

Coverlid, n.
counterpane. 1925 Vance Randolph WORD LIST FROM THE OZARKS Vol. V Part IX 398 Dial. Notes. (Carr found this word common in the country districts around Fayetteville, Arkansas.)

Dog iron, n.

Door stone, n.
door step. 1926-27 Rose Wilder Lane THE HILL BILLY II, 47. He a lyin' before his door stone.

Faar, n.
fire. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS III, 25 I was a-thinkin' ez I riz in the night tew fix the faar.
(To) fly up, v. phr.
to retire for the night. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor
Front room, n.
the main room of a dwelling. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor
Gallery, n.
porch. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SHAKE COUNTY TALK
Heading, n.
pillar. 1927 Vance Randolph MORE WORDS FROM
THE OZARKS Vol. V Part X 474 Dial. Notes. Corn-
cobs is all right in their place, but they shore
make a mighty sorry headin'. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor
Host, v.
to entertain guests. 1926 Vance Randolph WORD
Notes. We-all ben a-havin' too dam' much comp'ny--
th' ol' woman's jes' hosted plum t' death.
Jam rock, n.
one of the side stones in the fire-place. 1927
Vance Randolph MORE WORDS FROM THE OZARKS Vol.V
Part X 475 Dial. Notes. Jeff he sets up t' that 'ar
yal like a sick kitten t' a jam rock.

Kiver, n. or v.
cover. 1923 Jay L. B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK
1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS IV, 33. We spreads
the kivers on the flo'.

Kivors, n.
bed clothing. 1923 Jay L. B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY

Lay down, v. phr.
to retire for sleep. 1923 Jay L. B. Taylor SNAKE

Loft, n.
the upper story of a house or barn. 1923 Jay L. B.
Notes.
Nail tie, n.

Pallet, n.

Pitcher, n.
picture. 1923 M. S. Gross HAUNTED HOLLOW, I, 18

When we git to the top 'o that you kin see


Puncheon floor, n.
floor made of logs. 1926-27 Rose Wilder Lane

THE HILL BILLY II, 49. The boots moved apo-lo-getically on the puncheon floor.

Rock house, n.
Rubbage, n.


Servant, n.

servant. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS I,10

My servint, sah, an' whin I left the rivah tew come acut heah I run agin him and he was a-kivortin' aroun' bigger'n his ole maister.

Saw gourds, v.


Shack, n.

small house. 1923 M.S. Gross HAUNTED HOLLOW I,11

Howdy, Tom. Whar ye headin? Hanford's?


Shake, n. and v.

Side room, n.

an additional room built against a cabin.

1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V
Part VI 221 Dial. Notes.

To home, n. phr.

at home. 1910 A.M. Haswell WAYSIDE VERSES 140

Fust off Pap 'lowed Bud and mo better stay to
home.

Winder, n.

window. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK

Worm fence, n.

a zig-zag fence made of split rails. 1923 Jay
L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V Part VI
224 Dial. Notes.
9. INSTITUTIONS

Church, School, Social Gatherings, Games, Funerals.

Buryin', n.
Air you-all a-gorn t' the buryin'?

Buryin' ground, n.
a cemetery. 1923 Jay L.B.Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol.V Part VI 202 Dial. Notes. Buryin' ground, n. cemetery, usually on the owner's property and not a great distance from the homestead. 1926-27 Rose Wilder Lane THE HILL BILLY Int.3. He led the procession of neighbors up the hill through the cow pasture to the buryin' ground.

Candy breakin', n.
a social gathering where couples are made up by having them match the broken ends of candy sticks. Each lady, usually, is given a broken stick, the opposite end of which is deposited with others in a suitable receptacle from which it may be drawn by a man. 1923 Jay L.B.Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol.V Part VI 203 Dial. Notes.
Candy pullin', n.
a social gathering where the chief entertainment is the making of molasses candy or taffy.

Church house, n.
church. 1926-27 Rose Wilder Lane THE HILL BILLY III, 95. We best be agoin' back to the church house.

Coolin' board, n.
board on the corpse is laid. 1926 May K. McCord A BURYIN' IN THE OZARKS Dec. p. 19 Sample Case
Before morning the while kit and bile of ye may be on the coolin' board.

Doin'ses, n.
doings, any form of social gathering. 1925 Jay L. B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V Part VI 205 Dial. Notes. We-all aim on havin' some doin'ses at our house this evenin'.
Fourth of July, n. phr.

a social gathering the object of which is to celebrate Independence Day. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol.V Part VI 207 Dial. Notes. We're aimin' on havin' a Fourth o' July down on the creek.

Gatherin', v.

gathering. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS I, 10
An' I seed the Confid'nts gatherin' aroun'.
Gathering, v. gathered. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS IX, 66. Whilst I hed ruther lose all that I've gathered by the sweat of m' brow-
an' then tw' hurt the feelin's of erry man.

Give-out, n.

Did you-all hear th' give-out at th' church-
house?
Gov'ment, n.
government. 1910 A.M. Haswell, WAYSIDE VERSES
140. Pa built it forty year ago, when those
was gov'ment lands.

He'ld-shell, a.
hard-shell. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS
I,8."Sometimes they calls me Ha'ld-shell Brooks,
sah."

Hull-gull, n.
a social games played with grains of parched
corn. 1926 Vance Randolph WORD LIST FROM THE

Infare, n.
a dinner on the day following a wedding, at the
home of the groom's parents. 1926 Vance Randolph
WORD LIST FROM THE OZARKS Vol.V Part IX 400
Dial. Notes. (Sometimes pronounced onfair or
onfare.)

Infare days, n.
the period immediately after marriage, the honey-
moon. 1926 Vance Randolph WORD LIST FROM THE OZARKS
Vol.V Part IX 400 Dial. Notes. Hit aint right nor
fittin' fer a woman t' grub sprouts endurin' of her
infare days.
Lie a corpse, v. phr.

to lie in state. 1927 Vance Randolph MORE
Notes. When anybody is a-dyin', or a-layin'
a corpse, th' chickens crows day an' night.

Pen, n.


Play party, n.

a social gathering where the chief enter-

Psalm, n.


Satten up with a corpse, v. phr.

sit up with the dead. 1926 May K. McCord A BURYIN' IN THE OZARKS Dec. P.19 Sample Case.

Shindig, n.

Singin', n.

a social gathering where the chief form of entertainment is the singing of hymns. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V Part VI 221 Dial. Notes.

Singing convention, n.

a competitive meeting of the local singers. Those were formerly called singing matches, but the term convention is regarded as more dignified. 1927 Vance Randolph MORE WORDS FROM THE OZARKS Vol. V Part X 477 Dial. Notes.

Skowls, n.

schools. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS VII 40. The chillern, gits new ideos in tho skowls, an' they don't want no more cawn nor bacon.

To do, n.


Waw, n.

war. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS I, 9 Afo' the waw I was in East Tennessee.
Weddiners, n.

members of the wedding party. 1926 Vance Randolph


Notes. I heerd th' weddiners a-whoopin' an' a-
hollerin' 'long bout sun-up.
10. LITERATURE AND MUSIC

**Almanick, n.**


**Back, v.**


Maw she allus takes an' backs my letters for me. (Doubtless a heritage from the days when there were no envelopes, and the address was written on the back of the sheet, the corners being waxed together.)

**Ballot, n.**

_the written words of a song._ 1923 Vance Randolph MORE WORDS FROM THE OZARKS Vol.V Part X 472 Dial. Notes. My boy he written out th' ballot o' thar song, but I reckon I done los' hit somers. (The combination song-ballot is also common)

**Cipher, v.**

Fiddlo, n.

Hand write, n.
I know his hand write.

Hancock, John, n.

Larn'd, v.
learned. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS I,9
I'm not larn'd, that is not overly.

Learn, v.

Learnt, v.
Lids, n.
the cover or binding of a book. 1927 Vance Randolph MORE WORDS FROM THE OZARKS Vol. V Part X 475 Dial. Notes. No sir, you caint find hit howhar twixt th' lids o' th' Book. (The word Book in the Ozarks, means the King James version of the Bible.)

Musicker, n.
a musician, one who plays a musical instrument. Musicianer is also heard occasionally. 1927 Vance Randolph MORE WORDS FROM THE OZARKS Vol. V Part X 475 Dial. Notes.

Scriber, n.
writer. 1926 Vance Randolph WORD LIST FROM THE OZARKS Vol. V Part IX 403 Dial. Notes. He's a right good scriber. (This means that the handwriting is legible).

Written, v.
11. MONEY AND NUMERALS

Four bits, n.


Seven hundred dollars, adv. phr.


Six bits, n.


Thousands, adv.

a large size or amount rather than a large number. 1926 Vance Randolph WORD LIST FROM THE OZARKS Vol. V Part IX 404 Dial. Notes. Them britches is thousands big, but they aint noways long 'nuff.

Two bits, n.

12. PHYSIOLOGICAL TERMS

Obstetrical, Sexual, Parts of the Body, Sickness

Ager, n.

Sample Case. They let their hide sack full of
chills an' ager. 1923 Jay L. B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY

Arbuckle, n.

a sore or risin' doubtless a corruption of carbuncle.
1927 Vance Randolph MORE WORDS FROM THE OZARKS Vol. V
Part X 472 Dial. Notes. This hyar arbukle started
from a sany-fay bite, Doc. (a sany-fay is a
centepede).

Augur-eyed, adj.

sharp eyed, gimlet eyed. 1927 Vance Randolph
Notes.

Back teeth's a-floatin', v. phr.

to express painful fulness of the bladder. 1923
Dial. Notes.
Bile, n, and v.


Biles, v. boils. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS IX, 64. The streams tumbles and biles, an' roars ah.

Boggy, adj.

semi-delirious, as under the influence of drugs. 1927 Vance Randolph MORE WORDS FROM THE OZARKS Vol. V Part X 473 Dial. Notes.

Booger, n.


Borne, v.

born. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V Part VI 202 Dial. Notes. When was the baby borned?

Bornin', n.

birth. 1926-27 Rose Wilder Lane, THE HILL BILLY II, 47. Before the bornin'.

Buckager, n.

Buck eye, v.

to poison with buck-eye, cockle-burr or other poisonous plants. Also to make sick with tobacco.


Bug out, v.


Bung up, v. phr.


Cagey, adj.


Chaunk, v.


Don't spit them grape seeds out--jos' chaunk 'em.
Chaw, v.
chew. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS VII,40
Hits maouths to chaw that we want.

Chill, v.
to suffer from ague, or to feel chilly. 1923
Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol.V Part VI
203 Dial. Notes. I been a-chillin'.

Chill an' fever doctor, n. phr.
depreciatory reference to a doctor, meaning that
his professional ability is limited only to treat-
ment of the simplest diseases. 1923 Jay L.B.
Notes.

Come aroun', v. phr.
to menstruate. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY

Complected, adj.
pertaining to the complexion. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor
He's red complected.

Cripple, v.
to limp. 1926 Vance Randolph WORD LIST FROM THE OZARKS
hardly cripple 'round.
Crimp, v.
to writhe in agony, to collapse. 1927 Vance Randolph MORE WORDS FROM THE OZARKS Vol. V Part X 473 Dial. Notes. Tom shore did crimp up when that 'ar bigges' gal kicked him in th' stummick.

Dauncy, adj.

Dose, n.

Drool, v.
Dry back of his ears, adj. phr.
maturity. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V Part VI 206 Dial. Notes. He was a-chawin' long green afore he was dry back o' his ears (i.e. at a very early age)

Fir, n. and v.
a spasm or convulsion, a sudden attack of anger past tense of fight. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V Part VI 207 Dial. Notes. They fit all over the place.

Fitified, adj.

Flash, n.

Fore-top, n.
Goom, n.

Goozel, n.

Granny, n. and v.

Granny-woman, n.

Har, n.
hair. 1923 M.S. Gross HAUNTED HOLLOW I, 10. From the har on yore hed to th' mud on yore feet.
Hee-cup, n.


Notes.

Hippoed, adj.

subject to some imaginary ailment. 1926 Vance Randolph WORD LIST FROM THE OZARKS Vol.V Part IX 400 Dial. Notes. Pore Elly's plum hippoed sense she got t' readin' them fool doctor-books. (Tucker says that hypochondria was "vulgarly called the hypo" in England as early as 1711.)

Hockey, n. and v.

dung, to evacuate the bowels, applicable chiefly to that action on the part of a child. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol.V Part VI 210 Dial. Notes.

Hog eyed, adj.

the facial expression resulting from looking upward and sidewise without turning the head. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol.V Part VI 210 Dial. Notes.
Horny, adj.


Janders, n.


Macouths, n.

mouths. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS VII, 40 Hits macouths to chaw that wo want.

Misery, n.


Narvish, adj.


Morphodite, n.

Nursement, n.
milk. 1927 Vance Randolph MORE WORDS FROM THE
OZARKS Vol.V Part X 476 Dial. Notes. Th' nurse-
ment is a-comin' on fine now (When a young mother
says this she means simply that her milk is flowing
freely. The word nurse is used in the same sense.)
Th' baby done spit up his nursement agin, Doc.

Nuss, v.
to nurse or take care of or amuse a child. 1923
Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol.V Part VI
215 Dial. Notes. She nussed the young-un to sleep.

Pieded-like, adj.
in poor health, of an unhealthy complexion, the
word really means spotted, or pied. 1927 Vance
Randolph MORE WORDS FROM THE OZARKS Vol.V Part X
476 Dial. Notes. Lizzie looks kinder pieded-like
lately.

Pooch, v.
to distend or to swell, as an abscess. Generally
followed with 'out'. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE
Porely, adv.


Prides, v.


Pukes, n.


Th' baby had th' pukes suthin' turrible.

Rim, v.


Risin', n.


Scurvy, n.

a slight discoloration of the teeth, said to be remedied by chewing raw potatoes. 1927 Vance Randolph MORE WORDS FROM THE OZARKS Vol. V Part X 477 Dial. Notes.

Spring, v.


Syph, n.

Tags, n.

Titty, n.
pap. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V Part VI 223 Dial. Notes. Mammy, give that young-un some titty. (i.e., let it nurse)

Tom catting, v.

Whicker bill, n.

mouth. 1923 Jay L. B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK
bill.

Year, n.

ear, earmark, also plural form. 1923 Jay L. B.
Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V Part VI 225
Dial. Notes. I pulled his year. I've knoced him
forty year. Years, n. ears. 1634 John Monteith
PARSON BROOKS VII, 45. I shucks the years an
cairies 'em ten yoro ben.
13. RELIGIOUS WORDS

Argyod scriptor, v. phr.
argue about the scripture. 1926 May K. McCord
A BURKIN IN THE OZARKS Dec. P.19 Sample Case
Old Brother Richard presided—the most antidiluvian
old hardshell that ever "argyed scriptor."

Belief, n.
this word seems to be used only with reference
to religious matters. 1927 Vance Randolph MORE
My belief (is equivalent to my religion.)

Book, n. and v.
the Bible, to credit, to charge, to enter as a
debit when payment is deferred. 1923 Jay L.B.
Notes.

Brethren, n.
brethren. 1926-27 Roso Wildor Lane THE HILL BILLY
III, 56. There's long been contention betwixt two
of our brethren. Brotherings, n. brethren. 1934
John Monteith PARSON BROOKS IX, 63. A heap o' times
my brothering, ye've seen the brainch full aftah
a rain.
Happy, adj.

overcome with religious excitement to the extent of hysteria. 1923 Jay L. B. Taylor


Notes.

Heathorn, n.

heathen, non-religious person. 1936 Vance

Bed, down, v. phr.

to provide bedding for animals. May refer to the act of putting a child to bed. To 'bed out' plants means to set them in beds rather than in rows. 1923 Jay L.B.Taylor SHAKE COUNTY TALK Vol.V Part VI 201 Dial. Notes.

Brand, n.


Breachy, adj.

Given to breaking through or throwing down or jumping over fences. 1923 Jay L.B.Taylor SHAKE COUNTY TALK Vol.V Part VI 202 Dial. Notes.

That mule's plumb breachy.

Break out, v. phr.


Britchin', n.

folded. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SHARK COUNTY TALK
Vol.V Part VI 207 Dial. Notes. That colt was
folded las' spring.

Fresh, a. and v.

a freshest or flood, to freshen, as a cow upon
dropping a calf. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SHARK

Gee, ex.

a word of direction addressed to a team, mean-
ing "Turn to the right." 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor

Gee-dap, exclam.

git-up, (encouragement to a beast of burden)
1923 M.S. Gross HAUNTED HOLLOW I,10. Gee-dap.
gol darn ye!

Goaha, n.

harness. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS V,39.
What fur does yo! all throw the goaha on taw tho
owls agin sun up?

Goar, n.

harness. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SHARK COUNTY TALK
Goar up an animal, v. phr.

to harness it or to hitch it to a vehicle. 1923
209 Dial. Notes.

Grain, v.

to afraid slightly, as the skin in shaving.
To feed grain, as to stock. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor

I aint a-grainin' my cows now.

Haw, ex.

a word of direction to a team meaning 'turn to
the loft. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SHINE COUNTY TALK

Hist, v.

to hoist, as a word of command to a milch cow
directing her to step back slightly so her udder
may be reached more conveniently. 1923 Jay L.B.
Notes.

Holler horn, n.

a supposed disease of cattle wherein portions of
the bone in the tail are said to rot away. The
customary treatment is to split the skin of the
tail just above the bush and to fill the incision with salt and pepper and turpentine and then bandage the wound tightly. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SHANE COUNTY TALK Vol.V Part VI 210 Dial. Notes.

In the lead, prop.phr.

the position of the left-hand animal in a two-horse team as observed from the rear, or of the foremost animals in a team of two or more pairs. Also 'ahead of' as the foremost hound in a running pack. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SHANE COUNTY TALK Vol.V Part VI 211 Dial. Notes.

Lights, n.


Melt, n.


(In common use in connection with the butchering of hogs & cattle).
Mouth, v.

to examine a horse's tooth in ascertaining its age. Also 'tooth' used as a verb. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SHAKE COUNTY TALK Vol.V Part VI 215 Dial. Notes.

Near side, n.


Nicker, n. or v.


Off side, n.


Pack, n. and v.


He's a-packin' a gun.
Packs, v.,
carries. 1894 John Montoith PARSON BROOKS II, 20. This year's my duster, she packs watch from the spring.

Pieded, adj.

Piedy, adj.

(To cut) proud, v. phr.

Rogue, n.

Skin, v.
Slink, v.

Springer, n.

Stable horse, n.

Tail up, v.phr.
to lift an animal or to assist it in rising by seizing it by the tail. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol.V Part VI 222 Dial. Notes.

Turn, n.
a grist of grain. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol.V Part VI 223 Dial. Notes. I shelled a turn of corn (i.e. enough for one grinding).

Tush, n.
Shakespeare, VENUS & ADONIS 624. He strikes whatever is in his way and whom he strikes, his cruel tusks slay.

**Twitch**, n.

**Unhook**, v.

**Veal**, v.

*I'm aimin' on vealin' that calf.*

**Weathers**, n.

**Wet-weather horn**, n.
a horn which turns upward. 1927 Vance Randolph MORE WORDS FROM THE OZARKS Vol.V Part X 473 Dial. Notes. The ol' brindle 'ith th' wet-weather horns she up an' died on me.

Yearlin', n.
a child or an animal one year old. A 'long' or a 'short' yearlin' is one more or less than a year old, respectively. 1923 Jay L. B. Taylor SHAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V Part VI 225 Dial. Notes.
15. THINGS TO EAT

Bait, n.

a meal usually alight lunch. 1926 Vance
leitie bait o' vittles.

Bait can, n.

a dinner pail or lunch bucket. 1926 Vance

Break bread, v.

eat. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKES I, II
Be neighborly Mannel, we shall be right pleased
tow hey yo come ovah an' break bread with us.

Choose, n.

choose. The term is used, however, as if plural
in form. 1925 Jay L. B. Taylor SNARE COUNTY TALK
Vol. V Part VI 203 Dial. Notes. These choose ain't
right good.

Corn pone, n.

corn bread. 1926-27 Rose Wilder LANO THE HILL
BILLY III, 81. Anony's the time I've given him
bit and sip of corn pone and sorghum molasses.
Cracklin's, n.
meat from which lard has been made. 1923 Jay L.B.Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol.V Part VI 204 Dial. Notes.

Cracklin' bread, n.
corn bread in which cracklings have been mixed. 1923 Jay L.B.Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol.V Part VI 204 Dial. Notes.

Dip, n.
Dip, n. a mixture of powdered tobacco & molasses. 1926 Vance Randolph WORD LIST FROM THE OZARKS Vol.V Part IX 399 Dial. Notes. (This is taken on a chewed twig or "dip-stick" like snuff.)

Dope, n. and v.
Dunk, v.
to dip. 1927 Vance Randolph MORE WORDS FROM THE
OZARKS Vol. V Part X 174 Dial. Notes. Them young-
uns is allus a-dunkin' their bread in th' bottom
soil.

East, n.
yeast. 1925 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK

Eat after, v.phr.
used with reference to the preparation of food.
1926 Vance Randolph WORD LIST FROM THE OZARKS Vol. V
Part IX 399 Dial. Notes. Thot ol' woman's th' best
cook I ever at after.

Et, v.
at or eaten. 1925 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY

Eyes bigger than one's mouth, n.phr.
helping oneself to a greater portion of food than
one can eat. 1925 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK

Fry, n.
fried bacon. 1925 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK
Full as a goat, adj. phr.

in an advanced stage of intoxication. 1923
Jay L. B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V Part VI
207 Dial. Notes.

Full as a tick, adj. phr.

having eaten to repletion. 1923 Jay L. B. Taylor

Full up, adv. phr.

satiated, having reached the limit of endurance.
1923 Jay L. B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V Part VI
207 Dial. Notes. I'm full up (with food). I'm full
up 'ith y'r cussin'.

Hungry, adj.

hungry. 1923 Jay L. B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V
Part VI 211 Dial. Notes.

Horn, n.

a measure of liquid. 1927 Vance Randolph MORE

I shore do need a horn o' right good likker. (The
words dram and snort often are used in the same
sense)
Horn, v.

Jag, n.
I hauled up a jag o' wood.

Jerp, n.
a small quantity, this is often used with reference to sweets. 1927 Vance Randolph MORE WORDS FROM THE OZARKS Vol. V Part X 475 Dial. Notes. She shore does like a leetle jerp o' sugar on her bread.

Keepin', n.
something reserved or saved. 1926 Vance Randolph WORD LIST FROM THE OZARKS Vol. V Part IX 400 Dial. Notes. This hyar leetle jug is all th' keepin' we-all got lcf.

Larrupin', adj., n., and v.
Lickum, adj.


Moonshine, n.

liquor made of corn. 1926-27 Rose Wilder Lane THE HILL BILLY III, 96. The young riders of the morning were all gone, some to the wilder revels of the moonshine country.

Pone, n.


Poverty, n.


Snack, n.

Sop, n.
gravy, usually from pork. 1927 Vance Randolph
MORE WORDS FROM THE OZARKS Vol. V Part X 477
Dial. Notes. (The upper transparent grease is
called top-sop, while the heavier, opaque part
is known as bottom-sop). Sop, n. a mixture of butter
or grease and molasses. The word sometimes refers
to gravy. 1923 Jay L. B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK

Sow belly, n.
bacon. 1923 Jay L. B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V
Part VI 221 Dial. Notes.

Spoon victuals, n.
soft foods, as for a young child or for an invalid. 1923 Jay L. B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK

Stopper, n.
a drink of whiskey. 1927 Vance Randolph MORE WORDS
Jes' a leetle stopper now'n then aint agoin' t'
hurt nobody.
Tight, adj.


Wax, n.


White mule, n.

16. TIME

After-dinner, n.

afternoon. 1927 Vance Randolph MORE WORDS FROM THE OZARKS Vol. V Part X 472 Dial. Notes. Caint you-all come over this after-dinner?

Come, prep.

by a certain time or date. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V Part VI 204 Dial. Notes. I'm aimin' on a-gorn come Christmas week.

Da'k o' the mewn, n. phr.

dark of the moon. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS I'll. I aim to put the rist in pertaters which must go in sune, as the da'k o' the mewn'll be here directly.

Directly, ad.

soon. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS I'll. I aim to put the rist in pertaters which must go in sune, as the da'k o' the mewn'll be here directly.

Evening, n.

the period from noon till dark or'can'le light. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V Part VI 206 Dial. Notes.
Longest, n.


Noon mark, n.

a stake to mark the edge of the shadow cast by the cabin at noon. 1926 Vance Randolph WORD LIST FROM THE OZARKS Vol. V Part IX 401 Dial. Notes. (The clock, if there is one, is set according to the noon mark).

Sune, ad.


I aim to put the rist in pertaters which must go in sune, as the da'k o' the mewn'll be heah directly.

Sun up, n.


I was heah right smart before sun up.

T'morrow week, n. phr.

17. TOPOGRAPHICAL TERMS

Airth, n.

Antick, n.

Bar, n.

Big road, n.

Bluff, n.
cliff. Usually refers to stone only, clay or slate cliffs being designated as 'banks.' 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V Part VI 201 Dial. Notes.
Bottom land, n.
Notes.

Branch, n.

Chug, n.

Cove, n.
Cricks, n.

creeks. 1923 M.S.Gross HAUNTED HOLLOW I,10.
Later on, they'll work down long th' cricks 'n bottoms.

Culbert, n.


Forks, n.

the point where a road, trail, troe, stream or plant divides into branches. 1923 Jay L.B.Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol.V Part VI 207 Dial. Notes.

Glade, n.


Holler, n.

n.hollow. This word is often used to designate, not the hollow or gorge itself, but the stream of water which flows through the hollow. 1927 Vance Randolph MORE WORDS FROM THE OZARKS Vol.V Part X 475 Dial. Notes.
1923 M.S. Gross HAUNTED HOLLOW I, 18. When we git to the top o' that you kin see Haunted Hollor
clar as a pitcher. Holler, v. n. and adj. to shout, to protest vehemently, a hollow, a narrow valley, hollow. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK

Lane, n.
a stretch of road lying between parallel fences.

Lovo-hole, n.
a gully or ditch across the road. 1926 Vance

Medder, n.
meadow. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS II, 18
Thar's what Foe Fitzgerald owes fur breakin'

Mild, n.
Narrers, n.
a stretch of narrow road, specifically along
a steep slope with a stream below and a cliff
or 'bluff' above. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE

Parts, n.
region or locality. 1927 Vance Randolph MORE
Notes. My chaps ketched the biggest possum ever
saw in these parts.

Piece, n.
a short distance. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE
He went down the road a piece.

Riffle, n. and v.
a shallow place in a stream, to shuffle, as a
set of playing cards. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE

Rise, n.
a flood or freshet. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE
COUNTY TALK Vol. V Part VI 219 Dial. Notes. The
creek's on a rise.
Shallor, adj.

shallow. 1910 A. M. Haswell WAYSIDE VERSES 140

Pap should hav driv the upper ford, its shallorer

than a heap.

Shim, n. or v.

thin strips or wedges used in filling out or
raising foundation timbers. 1923 Jay L. B.
Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V Part VI 220
Dial. Notes.

(to) shim out, v. phr.

to fill out a low place in the face of a timber
with a thin strip. 1923 Jay L. B. Taylor SNAKE

Shut-in, n.

a practically inaccessible place. 1923 M. S.

Gross HAUNTED HOLLOW I, 14. Thars ony one way
to git into that holler, cause hits a shut-in.

and Nick lives plum in the gap.

Sile, v. or n.

soil. 1923 Jay L. B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK
Spring branch, n.

Swale, n.

Wet weather spring, n. phr.
one good only in damp rainy weather. 1926-27 Rose Wilder Lane THE HILT, BILLY Int. 5. Nary wet weather spring it was, it spourin' forth in such wise in the heat of August.
18. TRANSPORTATION

Horse backer, n.

Hoss keers, n.
street cars. 1910 A.M. Haswell WAYSIDE VERSES 140. 'We seen the electric hoss keers a slidin' on a wire.

(to) hack around, v.

Rig, n. and v.

Skiff, n.
19. VEGETATIVE LIFE
Nuts, Fruits, Trees, Vegetables, Roots, Plants,
Berries, Saps.

Akorn, n.
acorn. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK

Alberty, prop. n.
ELBERTA (peach). 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE

Ambeer, n.
tobacco juice. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY
TALK Vol. V Part VI 200 Dial. Notes. I spit 'is
eye full c' ambeer.

Anny, n.
anise. 1927 Vance Randolph MORE WORDS FROM THE
yer worms in this hyar sweet-anny ef you air
to ketch catfish.

Ben, n.
bin. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS VII, 45.
Hit plun stated that a third of the crop should
be delivered hin the ben.
Board tree, n.

Any straight grained tree that may be split easily. Ordinarily the term has reference only to oak and pine timber. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor


Brosch or brush, n.

Brush. When used as a verb the first usually prevails. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor


Bull horn, n.

A large, pitchy pine knot. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor


Cymblin, n.

A small, hard, striped gourd. 1926 Vance Randolph


Notes. (Tucker spells the word "cimblin" and says it is a kind of squash. Bartlett gives the form "cymbling" and "cymbel."

Ellum, n.

Elms, piss elm, a variety that carries a large amount of sap. 1925 Jay L.B. Taylor

Flat, n.


Garden sass, n.


Gallus hill, n.

one of the hills of corn used as a support for a shock of fodder. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V Part VI 208 Dial. Notes.

Garding stuff, n.

vegetables. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS I, 10. The boys raises a leettle garding stuff an' we always make a crap o' cawn of a summah.

Ginsang, n.

ginseng. 1910 A.M. Haswell WAYSIDE VERSES 140 Took all man's ginsang money to pay the old man's fine.

Goober, n.

Grabble, v.
to remove potatoes or peanuts from a hill without disturbing the plant. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V Part VI 209 Dial. Notes.

Grainery, n.

Granny-knot, n.
a large pine knot that will burn all or most of a night and thus provide light by which a midwife may work. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V Part VI 209 Dial. Notes.

Haze-nut, n.

He-huckleberry, n.
a variety of huckleberry, the fruit of which is twice the size of the ordinary kind. 1927 Vance Randolph MORE WORDS FROM THE OZARKS Vol. V Part X 474 Dial. Notes.

Hicker nut, n.
Hull, adj.
whole. Also the shell or outer husk of a nut, the pod of a bean or pea, or in the verb form to remove these. Also a cartridge, the shell of a turtle, or a dilapidated building. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V Part VI 211 Dial. Notes.

Ingern, n.

Kofee, n.
coffee. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS II, 21 What was there left to ask the world for except a little store tricks "terbacky", "kofee".

Long green, n.

Make, v.
to mature, to produce grain or fruit. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V Part VI 214 Dial. Notes. Hit's too dry fer corn t' make.
Mast, n.

acorns and other nuts upon which hogs and cattle feed, but especially applicable to acorns. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V Part VI 214 Dial. Notes.

May-pop, n.


Molasses, n.


Mush melon, n.


Patch, n.

patch. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS I, 10. You all must let me hev the forty acre patch over agin me.
Palm, n.

Peppermint, n.

Pertaters, n.
potatoes. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS I'll I aim to put the rest in potatoes.

Peth, n.

Poke salat, n.

Pop-paw, n.

Possum-grapes, n.
Pum-granny, or plum-granny, n.
a small, yellow, gourd-like fruit, occasionally used as food. 1926 Vance Randolph WORD LIST FROM THE OZARKS Vol.V Part IX 402 Dial. Notes. (It is said that the name is somehow derived from pomegranate, which the hillman knows chiefly from Scripture).

Roastin' ear, n.

Root cellar, n.

Rosum, n.

Salat, n.
Shakespeare LEAR III,4137. What in the fury of his heart when the foul fiend rages, eats cow dung for sallets?

Sang root,n.
ginseng, a plant which is fairly common in some parts of the Ozarks. The dried roots command a fair price at the country drug stores. 1927 Vance Randolph MORE WORDS FROM THE OZARKS Vol.V Part X 477 Dial. Notes.

Service berry,n.

Snag,n.

Sogrum,n.
Sweet-root, n.


Switch cane, n.

a kind of evergreen bamboo, about the size of pipe stems. 1927 Vance Randolph MORE WORDS FROM THE OZARKS Vol.V Part X 478 Dial. Notes. An' all this time th' bar he was a-flouncin' 'roun' in th' switch cane.

Sticks, n.


Tanglement, n.


Terbacky, n.

tobacco. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS II, 21.

What was there left to ask the world for except a little store tricks, "terbacky", "kofee".
Warnut, n.

walnut. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK

Weep, v.

to droop, to bend over. 1927 Vance Randolph
MORE WORDS FROM THE OZARKS Vol. V Part X 478
Dial. Notes. (Usually applied to trees. An accu-
cumulation of ice and snow makes the cedars
"begin t' weep a lectlo.")

Yonkipin, n.

water lily. 1927 Vance Randolph MORE WORDS FROM
THE OZARKS Vol. V Part X 479 Dial. Notes. The
yonkipins is in roasin' ear. (This means that
they are fully developed--the mature pistil
somewhat resembles the ear of the corn.)
Arkansaw, v.

to kill in an unfair or unsportsmanlike manner.
1927 Vance Randolph MORE WORDS FROM THE OZARKS Vol. V Part X 472 Dial. Notes. (When a hunter shoots a sitting rabbit with a shotgun at close range, the rabbit is said to be arkansawed.)

Barrel into, v.


Th' bar he clum out'n th' shanty mighty hasty, an' th' boys shore did bar'1 inter him!

Britch loader, n.


Cartridges, n.

cartridges. 1894 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS VII, 52. Fetch me tho' pistols and a few cat-ridges, right quick!
Citizen-rifle, n.

Cornstalk gun, n.
a weapon used by the hill children in hunting small birds. A handful of fine gravel is thrown sling-fashion from the hollow end of a cornstalk. 1927 Vance Randolph MORE WORDS FROM THE OZARKS Vol.V Part X 473 Dial. Notes.

Hawg-leg, n.
a large pistol or revolver. 1927 Vance Randolph MORE WORDS FROM THE OZARKS Vol.V Part X 474 Dial. Notes. I'm agin this hyar packin' hawg-legs, and sich.

Human-rifle, n.
Joint powder, n.
literally, joint powder. Giant powder or dynamite.

Pea rifle, n.

Pistils, n.
pistols. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS VII, 52
Fetch me the pistils and a few catridges, right quick!

Pistol-whipping, n.

Pitch a crap, v. phr.
Rifle-gun, n.
a muzzle-loading rifle. 1926 Vance Randolph
WORD LIST FROM THE OZARKS Vol.V Part IX 402
Dial. Notes.

Scabbard, n.
holster, any leather sheath for a weapon. 1925

Shiver, v.
to propel, to throw, to fire. 1927 Vance Randolph
MORE WORDS FROM THE OZARKS Vol.V Part X 477
Dial. Notes. They done shivered four bullets inter Jim Yancey 'fore he c'd git t' whar his wepon was at.

Shootin'-fixin's, n.
firearms. 1926 Vance Randolph WORD LIST FROM

Shootin' irons, n.
guns. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS XV,98
The shootin' irons is all threwed away, an' we're level now.
Squirrel-turner,

an expert with the small caliber rifle used
in squirrel shootin. 1926 Vance Randolph WORD
Notes.

Target, n.
a small caliber rifle. 1923 Jay L.B.Taylor

Weapon, n.
weapon. 1923 Jay L.B.Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK
21. WEATHER

Airish, adj.
Hit's a-gettin' right airish on them ridges.

Dry drizzle, n.

Fallin' weather, n.
rainy or snowy weather. 1927 Vance Randolph MORE WORDS FROM THE OZARKS Vol.V Part X 474 Dial. Notes. Hit's so cloudy like, I reckon we'll git fallin' weather 'fore night.

Gully washer, n.
Notes.

Mizzle, n.
Norther, n.


Snibbling, adj.

Notes. I caint go nowhar on sich a bad, snibblin' day as this byar, nohow.

Weather, v.

22. MISCELLANEOUS

A.

Accident, n. doubt. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol.V Part VI 199 Dial. Notes. 'I thout a accident hit'll rain ag'in mornin'.

Acknowledge the corn,v.phr.

to admit, to confess, especially when caught in a lie or when accused of exaggeration. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol.V Part VI 199 Dial. Notes.

Acrost, ad.

across. 1907 H.B. Wright THE SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS I,20. Was the river up much when you come acrost?

Act big,v.phr.

to be truculent or disagreeable, to seek a quarrel. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol.V Part VI 199 Dial. Notes. He got t' actin' big so I up an' whanged 'im one.

Aerly, ad.

early. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS III,24. I was afeard that I was a little grain aerly.
Affair, n.
affair. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS I,10.
I was disappointed a heap about the hull affair.
Afo', adj.
before. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS I,9.
Afo' the wav I was in East Tennessee.
Aggit-porvokin', adj.
aggravating, exasperating, annoying, irritating.
1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SMOKY COUNTY TALK Vol. V
Part VI 200 Dial. Notes.
Age on, v.phr.
to egg on, to incite, as to encourage a quarrel.
1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SMOKY COUNTY TALK Vol. V
Part VI 200 Dial. Notes.
Ag'in, prep.
again, by a certain time or date. 1923 Jay L.B.
Notes. Hit'll rain ag'in mornin'. Agin, prep.
against. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS I,10.
I wudn't mine havin' of hit agin this year.
Agin, prep. by. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS
I, 10. You all mout lot no hov tho forty acro
wicket over agin no. Agin, prop. upon. 1884
John Monteith PARSON BROOKS I, 10. My surviv-
ahl, an' when I left the rivah tow come out
back I run agin him an' he was a'divortin'
crown' bickerin' his olo reister. Agin, prop.
before. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS V, 39.
What fun does yo' all throw tho road on tho
rovals agin sun up? Gin, ad. before. 1907
H.G. Wright THE SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS I, 17
Hit'll be plumb dark. I ain I git home.

Ahonin', v.
wishing for. 1926-27 Rose Wildor Lane THE PILLY
BILLY Int. 2. Yoll did sho recollect tho swell
of tho duct an' tho hazel parched in tho sun
and ahonin' for rain.

Aidge, u. and v.
edge. to move along (as on a seat). 1923 Jay L. B.
Notes. Aidge over so's I'll have more room.
intend. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS I, ll.
I aim to put the rest in pertaters. 1923 Jay
L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V Part VI 200
Dial. Notes. Hit's my aim t' fin' another bee
tree. I aim on gorn. 1925 May K. McCord COMING
OF THE GREAT IRON HORSE Jan., p. 29 Sample Case
I don't aim to have none o' them telly-whopper
poles a straddlin' round over my land.

Ailed, v.

V Part VI 200 Dial. Notes. What ailed him?

Aint done, v. phr.

have not done, (a form of denial commonly used by
children or by facetiously inclined adults.)
1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V Part VI
200 Dial. Notes.

Air, v.

care. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V
Part VI 200 Dial. Notes.
A'kivortin', v.
cavorting. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS
I,10. My sarvint, ach, an' whin I left the rivah
tow come acut heah I run arin hin an' he was a-
kivortin' aroun' bigger'n his ole maister.

All, pron.
(used with who, what, you and we). 1923 Jay L.B.
Notes. What-all, you-all, etc.

Allow, v.
to suppose, to assume (usually contracted to 'low)
VI 200 Dial. Notes. I don't 'low I'll go.

Allus, adv.
always. 1907 H.B.Wright THE SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS
I,16. Jim Wilson allus 'lowed thar must be rold
in those hore mountains.

Any God's amount, n.phr.
in great quantities. 1923 Jay L.B.Taylor SHANE
COUNTY TALK Vol.V Part VI 200 Dial. Notes. We
shore air a-havin' any god's amount o' rain this
summer.
out. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS I, 8.
Fur ef he hedn't a' drapped down hintew the
watsh, how cud he ha' came upbout o' the watsh?

and. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS I, 10. An'
we always makes a crap of cawn.

opposite, against. 1926 Vance Randolph WORD LIST
He was a-layin' in th' road down anent th' spring-

beyond. 1926 Vance Randolph WORD LIST FROM THE
never kilt thet feller, but I shore aint a-puttin'

April. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V
Part VI 200 Dial. Notes.

Argy. to argue. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK
Arriv' v.

arrived. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS I, 7

Val. I see yo've arriv' at last, how's all?

Air's n.

air, 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS VII, 41.

When she come home she 'peared like she was puttin' on o' air's.

Art'er ad.

after, 1310 A.M. Haswell WAYSIDE VERSES 140. Pap went arter barl salt, and Mam a saltar gown.

Airy adj.

any, 1310 A.M. Haswell WAYSIDE VERSES 140. Didn't fool me for any minute. Arty adj. one, any, a. 1923


Ast v.

asked, 1923 M.S. Gross HAUNTED HOLLOW I, 7. But you ast Tom Talon, I lay Tom'll know.
Atter, prep. and adv.


after dinner.

Augur, v.


'augur 'round' (to investigate surreptitiously).

Ax, v.

ask. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS I,8.

If so, I ax ye're sa'don. Axe, v. to ask. 1379-83
Chaucer TROILUS & CRISEYDE II,394. Men misten axe
at sointes if it is aught fair in heaven. Axe, v.
to request. 1386-88 Chaucer KNIGHT'S TALE A 1826
And they swore his axing fayre and wel.
Bait, v.
bait, food. 1386-1388 Chaucer TALE OF THE MAN OF
LAKE B 466. On many a weary reel now ray she bait.

Balm, n.
balm. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol.V
Part VI 200 Dial. Notes. Balm, adj. 1923
Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol.V Part VI
200 Dial. Notes. Hit shore is balm weather now.

Bare naked, adj.
naked. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol.V
Part VI 201 Dial. Notes. We come a-runnin' out jest
plumb bare naked. Bare necked, adj. naked. 1926
Vance Randolph WORD LIST FROM THE OZARKS Vol.V
Part IX 398 Dial. Notes. Them city gals was a-
splashin' 'round plum bare necked.

Barl,n.
barrel. 1910 A.M.Haswell WAYSIDE VERSES 140. Pap
went after barl salt, and mam a calker gown.
VI 201 Dial. Notes.

Bat,n., and v.
a disreputable woman, and "on a bat" meaning in-
toxicated. to strike quickly and violently (to bolt).

Batch, v. and n.
to live alone, or without a cook, an ol' batch, a bachelor. 1923 Jay L.B.Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol.V Part VI 201 Dial. Notes.

Bawl out, v. phr.

Beard, v. and n.
that act of a man who has a coarse, wirey, stubble beard in rubbing his cheek or chin forcibly against another person's. a barb, as on a fishhook or a gig (fish spear) or on barbed wire. Also the barbed husk of certain grains. 1923 Jay L.B.Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol.V Part VI 201 Dial. Notes.

Beat, adj.
Bes.tenest,n.
best. 1907 H.B.Wright THE SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS
Int.12. God jes naturally had t' quit for ho done
his beatenest an' war plumb gin out.

Beat it,v.phr.
to hurry away. 1923 Jay L.B.Taylor SNAKE COUNTY

Beholden,part. adj.
obliged or indebted. 1927 Vance Randolph MORE
We-uns aint beholden t' them Tolivars for nothin',
nor never was.

Belt,v.
to strike. 1923 Jay L.B.Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK

Betwixt,ad.
between. 1926-27 Rose Wilder Lane THE HILL BILLY
III,96. There's long been contention betwixt
two of our bretheren.

Biddable,adj.
tractable, docile, gentle, obedient. 1923 Jay
L.B.Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol.V Part VI 201
Dial. Notes. Thar's the biddablest mule in the
settlement.
Bide, v.

to bear, to endure. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor
SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V Part VI 201 Dial.
Notes. I caint bide a squallin' young'un.

Bigger'n, ad.
bigger than. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS
1.10. My servint, sah, an' whin I left the
rivah tew come acout heah I run agin him an'
he was a' kivortin' aroun' bigger'n his ole
maister. bigger'n a skinned mule, adj. phr.

extremely large, as a person. 1923 Jay L.B.
Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V Part VI 201
Dial. Notes.

Bite off more'n he kin chaw, v. phr.
to undertake more than can be accomplished.
1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V
Part VI 201 Dial. Notes.

Bitwix, prep.

between. 1385-86 Chaucer LEGEND OF GOOD WOMEN
729. Ther mighte have been bitwin hem marriage.
Blackguard, v. and n.


Blanny, n.


Blate, v. or n.

bleat, frequently pronounced blat, it also means to cry out against, to complain loudly. 1923 Jay L.B.Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol.V Part VI 201 Dial. Notes. I heerd a sheep blate. He let out a blate.
Blemage, n.
blemish. 1927 Vance Randolph MORE WORDS FROM THE
OZARKS Vol.V Part X 473 Dial. Notes. She's a
plum purty critter, 'thout nary spot nor blemage.

Blow, v.
to rest from strenuous activity. 1923 Jay L.B.
Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol.V Part VI 201 Dial.
Notes. Let y'r mules blow (i.e. to let them rest,
or have time to regain their breath).

Blue-gum moke, n.

a negro whose gums are bluish instead of red.
It is said that the bite of one of these fellows
is deadly poison. 1927 Vance Randolph MORE WORDS

Blue hen's chicken, n. phr.

a formidable fighter. 1927 Vance Randolph MORE
You-uns git Hank rousted up now, an' he shore is
one o' th' ol' blue hen's chickens. 1925 May K.
McCord COMING OF THE GREAT IRON HORSE Jan. page 29
Sample Case. Old Lige Blunt was one of the blue
hen's chickens, sure as shootin'.
Boot, n.
additional value, usually cash, involved in an exchange or trade. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol.V Part VI 202 Dial. Notes. I'll give (or swap) my cow an' two dollars t' boot for yours.

Bore, v.
to embarrass, to ridicule, to humiliate. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol.V Part VI 202 Dial. Notes. I shore was bored when I foun' out they was a big hole in my overhauls.

Bored for the simples, v. phr.
a jocular expression referring to a stupid individual. 1927 Vance Randolph MORE WORDS FROM THE OZARKS Vol.V Part X 473 Dial. Notes. W'y th' danged ol' fool! He should ortor be bored for th' simples. (The idea is that a hole in the skull might let some of the foolishness out.)

Borry, v.
Borwe, v.

borrow. 1366-88 Chaucer TALE OF THE MAN OF LAWE B 105. Maugree thyn heed, thou most for indigence or stele, or begge, or borwe thy despence!

Bote, n.

advantage, profit. 1369 Chaucer BOOK OF THE DUCHESSE 38. And yet my bote is never the nere.

Boughten, adj.


Braish, ad.

Wal like 'nuf, I was a leetle braish; ef so I ax yore pa'don.

Break it off, v.


Brent, v.

Brent, v. burned. 1369 Chaucer ANELIDA &
ARCITE 115. That she ne shewed hit him, or
hit was brest.

Brickle, adj.
brittle. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK
work brickle (i.e. very energetic) these days.

Bring home the bacon, v. phr.
to accomplish a difficult task. 1923 Jay L.B.
Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V Part VI 202
Dial. Notes.

Bug huntin', v. phr.
to subject a man to merciless sarcasm or ridicule,
or to beat or maul him severely. 1923 Jay L.B.
Notes. To ride a man bug huntin'.

Bush up, v. phr.
to hide in the shrubbery. 1926 Vance Randolph
WORD LIST FROM THE OZARKS Vol. V Part IX 398
Dial. Notes. Tom he went an' bushed up down
back o' th' church-house.
Bust, v.

burst. 1910 A.M. Haswell WAYSIDE VERSES 140.
Up in Williams' Holler nigh front linch pin
bust. Bust, v. to burst. Past tense the same,
or busted. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY
bursts. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS IX,
64. The brainch springs a leak ah an' busts
on the mountain ah.

(to) bust a hame string, v. phr.
to fail in an undertaking. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor

By guess and by God, prep. phr.
without measure or pattern. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor
I built that shack b'guess an' b' God.

By-word, n.
a favorite oath or expression. 1923 Jay L.B.
Notes. His by-word is 'Dad-blame.' By-word, n.
expression, proverb. 1379-1383 Chaucer TROILUS
& CRISEYDE IV, 769. For which ful oft a by-word
here I seys. That, "roteless, mot grene sone deye."
Cairy, v.
carry. 1934 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS III
24. I 'lowed tew see if I cud got yo' to
cairy m'specs tew the city an' hoy 'em fixed.

Call, n.
reason. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK
Vol. V Part VI 203 Dial. Notes. They haint no
call for sech talk. Call, v. to remember, to
recall. 1926 Vance Randolph WORD LIST FROM THE
call his name. (means mention rather than pronounce)

Calm, v. or adj.
calm. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK

Campaignin' aroun', v. phr.
wandering about aimlessly or carelessly. 1923
Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V Part
VI 203 Dial. Notes.

Can, v.
to discharge, as an employee. 1923 Jay L.B.
Notes. Henry got canned.
Can'le, n., Caint hold a can'le to, v. phr.
unable to compete, compare or keep up with.
1925 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol.V
Part VI 203 Dial. Notes. Jane caint hol' a
 can'le t' Mary fer looks.

Carry, v.
to lead or accompany. 1926 Vance Randolph
WORD LIST FROM THE OZARKS Vol.V Part IX 398
Dial. Notes. Jack he carried his hull fambly
plum t' Bentonville. (the r is elided, however,
so that the word sounds pretty much like "cayed.")

Carry on, v. phr.
to behave in a rash or boisterous manner. 1926
Vance Randolph WORD LIST FROM THE OZARKS Vol.V
Part IX 398 Dial. Notes. I never seen nobody
carry on like them gals fr'm Springfield.

Caud, n.
cord. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS IX, 66
And when he's wropped his foine silky caud arond
ye, then yo shell look behind.

'Cause, ad.
because. 1923 M.S. Gross HAUNTED HOLLOW I, 14.
Thar's any one way to git into that hollow,
cause hits a shut-in, and Nick lives plumb in
the gap. Shakespeare MACBETH III 6,21. And
'cause he failed, His presence at the tyrants
feast, I hear Macduff lives in disgrace.
1385-88 Chaucer REVES TALE A 414. It might
be no bet, and cause why, Ther was no rouzer
herberne in the place.

Cawner, n.

corner. 1834 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS IV,35.
We hev'n't got no beds, ma'am 'cootin' this yere
one in you cawner.

'Cep, prep.

except. 1925 M.S.Gross HAUNTED HOLLOW I,13.
They went fight humans 'cep you corner em.

Chance, n.

accident. 1927 Vance Randolph MORE WORDS FROM
'd jes' be a chance of you-all ever see that
feller again. Chance,n. doubt. 1923 Jay L.B.
Notes. 'ithouth a chance hit'll be a-rainin'
ag'in mornin'. Chauence,n. accident. 1369 BOOK
OF THE DUCHESS 1285. In alle my youthe, in
alte chaunce, She took me in hir governaunce.

Chigger's eye, n. phr.
a very small place. 1926 May K. McCord A BURYIN'
IN THE OZARKS Dec. p.19 Sample Case. Some folks
is so pester'nan little you could spit 'em into a
chigger's eye and he wouldn't even bat it.

(the)Chirp o' the cricket, phr.
what is definitely meant. 1925 May K. McCord
COMING OF THE GREAT IRON HORSE Jan. page 29
Sample Case. I'll have none o' them telly whopper
poles a-straddlin' round over my land--that!
the chirp o' the cricket!

Choicey, adj. or adv.
particular, choice. 1925 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE
Don't git too choicey. That meat's right choicey.

(to)chore arooin', v. phr.
to putter about at unimportant work. 1923 Jay
L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol.V Part VI
203 Dial. Notes.
Chunk, v.
a stick of wood, a short leg. 1927 Vance
Randolph MORE WORDS FROM THE OZARKS Vol. V Part
X 473 Dial. Notes. Jeff he caint shoot nohow less
'n he rostes his rifle-gun on a chunk.

Chunk up, v. phr.
to renew by fire by throwing together the un-
burned ends of sticks of chunks of wood. 1923
Jay L.B.Taylor SHAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V Part VI
204 Dial. Notes.

City dudes, n.
people dressed in street clothes. 1910 A.M.
Haswell WAYSIDE VERSES 140. They 'loved to show
them city dudes how Taney paints things red.

Clear, adj.
Hits all clar when yo git the idee. 1910 A.M.
Haswell WAYSIDE VERSES 140. And gainst I had
Bad clar of it, it took plumb all of minc.
1935 M.S.Gross HAUNTED HOLLOW I,18. When we git
to the top o' that you kin see Hanted Roller clar
as a pitcher.
Clatter, n.

Clever, adj.

Clew, v.
An' then I jes' clowd him side o' th' head.

Clim, clum, clomb, v.
Clout, n.
bit of cloth. 1386-1588 Chaucer PARDONER'S TALE C 736. Ye! for an heyre clout to wrappe me!

Colonel, n.
a title conferred upon prominent mountain men with no reference to military service. 1928 Vance Randolph WORDS LIST FROM THE OZARKS Vol. V Part IX 399 Dial. Notes. (Nearly every auctioneer is an honorary colonel, as are many country lawyers and bankers).

Coarse, ad.
course. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS I, II.
We rent the land on sheers as a mitchah of coarse.

Come by, v. phr.
1. to stop for a brief visit. 2. to inherit. 3. to acquire or to accumulate. 1923 Jay L. B. Taylor SHANE COUNTY TALK Vol. V Part VI 294 Dial. Notes. Come by an' set a-while. Bill comes by his in-ness honest. He's come by a right smart o' pro-
perty these last few years.
Come through, v.phr.
to discharge an obligation. Especially applicable in a case where repudiation has been threatened. 1923 Jay L.B.Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol.V Part VI 204 Dial. Notes.

Common, adj.
devoid of snobbishness or conceit, the highest compliment that can be paid to a professional man or a "furriner". 1927 Vance Randolph MORE WORDS FROM THE OZARKS Vol.V Part X 473 Dial. Notes. Doc Oakley's jes' a nice, common feller.

Confab, n.

Good, n.

'Cose, exclam.
of course. 1923 M.S.Gross HAUNTED HOLLOW I,13 Arrest him! Cose they rested him.
Counted, v.
reputed. 1926 Vance Randolph WORD LIST FROM
I allus counted Mary th' fightin'ast woman in
th' hull settlement.

Cramp, v.
to turn the front wheels out of line so a
wagon or other vehicle may be backed and turned
about. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK

Crawl one's hump, v. phr.
to assault. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY

Creep, v.
to lean or fall side-wise. 1927 Vance Randolph
MORE WORDS FROM THE OZARKS Vol.V Part X 473
Dial. Notes. Th' ol' man went a-creepin' 'round
all evenin', an' finlly he fell righ spank inter
th' hog-waller. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY
Crope, v.
past tense of creep. 1923 Jay L. B. Taylor


Crowd the mourners, v. phr.
to be in a hurry, premature. 1923 Jay L. B. Taylor


Keep ca'm now, an' don't crowd the mourners
(i. e. don't be precipitate.)

Crow-fly, n.
straight line. 1923 M. S. Gross HAUNTED HOLLOW I, 8
South. On a crow-fly, 'bout five miles.

Curious, adj.
queer, eccentric, unusual. 1923 Jay L. B. Taylor


He's the curiousest feller I ever seed.
Hit's the curiousest house in the settlement.

Cussed, v.
cursed 1910 A. M. Haswell WAYSIDE VERSES 140

Lawsy how Pap cussed.

Cuss fight, n.
a violent quarrel, unaccompanied by any other
form of assault than angry words. 1923 Jay L. B. 
Notes.
Cut a rusty, v.phr.

to do something foolish or improper. 1927
Vance Randolph MORE WORDS FROM THE OZARKS
a rusty when I showed th' ol' woman that 'ar
letter.

Cut the mustard, v.phr.

to meet certain requirements or to discharge
certain obligations. 1923 Jay L. B. Taylor SNAKE
tried hard enough but he jest couldn't cut the
mustard.

Cymblin-head, n.

a fool, a dunce, squash head. 1926 Vance Randolph
Notes.
Dar, v.
dare. 1386-1388 Chaucer KNIGHT'S TALE A 1151.
Or elles artov fals, I dar wel seyn.

Darnick, n.
stone. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK

Dast, v.
dared, 1926-27 Rose Wilder Lane THE HILL BILLY
Int. 19. I laid hand on your gun and dast him
to lay finger on me.

Decm, v.
to opine, to judge. 1926 Vance Randolph WORD
Notes. (Usually used in old ballads, sermons
and set speeches, but very rarely in conversation).

Deesstrict, n.
district. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK

Den, v.
to hibernate, to remain indoors during bad weather.
VI 205 Dial. Notes. We-all donned up when the storm
come on.
Devilin', part.
teasing. 1926-27 Rose Wilder Lane THE HILL BILLY III, 81. Quit yore devilin'.

Dew, v.
do. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS II, 18.
As a mattah o' coase I dew.

Dianglin', adj.

Dicker, v. and n.

Dido, n.

Dift, v.
to strike. 1927 Vance Randolph MORE WORDS FROM THE OZARKS Vol. V Part X 474 Dial. Notes. You—all a-seod me dift him one side o' th' head.

Dig out, v. phr.
Dinkus, n.

Disremember, v.

Div, v.

Do a thing to, v. phr.
Don't call me a liar or I won't do a thing to you.

Do dirt, v. phr.

Do proud, v. phr.
Done, v.
did. 1907 H.B. Wright THE SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS
Int. 12. God jes naturally had t' quit, for he
done his beatenest an' war plumb gin out.
Done, v. used with other verbs. 1923 Jay L.B.
Notes. He's done got well. I've done been over
than. He's done done his do.

Don't guess, v.
don't think. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY
TALK Vol. V Part VI 205 Dial. Notes. I don't
guess he's a-comin.

Dote, v.
to anticipate with pleasure. 1927 Vance Randolph
Notes. I shore caint miss th' singin' convention
now-- I jes' been a-dotin' on hit all winter.

Down goes his cob-house, v. phr.
failure to realize one's plans. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor
If I don't have a good crap this year, w'ly down
goes my cob-house.
Draggy, adj.
Th' job's all right, but the pay's a leetle draggy a-gittin' hyer, mostly.

Drap, v. or n.
My woman was ailin' -like, but Doc he give her some powders an' draps.

Draw an idea, v. phr.
to suspect. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SHAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V Part VI 206 Dial. Notes. I draw a' ideoc he's harder up 'n he lets on t' be.

Dreen, v. or n.

Drinked, v.
Driv, v.

drove. 1910 A.M. Haswell WAYSIDE VERSES 140

So Bud he driv the oxena up and yoked in Broad and Berry. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK

Drug, v.

dragged. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK

Druthers, n. pl.


I caint he'p havin' m' druthers.

Druv, v.

driven. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS XI, 81

Ef th' hends jines only in th' jowerin' that tuk place in the field, an is druv plum down to this yere, why heah's m' herd.

Duke, v.


I seen a feller duke in behin' th' barn.
Duke's mixture, n.

Dumfounded, adj.
dumb. 1926-27 Rose Wilder Lane THE HILL BILLY II, 47. What with us struck dumfounded, I couldn't rightly state did she speak or no.

Durgon, n.
E

Each an' every, n. phr.
everybody, each and every person. 1926 Vance
Randolph WORD LIST FROM THE OZARKS Vol. V
Part IX 399 Dial. Notes. Mar sho run right out
an' tol' each an' ev'ry all 'bout it.

Estch, v. and n.
to itch. 1925 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK

Eddiot, n.
idiot. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK

Eench, v. or n.
to inch along. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY
TALK Vol. V Part VI 206 Dial. Notes. Eench over,
John, so's I kin sot down.

Ef, conj.
if. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS I, B. Fur of
he hedn't a' drapped down hintew the watah, how
bud he ha' came up sout o' the watah? Ef, prop.
if. 1926-27 Rose Wilder Lane THE HILL BILLY I, 13
Ef ever Bull Garner teches me onct more I'm
again', to--.
Endurin', adj.
during. 1923 Jay L. B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK

Enjoy, v.
to entertain. 1926 Vance Randolph WORD LIST FROM
We all tried for t' enjoy 'em, but the shore was th' sorriest comp'ny I ever seen.

Ennominate, p.
to nominate. 1923 Jay L. B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK

Erry, adj.
any. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS IX, 66. Whilst
I hed ruther lose all that I've gathered by the sweat of m' brow an then tew hurt the feelin's of erry man. Erry, adj. every. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS IV, 37. Erry one's all the same tew me now.

Ever, adj.
every. 1923 Jay L. B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V
Part VI 206 Dial. Notes.
Eve what, adj.


Eve whut you-all want done hyar now, wo-uns shoro will tend to hit. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor


Eve whut you think' ll be alright.

Ever-who, pro.

a transposition of "whoever," 1926 Vance Randolph

WORD LIST FROM THE OZARKS Vol. V Part IX 399

Dial. Notes. He allus give it t' Clary or Susy or
ever-who I was with.

Ever which, adj.

whichever. 1927 Vance Randolph MORE WORDS FROM THE OZARKS. Vol. V Part X 474 Dial. Notes. Ever which o' them 'ar saddles you-all want, jes' holler m'

hit's yourn.

Eye of the moon, n. phr.

between the moon and the observer. 1923 M.S. Gross

HAUNTED HOLLOW I, 10. Git 'em (turkeys) in the eye o' th' moon--hain't no better shot.
Ex, ad.

as. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS I,8.

I mout az well be bold with yo', an tell you who
I be, fur I reckin yo' nevah heerd of me.
Faistor, adj.

faster. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS VII, 55

I lit out, an run faistor 'n a houn'.

Fall, v.


Fall out, v. phr.


Fast, adj.


Fastly, adv.


Fault, v.

Fo'mch, v.,


Favor, v.

to resemble, also to protect. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V Part VI 206 Dial. Notes. He favors his pap a right smart. I favored that foot all I could while hit was sore.

Favorite, adj.


Feather into, v. phr.


Ol' Cap Morgan he out with his weapon an' feathered inter them fellers. (Kephart traces this expression back to the days of the long-bow in England.)

Feist, n. and adj.

Feller, n.
fellow. 1910 A.M. Haswell Wayside Verses 140
We seen a box nailed on the wall, and a feller
talkin' in it. 1923 H.S. Gross Haunted Hollow I, 14
Thers a feller swore old Nick us down Windy
Mountain way jes when the murder was committed.
1907 H.B. Wright The Shepherd of the Hills I, 17
Preachin' Bill he 'lows hits good for a feller t'bo
down in the back onct in a while. Fellers, n.
fellows. 1925 May K. McCord Coming of the Great Iron
Horse Jan. p. 29 Sample Case. Now looka here fellers.
Fer, prep.
for or far. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor Shake County Talk
The Shepherd of the Hills Int. 12. God jes naturally
had t' quit, for he down his beatenest an' war
plumb gin cut. Fer, adv. far. 1386-88 Chaucer Prior-
Esses Tale B 1781 Til finally she gen so fer copye.
That he last seyn was in the Jewerye.
Fer a fac, ad. phr.
for a fact. 1923 H.S. Gross Haunted Hollow I, 14
He's mighty mysterius--I do know that fer a fac.
Fernent, ad.

beside, against, opposite. 1910 A.M. Haswell WAYSIDE VERSES 140. And Pap he forded Big North Fork fernent Jim Larkins' ferry.

1926 Vance Randolph WORD LIST FROM THE OZARKS Vol. V Part IX 400 Dial. Notes. His hat was a-layin' right fernent th' smoke-house.

Fetch, v.

bring. 1923 M.S. Gross HAUNTED HOLLOW I, 10. You kin fetch the ole hobbler a-puffin' an spread-in' his tail. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS IV, 33. The blankets we weaves from the wool the sheep fetches us. Shakespeare TITUS ANDRONICUS II, 3, 54. "I'll go fetch thy son to back thy quarrels whatsoe'er they be." Fetching, adj. this is in very common use, but means nothing in particular. 1927 Vance Randolph MORE WORDS FROM THE OZARKS Vol. V Part X 474 Dial. Notes. Four o' them Tadlock boys jumped onter him t' once, but Jim he licked ever' fetchin' one of em. (This is a typical sentence).

Fightin' word, n.

an epithet the use of which ordinarily induces a fight. 1923 Jay L. B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V
Part VI 207 Dial. Notes. He called me a 'fightin' word so's I whanged away an busted 'im with a rock. (the term applies, usually to a liar and a son-of-a bitch.)

Fill full 'o lead, v. phr.

to kill. 1925 May K. McCord COMING OF THE GREAT IRON HORSE Jan. p.29 Sample Case. I'll fill 'em so full o' cold lead that their own ma won't known 'em--di'ye hear?

Fine haired, adj.


Finicky, adj.

particular. 1834 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS IV, 34 He's pow'ful finicky 'bout that.

First for'n thing, n. phr.

Fist,v.

to beat with the fists. 1927 Vance Randolph
MORE WORDS FROM THE OZARKS Vol.V Part X 474
Dial. Notes. Th' ol' woman she jes fisted him
sumthin' terrible.

Fit shy,v.

avoided. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS I,9
I have always fit shy o' skewls an' colliges.

Fit a b'ar,v.phr.

fought a bear. 1923 M.S.Gross HAUNTED HOLLOW
I,14. I haint scart o' nothin! whats made o' flesh
and blood. I fit a b'ar vunst.

Fithele,n.

violin. 1386-88 Chaucer PROLOGUE A 296. Than
robos riche, or fithele, or gay sautrye.

Fitten,adj.

fit, suitable. 1923 Jay L.B.Taylor SNAKE COUNTY

Fix,v.

to prepare, to get read'y. 1923 Jay L.B.Taylor
I'm a-fixin' t' go a-huntin!
Fixin', v.

going ready. 1907 H.B. Wright THE SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS I, 19. I see'd Samry a fixin' t' go over t' the Matthews's.

Fly back, v. phr.


Foller, v.


Fotch, v.

Fetch on, v.

bring. 1925 May K. McCord COMING OF THE GREAT IRON HORSE Jan. page 29 Sample Case. You can fetch on all the jack legged lawyers this side o' hell, an' I'll fill 'em so full o' cold lead that their own ma won't known 'em d'ye hear?

Fetch-on, adj.

imported, not made or produced in the neighborhood. 1926 Vance Randolph WORD LIST FROM THE OZARKS Vol. V Part IX 400 Dial. Notes. I caint stummick them fetch-on beans out'n cans.

Fractious, adj.


Free hearted, adj.


Fresshe, v.

to refresh. Chaucer ROMAUNT OF THE ROSE 1513. He thoughte of thilke water shene To drinke and fresshe him wel withalle;
Frightment, n.


Fur, prep.

for. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS 1, 8. I mout ez well be bold with ye, an tell you who I be. fur I reckin yo' nivah heard of me. Fur, prep. or adv. for or far. 1923 JAY L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V Part VI 207 Dial. Notes. 1910 L.M. Haswell WAYSIDE VERSES 140. Up in the fur corner thar's a cabin stands.

Furder, adv.


Furriner, n.

stranger. 1927 May K. McCord BLACK DIRT Mar. p. 14 Sample Case. That furriner is just another scalo-wag a-beatin' his debts where he came frum.

Fust, ord.

Fust off, ad.phr.

at first. 1910 A.M.Haswell WAYSIDE VERSES 140

Fust off Pap 'lowed Bud and me better stay to
home.
Gaily, adj.

in good health. 1926 Vance Randolph WORD LIST
My chaps is all right peart an' gaily now.

Gainst, ad.

until. 1910 A.M. Haswell. WAYSIDE VERSES 140
Took all man's ginsang money to pay the old
man's fine; And 'gainst I had Bud clar of it,
it took plumb all of mine. Shakespeare VENUS
& ADONIS 916. 'Gainst venomed sores the only
sovereign plaster.

Gum, v.

to gum, to smear. Usually followed by 'up'.
1923 Jay L. B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol.V
Part VI 208 Dial. Notes. I've billed soxums
till I'm all gaumed up.
Goyewgaws, n.

1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS VII, 40.

They wants goyewgaws, and th'ems not raised in the field.

Gin, v.

given. 1907 H.B. Wright THE SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS Int. 12. God jes naturally had t'quit, fer he done his beatenest an' war plumb gin out.

Ginst, ad.

against. 1923 M.S. Gross HAUNTED HOLLOW I, 14.

I like spunk, I do, but spunk don't count much ginst hants.

Git a move on, v. phr.


Git by, v. phr.

Git one's feet wet, v.phr.

Git off on the wrong foot, v.phr.

Git through one's head, v.phr.

Git back at, v.phr.

Give a cent, v.phr.
used either in the affirmative or negative to express lack of concern. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol.V Part VI 208 Dial. Notes. I don't give a cent.

Give out, v.phr.
Give out, v.
to become exhausted. 1910 A.M.Haswell WAYSIDE VERSES 140. Pullin' up of Finley hill cattle nigh give out.

Givey, adj.

Glaises, n.
glasses. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS II, 16. I've broke one of the glaises in the specs.

Glaum, n. and v.
a snarl, a tangle, a confused mass. to tangle or to seize or grab all of anything, especially victuals. 1923 Jay L.B.Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol.V Part VI 208 Dial. Notes. Bill glaumed the whole pie.

Glaze, v.
to strike a glancing blow, or to graze with a blow. Also, to grow glassy, as the eye of death. 1923 Jay L.B.Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol.V Part VI 208 Dial. Notes.
Go a-hellin', v.


Go gitter, n.

Go over the road, v. phr.
to be sent to jail or prison. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V Part VI 208 Dial. Notes.

Gorn, n. and v.
going (i.e. good traveling), going. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V Part VI 208 Dial. Notes. I'm a-gorn home.

Gorn some, v. phr.
Go up Salt Creek, v.phr.

to suffer defeat, as a candidate for office.

Go up in the air, v.phr.


Gravel, v.


Hit shore gravel me when she bawled me out.

Great hand, n.


Green, v.

to annoy with practical jokes. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol.V Part VI 209 Dial. Notes. The boys was all a-greenin' him about 'is gal.
Greener, n.
a newcomer, a tenderfoot, one unfamiliar with the work in which he is engaged. 1923 Jay L.E. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol.V Part VI 209 Dial. Notes.

Grip, n.

Gwine, v.
going. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS III, 23. But I must be gwine, I'm proud I've saw ye.
H

Ha', v.

have. 1894 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS I, 8.
Fur ef he hedn't a' drapped down hintew the
watah, how cud he ha' came up aout o' the watah?

(To) hack ties, v.

to hew them out by hand. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor

Had by, v.

to have kept. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY
TALK Vol. V Part VI 209 Dial. Notes. I had this
coat by me fer twenty year.

Haint, v.

have not. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK
1923 M.S. Gross HAUNTED HOLLOW I, 13. I haint
scart o' nothin'.

Hand runnin', adj. phr.

in succession. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY
six squirrels, hand runnin'. Hit's been a-
rainin' now fer three days, hand runnin'.
Hangin' up, v.
waiting. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS IV, 31. The boys are hangin' up for noon, now I must be gwine.

Hanker, v.

Hankerin', n.

Hankercher, n.
handkerchief. Shakespeare ALL'S WELL THAT ENDS WELL V, 3, 322. "Good Tom Deum, lend me a hankercher.

Hant, n. and v.
a ghost. to haunt, to become accustomed to or to become habituated to a certain place. Thus hogs fed continually at one place, 'git hanted
thar.' 1923 Jay L.B.Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK
HAUNTED HOLLOW I,14. Folks says old Nick's done
sold his soul to his namesake, an bosses all th
hants o' Haunted Holler.

Happen,v.
to suffer, as an accident. 1923 Jay L.B.Taylor
Notés. Bill happened(usually happept) to a
right bad hurt.

Har',n.
harrow. Verb form the same. 1923 Jay L.B.Taylor

Hard sleddin',v.phr.
living or doing business under difficulties.
1923 Jay L.B.Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol.V
Part VI 209 Dial. Notes.

Harrycane,n.
hurricane. 1923 Jay L.B.Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK

Hate,v.
this word is often used in the sense of regret.
1927 Vance Randolph MORE WORDS FROM THE OZARKS

I hate that! (A mountain man, on hearing of his mother's death might say this).

Have it up and down, v.phr.


Heap, ad.

very much. 1926-27 Rose Wilder Lane THE HILL BILLY Int.7. I've studied it a heap. 1907 H.B.Wright. THE SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS I,18.

Jim knows a heap more 'bout old Dowey's cave than he lets on. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS I,10. I was disappointed a heap about the whull affair. 1910 A.M.Haswell WAYSIDE VERSES 140. Pa should hav driv the upper ford, its shelterer than a heap. 1923 Jay L.B.Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol.V Part VI 210 Dial. Notes.

Heerd,v.

heard. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS I,8.

I mout ez well be bold with ye, an tell you who I be, fur I reckin' yo' nivah heerd of mo.
Hedn't a' dropped, v. phr.

had not have dropped. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS I,6. Fur ef he hedn't a' dropped down hintew the watah, how cud he ha' came up aout o' the watah?

Heerd, v.

heard, or embracing the sound of 'y'—hysard.


Heordo, v.

heard of doing. 1923 M.S.Gross HAUNTED HOLLOW I,18. Fust time I ever heerdo one o' them crit- ters behavin that away.

Heft, n. and v.

the greater portion, the weight of a thing, to lift a thing in order to estimate its weight.

Heftiest, adj.

heaviest. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS XIII, 85. Yo see hit's the heftiest job tew stick names on tew the gaerls.

Heir, v.


Heller, n.

a thing or person possessing extreme characteristics. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V Part VI 210 Dial. Notes. He's a heller fer work. That storm was a heller. This ax shore is a heller.

Hender, v.


He'p, v.

Heated. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK

Have v.

Have 1910 A.M. Haswell WAYSIDE VERSES, 140. Pap
should have driv the upper ford, its shellerer
than a heap.

Het up, v.

Angry. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK

Hick'ry, n.

Speed. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK
Vol. V Part VI 210 Dial. Notes. He pulled out at
a right good hick'ry.

Hide out, v. phr.

to disappear hastily, to remain away, to leave
through, fear. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY
made us hide out.

Hiker, v.

to hurry. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK
Vol. V Part VI 210 Dial. Notes. He shore did hiker!
Hiket, v.


Hill billy, n.
a resident of the hills in contradistinction to an inhabitant of the lowlands or valleys. Also expressive of contempt, or meaning ignorant.


Hin, prep.

in. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS VII, 45. Hin plum stated that a third of the crap should be delivered hin the ben.

Hintew, prep.

into. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS I, 8. I'm one of them that believes that Jesus Christ want down hintew the watah tew be baptized.

Hip, to have on the, v. phr.

to carry liquor or a concealed weapon. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol.V Part VI 210 Dial. Notes. Bill's got suthin' on 'is hip that drinks right well. I'd 'a' busted 'im one but I was afeerd he mought have suthin' on 'is hip.
Hipped, adj.

disabled or seriously injured. 1926 Vance Randolph
Notes. (The form hip-shot is also common)

Hippin's, n.

diapers, or cloths fastened around the waist.
1926 Vance Randolph WORD LIST FROM THE OZARKS

His'n, pro.

his. 1907 H.B. Wright THE SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS
II, 23. His a plumb shame there ain't more men in
th' world built like old man Matthews and that
thar boy o' his'n.

Hissell's, n.

himself. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK
PARSON BROOKS V, 39. Parson is afeerd no man not
even the divil hissell. 1907 H.B. Wright THE
SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS Int. 12. A man jes naturally
wear hissell plumb out awalkin' on a level 'thout
ary down hill t'spell him.
Hit, pro.

it, 1907 H.B. Wright THE SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS
Int, ll. Hit war made that away on purpose.
1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS I, 9. Hit
was this a-way. Hit, n. and v. it, to produce
fruit, to yield. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE
The apples didn't hit this year. 1923 M.S.
Gross HAUNTED HOLLOW I, 14.

Hit the hike, v. phr.

to depart. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY

Holt, n.

hold. 1907 H.B. Wright THE SHEPHERD OF THE
HILLS X, 91. "Well," says Wash, still akeepin'
his holt. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY

Horn in, v. phr.

to interrupt a conversation. 1923 Jay L.B.
Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V Part VI 211
Dial. Notes.
Hove, v.


How come? adv. phr.


Hump, v.

To hurry. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V Part VI 211 Dial. Notes. I'll shore have t' hump m'self if I git that on time.

Hunker down, v. phr.

To squat on the heels. Also 'hunker up'. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V Part VI 211 Dial. Notes. Bill sot that all hunkered up. Down on his hunkers (squatted.)

Hwo, n.

Woe, 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS IX, 63. Hwo untew yo scribes an' phar' sees, hippercrites.

Hyar, ad.

Hyeard, v.

heard. 1923 Jay L. B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK

Hyearn, v.

heard. 1923 Jay L. B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK
Idee, n.  
idea. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS II,18.  
Hits all clär when yo git the idee.

Ill, adj.  
vicious, ill tempered. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor  
He ac's mighty ill.

Ile, n. or v.  
oil. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK  

In-fere, adv.  
together, Orig, in fere in company. 1386-88  
Chaucer TALE OF THE MAN OF LAWE B 328. And when  
assembled was this folk in-fere, She sette hir  
doun, and sayde as ye shall here.
Jar, v.


Jes, ad.


Jim cracks, n.


Jim dandy, n.


Jine, v.

Jist or jest, adv.


Jist tuk up fer, v.phr.

To stand-by and show loyalty for. 1910 A.M.

Haswell WAYSIDE VERSES 140. Tell Mam she jist tuk up fer us, and you bet we come.

J'ist, n.


Job, v.


Jokey, adj.


Jower, v. and n.

to argue, to quarrel, to complain, a quarrel. 1927 Vance Randolph MORE WORDS FROM THE OZARKS Vol.V Part X 475 Dial. Notes. Him an' her is allus a-
jowerin' 'bout that dang tooth-dentist. (as a noun)
They done had a leetle jower. Jower, v. to wrangle,
to quarrel, to argue. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE
Jowerin', v. quarreling. 1884 John Monteith PARSON
BROOKS VII, 45. We won't hev no jowerin' 'bout it.

Joberous, adj.

doubtful, fearful. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY
TALK Vol. V Part VI 212 Dial. Notes. I'm juber'us
'bout a-gorn in thar.

Jump out, v. phr.

to take to task, to call to account. 1923 Jay
L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V Part VI 212
Dial. Notes. I jumped 'im out for talkin' about
me.

June along, v. phr.

to hasten. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK
Vol. V Part VI 212 Dial. Notes. To come a-junin'.
(To taste o' the) kag,v.phr.
to become monotonous. 1923 Jay L.B.Taylor
SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol.V Part VI 212 Dial.
Notes.

Kase,ad.
because. 1910 A.M.Haswell WAYSIDE VERSES
140. Cattle nigh give out skeered pap
powful that did, kase he 'lowed they mought.

Keen,adj.
anxious, enthusiastic, unusually fine. 1923
Jay L.B.Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol.V
Part VI 212 Dial. Notes. I claim that's a
purtie keen crap o' corn. I'm keen t' hyear
how th' 'lection went. Bill's plumb keen
about huntin'.

Keern,n.or v.
care. 1923 Jay L.B.Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK

Ketch,v.
catch. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS II,19
Dew yo ketch ontew hit, Kunnel? 1923 Jay L.B.
Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol.V Part VI 212 Dial.
Notes. Ketched,v. caught. 1907 H.B.Wright
THE SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS I,17. I 'lowed you
was a stranger in these parts soon's I ketched sight
of you.

Kilt,v.

killed. 1923 M.S.Gross HAUNTED HOLLOW. I,14. They
knewd Nick Shaggers kilt him.

Kin,n.

kindred. Chaucer ROMAUNT OF THE ROSE 268. No sho
hath kin noon of hir blood.

Kinder,ad.

kind of. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS III,28.
Kinder like that, Kunnel.

Kit and bile, n.phr.

every one. 1926 Hay K.McCord A BURVIN' IN THE OZARKS
Dec. p.19 Sample Case. Before morning the whole
kit and bile of ye may be on the coolin' board.

Knob, from the, adj.

an expression used for emphasis. 1926 Vance Randolph
Notes. Thet feller shore is a sport from the knob.

(To) knock the tar out of, v.phr.

to beat senseless. 1923 Jay L.B.Taylor SNAKE COUNTY
(To) knock the God out of, v. phr.

to beat senseless. 1923 Jay L. B. Taylor SNAKE

Knowed, v.

knew. 1923 M. S. Gross HAUNTED HOLLOW, I, 14.


known, 1907 H. B. Wright THE SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS
VI, 58. We ought to knowed better.

Knowance, n.

knowledge. 1927 Vance Randolph MORE WORDS FROM THE
be so, but I sure aint got no knowance of hit.

Kunnel, n.

colonel. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS, I, 11.

Be neighborly Kunnel, we shall be right pleased tew
hav yo come ovah an' break bread with us.
Laig or laig, n. or v.

Laig, to intercede for, to beg or plead for another, to offer moral support, as to a candidate for office.


Last, adj.

Last. 1884 John Monteith Parson Brooks I,7. Wal, I see yo've arriv' at last, how's all?

Land on, v. phr.


Lashins and lavins, n.


Lasty, adj.

Lavish, n.
a large quantity. 1926 Vance Randolph WORD LIST
If them Hommerses is a-lookin' fer trouble, they'll
shore git a lavish of it.

Lay, v.
wager, 1923 M.S.Gross HAUNTED HOLLOW I, 7. But you
sat Tom Talon, I lay Tom'll know.

Lay-bell, v.
to label. 1923 Jay L.B.Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK
my canned fruit.

Lay out, v. phr.
to plan, to purpose. 1926 Vance Randolph WORD LIST
shore laid out t' kill me a preacher, to lie idle
or unused. 1927 Vance Randolph MORE WORDS FROM THE
OZARKS Vol. V Part X 475 Dial. Notes. I jes' had t'
let th' east forty lay out this year. (a phrase ap-
plied to cleared land not under cultivation.)

Lay out, v. phr.
to remain away intentionally, as from a public
gathering. 1923 Jay L.B.Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK
Lay way, v.

to waylay, to attack from ambush. 1923 Jay L. B. Taylor

Least, adj.

diminutive. Also, as a comparative, smaller or smallest. 1923 Jay L. B. Taylor
SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V Part VI 213 Dial. Notes. All o' my hogs but the least-
uns is a-goin' right well. They's been the least bad weather this winter, 't I ever seed. The least mule
o' that span aint fitton for nothin'.

Leastways, ad.

anyway. 1923 M. S. Gross HAUNTED HOLLOW I, 8. Leastways,
I'm agoin' to, cause--waaal, taint no business o' mine
why y'alls a-goin' thar, is it?

Leetle, adj.

little. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS, II, 15.
We'uns is happy on leetle, an' yo'uns is happy on
a heap. 1923 Jay L. B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK
Lepe, v.


1385-6 Chaucer LEGEND OF GOOD WOMEN 2008. The best achoked, he shal on him lepe, To sleen him, or they comen more to -hepe.

Let on, v. phr.

to pretend, to exhibit any interest or knowledge.


Levellander, n.


Libel, n.

written declaration. 1386-1388 Chaucer SOMNOUR'S PROLOGUE D 1595. May I nat axe a libel, sir Somnour.
Lifes, n.


Light, n.v. and v.phr.

daylight. to dismount. to attack by words or blows. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol.V Part VI 213 Dial. Notes. Light, stranger, an' come in.

Likker, ad.

likely. 1923 M.S. Gross HAUNTED HOLLOW I, 3. On a crow-fly bout five miles; but liker ten behind hosses.

Likkety-whoop, adv.

rapidly and more or less at random, also 'likkety-hell, likkety-rip, likkety-damn, likkety-scoot.' 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol.V Part VI 213 Dial. Notes. He went down the road likkety whoop.

Little grain, n.phr.

a little bit. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS III, 24. I was afeard that I was a little grain aerly.

Lofte, n.

upper room. 1385-6 Chaucer LEGEND OF GOOD WOMEN 2708 And at the window leep he from the lofte.
Lollipern. n.
something particularly admirable or pleasing.

Look down one's nose, v. phr.
to look sorrowful, discouraged or ashamed.

Lope, v.

Lot, n. or v.

Louse around, v. phr.
Low, adj.


'lowed, v.

allowed (meaning supposed) 1910 A. M. Haswell WAYSIDE VERSES, 140. Fust off Pap 'lowed Bud and me better tay to home.
Make agin, v.phr.

to injure. 1926 Vance Randolph WORD LIST FROM THE
a-chawin' terbacker--I seed hit was a-makin agin me.

Make out, v.phr.

to manage, to accomplish, to succeed. 1923 Jay L.B.
Notes. I fin'ly made out t' git hyer.

Make over, v.phr.

to greet with effusive and demonstrative affection.
1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol.V Part VI
214 Dial. Notes. They shore did make over me when I
driv up.

Make up with, v.phr.

to adjust a quarrel. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY

Mail rider, n.

a mail carrier. Applicable to one who carries mail
on a horse. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK
Maister, n.
master. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS I, 10.
My servint, sah, an' whin I left the rivah tew come
a'out heah I run agin him a' he was a' kivort' a'oun'
bigger' n his ole maister. 1386-88 Chaucer PRIORESS'S
PROLOGUE B 1627. Sir gentil, maister, gentil mariner!

Mash, n. or v.
mesh. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V
Part VI 214 Dial. Notes.

Mass dark, adj.
absolutely. 1927 Vance Randolph MORE WORDS FROM THE
OZARKS Vol. V Part X 475 Dial. Notes. Hit' s jos' plum
mass dark in them 'ar caves-- darker' n whut hit ever
does git top o' th' ground.

Mast, n.
fruit of forest trees as acorns and beech nuts. Chaucer
MINOR POEMS IX, 7, 37. That nocht but mast or apples
is therinne.

Master, adj.
expert, superlative. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY
TALK Vol. V Part VI 214 Dial. Notes. He's the masterest
worker in the settlement. Hit shore was a master storm.
finest. 1910 A.M. Haswell WAYSIDE VERSES, 140.
And it grows the masterest corn that any body ever
soon sence ever they was born.

mine, my property, that which belongs to me. 1923
Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V Part VI
214 Dial. Notes. Air you-all a-runnin' y'r cattle
on me? Me, pro. I 1910 A.M. Haswell WAYSIDE VERSES
140. Me and Pap and Mam and Bud, we'se done been to
town.

maybe. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS I, S. Mebbe
yo' all is of them I'm referrin' tew.

Meet up with, v.phr.
to meet, to be introduced, to become acquainted
with. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V
Part VI 214 Dial. Notes. Has you-uns ever met up afore?

Met up with, v.phr.
to become acquainted with. 1907 H.B. Wright THE SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS IV, 56. You see its been a good while
since we met up with anybody like you, and we count
it a real favor to have you.
Middlin', adj.


Mighty, adv. or adj.


A mighty feller, a mighty sick baby, a mighty talker.

Mighty nigh, adv.


I'm mighty nigh ther.

Miller, v.

Mill tails o' hell, adv.phr.
The creek's a-runnin' like the mill tails o' hell.

Mind, n. and v.
attention, to remember, to attend to, to remind, tempted. 1923 Jay L.B.Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol.V Part VI 214 Dial. Notes. He wouldn't give no mind to me. I 'mind 'im when he was just a sprout of a boy. Be shore 'n' mind me o' what I said. I'm minded t' break y'r neck. Minde, n. and v.
memory, to remember. 1386-88 Chaucer SQUIRES TALE F 109. If it so be that I have it in minde.

Misput, v.

Mite, n.
a bit. 1907 H.B.Wright THE SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS IV,39. But law sir! I ain't a blamin' her a mite for goin'.
Mix, v.
to quarrel, or to fight. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor

Mix it, v.
to attack. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNake COUNTRY TALK
Vol.V Part VI 215 Dial. Notes. Shet's up, so's he
won't mix it 'ith you.

Mixtry, n.
mixture. 1927 Vance Randolph MORE WORDS FROM THE
OZARKS Vol.V Part X 475 Dial. Notes. This byer
puddin's jes' a kinder mixtry like.

Mightly, adj.
Them is mighty nice leettle tricks.

Moon shimmer, n.
moon shino. 1926-27 Rose Wilder Lane THE HILL
BILLY II,50. I was a settin' out back of the house
in the lonely moon shimmer.

More 'n Carter had oats, adv.phr.
a very large quantity. 1926 Vance Randolph WORD
I got more grief 'n' Carter hed oats.
move. 1907 H.B. Wright THE SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS
X, 91. Well, I'll mosey along.

Mother-wit, n.
native intelligence. 1926 Vance Randolph WORD
That 'ar Simpson boy's fine edicated, but he don't
'pear t' have no mother-wit.

Mought, v.
might. 1910 A.M Haswell WAYSIDE VERSES, 140
Skeered pap pow'ful that did, kase he 'lowed
they mought. 1923 Jay L.R. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY
be able t' go. Mout, v. might. 1884 John Monteith
PARSON BROOKS I, 8. I nout as well be bold with ye,
an tell you who I be, fur I reckin you nivah heerd
of me. Shakespeare THREE HENRY VI, V, 2, 45. "And more
he would have said and more he spoke which sounded
like a clamor in a vault, That mought not be distin-
guished."

Moot, v.
might. 1386-88 Chaucer MANCIPLE'S PROLOGUE H 40.
Foule moot thee falle!
Mought 'a' could, v.

might have been able. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V Part VI 215 Dial. Notes. I mought 'a' could if I'd a' wanted to.

Mull, v.


Muscle, v.

Name, n.

{self-respect. 1926 Vance Randolph WORD LIST FROM THE OZARKS Vol. V Part IX 401 Dial. Notes. He walled me in th' dirt afore my fambly, Judge, and I los' my name right thar!} 1585-6 Chaucer LEGEND OF GOOD WOMEN 1761. Let men glewe on us the name; Suffyceth that we han the fame.

Name, v.


Narr', adv.


Nary, adj.


Near, adj.

Nearder, adv.


Nearest, adv.


Neighbor with, v.phr.


Neck o' the woods, n.phr.

part of the country. 1923 M.S. Gross, HAUNTED HOLLOW I,8. Tain't a Cunningham in this neck o' the woods, son.

Nigh, adv. or adj.

Nigh front, ad.phr.
the one near the front. 1910 A.M. Haswell
WAYSIDE VERSES 140. The nigh front linch pin bust,
wheel run off, and down we come.

Nigh side,n.
the left side or near side. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor

Nivahltheliss,ad.
nevertheless. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS;
I,8. Nevahltheliss I'm boun' tew shell down all thar
is in me while I'm 'bout it.

Noble,adj.
extra fine. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK
Vol.V Part VI 215 Dial. Notes. This is noble spring
of water.

No count,adj.
of no account, worthless, lazy, shiftless, not
respectable. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY

Nohow,ad.
anyhow. 1894 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS II,16.
Let alone m' eyes haint right peart nohow.
Hope, neg.

no. 1907 H.B. Wright THE SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS
I,17. Hope, it's a right smart piece to where I live.

Norate, v.

to make public by word of mouth. 1926 Vance Randolph
Notes. Norate, v. to make public by word of mouth.
Applicable chiefly to the spreading of unpleasant or reprehensible rumors of a personal nature.

No sich of a damn' thing, ex.

indignant denial. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY

Novel, n.

novelty, newness. 1927 Vance Randolph MORE WORDS

Lem he never swaps nothin' till he gits th' novel
all wore off'n hit.

'Nuf, ad.


Likely 'nuf.
Nup, neg.

no. 1923 M. S. Cross HAUNTED HOLLOW I, G. Nup.

Taint a Cunningham in this neck o' the woods.

son.

Nurly, adj.

gnarled, twisted, tough, cross-grained, ill

tempered, viciously inclined, irritable. 1923

Jay L. B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V Part VI

Obleeged, v.

oblige. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS II, 15.
The oldest ma'rel was married, but was obleeged tow chillern is with us.

Ofter, ad.

after. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS VII, 55.
That's just what we'uns is ofter findin' aout.

O'her'n, pro.

of hers. 1907 H. B. Wright THE SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS, II, 26. When she comes a ridin' up t' the office on that brown pony o'her'n, I'll be dad burned if she doesn't pretty nigh fill the whole outdoors.

Olden, adj.

old. 1926 Vance Randolph WORD LIST FROM THE OZARKS Vol. V Part IX 402 Dial. Notes. (Used in several set phrases as olden times, which means anything more than two generations back).

Ol' place, or ol' field, n.
one that has changed ownership or been abandoned.


Once. 1907 H.B. Wright THE SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS I, 17. Preachin' Bill he 'lows hits good for a feller t'be down in the back onct in a while. 1926-27 Rose Wilder Lane THE HILL BILLY I, 13. Ef ever Bull Garner tches me onct more I'm agoin to--


On the borrry, adj. phr.

On the grunt, adj. phr.

On the bum, adj. phr.

On the level, adj. phr.

On the lift, adj. phr.

On the mend, adj. phr.
On the git, adj. phr.
penurious, stingy, grasping. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor

On the peck, adj. phr.
pugnaciously inclined. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE

On the guess, adj. phr.
doubtful, wondering, fearful. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor

Open, v.
to give tongue, to bay, as a hound. 1923 Jay L.B.

Open one's eyes, v. phr.
to surprise. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK

Open one's head, v. phr.
to speak. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK

Open one's heart, v. phr.
to be generous. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK
Orn'ry, adj.
worthless, shiftless, lazy. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor
Ornery, adj. bad. 1907 H.B. Wright THE SHEPHERD OF
THE HILLS IV, 59. Her Daddy is a'runnin' with that
ornery Wash Bibbs.

Ort, v.
ought. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V
Part VI 216 Dial. Notes.
Orter, v.
ought to. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS I, 8.
I'm proud I've saw ye. Doin' so pow'ful nigh one
anothah I 'lowed we'd orter be acquainted.
1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V Part VI
216 Dial. Notes.

Out, n.
result. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK
Vol. V Part VI 216 Dial. Notes. He made a pore out o'
farmin'. Out, v. to cheat, to defraud. 1927 Vance
Randolph MORE WORDS FROM THE OZARKS Vol. V Part X
476 Dial. Notes. He don't need no pension, nohow--
he's jes' a-tryin' to out th' government.
Out done, adj.
beaten, overcome, humiliated, embarrassed. 1923
Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V Part VI
216 Dial. Notes.

Out duganed, adj. or v.
circumvented by questionable means. 1923 Jay L.B.
Notes. I felt plumb out duganed. He jest plumb out
duganed me.

Overly, ad.
much. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS I, 9. I'm not
larn'd, that is not overly.

Over 'n' above, adj.
in excess of. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK
Vol. V Part VI 216 Dial. Notes. I made a dollar a day
over 'n' above my expenses.
Palin, n.


Passel, n.


A passel o' people.

Pass a word or two, v. phr.


Pass the time o' day, v. phr.


Part, ad.


Pap's down in the back now an' aint right peart.

Peench, v. or n.

Peert, adj.
lively, animated, cheerful, well in excellent health, apt, precocious. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V Part VI 217 Dial. Notes. That's aright perter baby. Hit's a-feelin' a right smart perter now. (If the child is recovering from an illness.)

Peg out, v. phr.

Perky, adj.

Personate, v.
to call by name. 1927 Vance Randolph MORE WORDS FROM THE OZARKS Vol. V Part X 476 Dial. Notes. He personated me right out before all them 'ar furriners.

Pesterin', v.
bothering. 1926-27 Rose Wilder Lane THE HILL BILLY Int. 12

He's ben apesterin' me every which way I turn. Pester'n, adj. very. 1926 May K. McCord A BURYIN' IN THE OZARKS Dec. p.19

Sample Case. Some folks is so pester'n little you could spit 'em into a chigger's eye and he wouldn't even bat it.
Piddle, v.

to potter about, to be occupied with small tasks of no great consequences. 1927 Vance Randolph MORE WORDS FROM THE OZARKS Vol.V Part X 476 Dial. Notes. That 'ar boy'll git hisse'f kilt one o' these days, a-
piddlin' 'round th' saw-mill.

Piece of the ways, adj.


Pile out, v.phr.


P'int,n.or v.


Pindlin', adj.

Pint, n.
  point. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS, VII, 45.
  Don't yo see hits a plum, clar pint? Pints, n.
  points. 1907 H.B. Wright THE SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS
  XXVI, 215. Every hound has hits strong pints, but some
  has more of 'em.

Pizen, n. or v.
  poison. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V
  Part VI 217 Dial. Notes.

Plague, v.
  to embarrass, to annoy, to confuse. 1923 Jay L.B.

Plat, v.
  to plait or braid, as the hair or strips of bark. 1923
  Notes. Shakespeare ROMEO & JULIET I, 5, 89. "This is
  that very mob that plats the main of horses in the night."

Play whaley, v. phr.
  to make a failure. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK
  Vol. V Part VI 217 Dial. Notes. He played whaley a-
  farmin'.
right. 1923 M.S. Cross HAUNTED HOLLOW, I, 14.

Thars only one way to git into that holler, cause hits a shut-in, and Nick lives plum in the gap.

entirely. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS II, 19.

All the rest of is plum squar' d up. 1910 A.M. Haswell WAYSIDEx VERSES 140. And gainst I had Bud clar of it, it took plumb all of mine. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V Part VI 217 Dial. Notes. 1907 H.B. Wright THE SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS Int. 12. A man jes naturally wears hisself plumb out awalkin' on a level 'thout ary down hill t'spell him.


OF GOOD WOMEN Prologue 388. Vit mot he doon bothe
right, to pore and riche.

Pore toot,n.

Portly,adj.
large, handsome. The word has no particular reference

Power,n.
talker. They's been a power o' rain lately.

Powerful,ad.

powerfully (meaning greatly)1910 A.M.Haswell WAYSIDE VERSES 1910. Skeered pap pow'ful that did. 1934 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS I,8. I'm proud I've saw ye.

Bein' so pow'ful nigh one anothah I 'lowed we'd orter be acquainted. 1907 H.B.Wright THE SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS II,25. I'm powerful hungry, though.
Prank, v.

to experiment, to manipulate. 1927 Vance Randolph

That fool boy'll ruinate hisseelf, a-prankin' with
that 'ar choppin' axe.

Proposely, adv.


Principally, adv.


Yarbs princip'ly aint no good 'thout a lil'tle whiskey.

Prize, n. or v.


Pussy, adj.

th' pussiest ol' woman in th' hull settlement.
R

Rattle, v.

get. 1923 M.S. Gross HAUNTED HOLLOW 1,7. The Missis
might rattle out a bit of breakfast for us.

Read after, v. phr.

to read, or to read about. 1926 Vance Randolph
Notes. My boy he read after this byar Bryan. (The
phrase studies after is used in the same way.)

Reckon, v.

verb. 1907 H.B. Wright THE SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS 1,19
You know the Matthews's I reckon. Reckin', v. reckon.
1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS I,8. I mout ez well
be bold with ye, an' tell you who I be, fur I reckin
yo' nivah heerd of me. Reckin', v. reckon (meaning
suppose) 1910 A.M. Haswell WAYSIDE VERSES 140. I reckin
that snortin' engine thing could haul a hundred
bar'1 of corn!

Reverence, v.

to tolerate. 1927 Vance Randolph MORE WORDS FROM THE
me like Lem done her, I shore wouldn't reverence him
fer a minute.
Ricollect, v.

Ride, v.

Ridge runner, n.
a derisive term for the mountaineer, as contrasted with the valley farmer. 1927 Vance Randolph MORE WORDS FROM THE OZARKS Vol. V Part X 476 Dial. Notes. (Implies ignorance or stupidity. The word hickhilly is used in the same sense.)

Ridiculous, adj. & adv.
Hit was plum ridiculous how that feller kilt his pappy.

Right, ad.
very. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS I,11. We shall be right pleased tw'ev yo come ovah an' break bread with us. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V Part VI 219 Dial. Notes. I'm a-feelin' right well.
Right peart, ad. phr.

very well. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS II, 16.
just alone my eyes haint right peart nohow.

Right smart, ad. phr.

I was heah right smart before sun up. 1923 Jay L.B.
A right smart of rain or of dry weather.

Rightly, adv.

exactly, precisely. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY
say. I don't rightly know.

Rile, v.

to roll, to incite to anger. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor

(To get a) rise out of, v. phr.

to incite to vehement to angry protest. 1923 Jay
Notes.

Rist, n.

rest. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS I, 11. I aim

to put the rist in pertaters.
Riz, v.

I was a-thinkin' ez I riz in the night tow fix the
faar. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V
Part VI 219 Dial. Notes. He riz up in bed an' shore
rose hell when Doc set 'is arm.

Roar, n. or v.

boisterous protest. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY

Rock, v.

to attack with stones. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY
o' the place.

Rolled, v.

disturbed. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS VII, 41.
The leetle uns was gittin' all roiled up.

Rollix, v.

to carouse, or to philander. 1927 Vance Randolph
Doc Yancey he jes' lc.' his woman at home an' went
a-rollixin' 'roun th' country.
Rompa’t, n.

rampart. 1894 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS IX, 66.

But they found P. Brooks on the rampart with the
tun-sit tow his mouth.

Rookus, n.

ruckus, an altercation. 1923 Jay L. B. Taylor SHAKE

Routine, n.

a series of connected items. 1927 Vance Randolph
MORE WORDS FROM THE OZARKS Vol V Part X 476 Dial.
Notes. They's a hull routine o' that 'ar ballot, but
I caint sing hit no more. (This merely means that
the song has many verses, but that the speaker has
forgotten them.)

Rue back, v. phr.

to trade back. 1926 Vance Randolph WORD LIST FROM
THE OZARKS Vol V Part IX 432 Dial. Notes. We done
swapped fa'r an' squar', an' now Ed he's a-tryin'
t' rue back on me.

Ruint, v.

ruined. 1923 Jay L. B. Taylor SHAKE COUNTY TALK Vol V
Part VI 219 Dial. Notes. Dry weather like to 'a' ruint me.
Run, n.

a series, a succession. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor


I had a run o' good logs.

Run a sandy over, v.plr.

to mislead by trickery. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor


Rusty, adj.

old, uncouth, unkempt, shaggy, unshaven. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor


Ruther, adv.


PARSON BROOKS VII, 41. I war ruther agin lettin'

the gaerls go.
Saft-skinned, adj.

soft-skinned. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS  
I.S. I don't keep no comp'ny with them tindah  
saft-skinned baptists you all have in the city.

Sahr'l, adj.  
sorrel, 1923 Jay L.B.Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK  

Sand.  

stupid. 1923 Jay L.B.Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK  
Vol.V Part VI 219 Dial. Notes. Don't know enough  
to pound sand in a rat hole. 'Don't know enough  
to pound akorns in a woodpecker hole.'

Sand, no sand in his craw, v. phr.  
nerveless, fearful, cowardly. 1923 Jay L.B.Taylor  

Sashay, sashiate, v.  
to move briskly about. Used chiefly in calling  
dances. 1926 Vance Randolph WORD LIST FROM THE  
OZARKS Vol.V Part IX 402 Dial. Notes. (This is  
doubtless derived from the French chasse).
Saying, n.
a speech, (the word is also used with reference
to proverbs, maxims and quotations. 1927 Vance
Randolph MORE WORDS FROM THE OZARKS Vol. V Part X
477 Dial. Notes. He jes' cussed ev'rybody plum scan'-
'rous. I never h'yeerd such a sayin' in my whole life.
(the twenty-third Psalm is sometimes described as
a "mighty good sayin'.")

Say so, n.
authority. 1923 Jay L.B.Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK
so 'bout the deal.

Scare, v.
scared. 1923 M.S.Gross HAUNTED HOLLOW I,13. I hain't
scare o' nothin'.

Scald, n.
satisfactory accomplishment. 1923 Jay L.B.Taylor
I got a good scald on that job.

Scalowag, n.
Sample Case. He is just another scalowag a-beatin'
his debts where he came frum.
Science, adj.
skillful, proficient, expert. 1926 Vance Randolph
Notes. Jim shore is a plum science fiddler.
(Sometimes a final d or t is pronounced, and the word
becomes science.)

Scoffle, v.
1927 Vance Randolph MORE WORDS FROM THE OZARKS Vol. V
Part X 477 Dial. Notes. Maggie kep' a-scofflin' at
me--allus a hell raisin' 'bout somethin'.

Scrooch, or scrouch, v.
to crouch. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK

Scrooge, v.
to squeeze or crowd in. 1927 Vance Randolph MORE
I'1l jes' scrooge in hyar 'long side o' th' school-
marm.

Scrunch, v.
to crunch or mash. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY
Such. 1910 A.M. Haswell WAYSIDE VERSES, 140.

Wal we got to town at last; such another place!
I've often thought hit didn't look jest fair for
God 'lmighty t' make such a woman 'thout ary man
t' match her.

Seed, v.

Bud Wilson sure seed it. 1884 John Montoith PAISON
BROOKS I, 10. An' I seed the Confidnts gatherin
around. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V
Part VI 220 Dial. Notes.

Sence, n.

self. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V
Part VI 220 Dial. Notes.

Sence, ad.

since. 1923 M.S. Gross HAUNTED HOLLOW I, 17. Been
so da-burned long sence I been down this way I'm
most forgittin'. 1910 A.M. Haswell WAYSIDE VERSES
140. That any body ever seen sence ever they was
born. Sence, adv. since. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE

Set, v. and n.


Set a spell, v. phr.


Set in, v. phr.

begins. 1926 Vance Randolph WORD LIST FROM THE OZARKS Vol.V Part IX 403 Dial. Notes. Jim's farm is right hyar an' runs plum t' the creek. (This phrase is used in a peculiar sense with reference to spatial measurements.)

Set stakes to see if he's a-movin', v. phr.


Settlement, n.

Several, adj.

a large number. 1926 Vance Randolph WORD LIST FROM THE OZARKS Vol. V Part IX 403 Dial. Notes. They's sever'l fox in them 'ar bluffs (Whon a hillman says this instead of three or four or ten, he means a great many.)

Shade, n.


Shell, v.

shall. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS I,11. Be neighborly Kunnel, we shell be right pleased tw.
hev yo come ovah an' break broad with us.

Shell down, v.

to say. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS I,9.
Nevahtheliss I'm boun' twv shell down all thar
is in me while I'm 'bout it. 1884 John Monteith
PARSON BROOKS V,39. Get up and shell down, Parson.

Shet, v.

shut. Chaucer ROMAUNT OF THE ROSE 429. Til that I
fond a wicket smal, So shet, that I ne mighte in goon.
(To git)shot of, v, phr.

Sheer, n. or v.

Shield, n.
a sheath. 1927 Vance Randolph MORE WORDS FROM THE OZARKS Vol.V Part X 477 Dial. Notes. His shirt was tore, an! I seed a cowhide shield 'ith a big knife into.

Shimering, n.
glimmer. 1386-88 Chaucer REVES TALE A 4297. And saugh a litel shimering of a light, For at an hole in show the more bright;

Sho', adj.
sure. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS I,10. I was sho! the north wud git whupped.

Sho' ez yo're bawn, exclam.
as sure as you're born. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS I,10. But it'll come yit, sho' ez yo're bawn. 1910 A. M.Haswell WAYSIDE VERSES 140. And I reckin shore's you
born that snortin' engine thing could haul a
hundred barrel of corn!

Shoe mouth deep, adj., phr.

to a depth equal to the height of an ordinary shoe,
as in mud or snow. 1923 Jay L. B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY

Shoot it into one, v. phr.

to berate, to answer an argument with strong
language. 1923 Jay L. B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK

Shoot one's wad, v. phr.

to express an opinion, to do what is to be done.
1923 Jay L. B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V Part VI
220 Dial. Notes.

Shore, adv. or adj.

sure or surely, shorely. 1923 Jay L. B. Taylor SNAKE
John Monteith PARSON BROOKS III 26. I'm proud it's

so, shore.

Shot to pieces, v. phr.

dilapidated. 1923 Jay L. B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK
Should, aux. v.

Shuk, v.

Sich, adv.

Side, v.

Side an' side, adv. phr.

Sideburns, n.
Side road, n.


Sight, n.


That house shore is a sight. Hit was a plumb sight t' look at.

Sight unseen, adv.phr.

to trade or exchange commodities without first seeing what is offered in exchange. Also 'unright' 'unseen! 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol.V Part VI 221 Dial. Notes.

Since the hogs et up m' brother, adv.phr.


Since Heck was a pup, adv.phr.


Skace, adj.

Skewr, v. or n.

scare. Past tense 'skoort'. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor


Skereed, v. scared. 1894 John Monteith PARSON

BROOKS I, 8. I don't keep no comp'ny with them
tindah saft-skinned baptists yo all have in the
city, that's afeerd of the trewth, that's skeerd
of freezin' weather.

Skelp, v. or n.

scalp. Also 'shelp'. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SHAKE


To skelp weeds, (to cut them off at the surface
of the earth.)

Skeered, v.

scared. 1910 A.M. Haswell WAYSIDE VERSES 140.

Skeered pap powful that did.

Shet, v.

to shut. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SHAKE COUNTY TALK


THE SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS VII, '74. His jaw shet
with a click, like he'd cocked a pistol.
Skinny, adj.
thin. 1907 H.B. Wright THE SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS VIII, 76. 'Pears like you might o'been a grain warmer about hit.

Skun, v.

Slam, v.

Slash, v. and n.
to spill, to splash over, refuse resulting from logging operations, a jungle. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SHAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V Part VI 221 Dial. Notes.
Some o' the water slashed out o' the bucket.

Slattery, adj.
Jim's pappy he lives in a ol' slattery shanty.

Slathers, n.
Sleight, n.

Slaunchways, adv.

Slump, n.

Smidgin, n.

That 'ar preacher-man haint got nary a smidgin o' sense.

Smiley, adv. or adj.
Snuk, v.

Sock, v.

Sooner, adv.

Slow, v.
to attack, to kill. 1927 Vance Randolph MORE WORDS FROM THE OZARKS Vol. V Part X 477 Dial. Notes. (The word is pronounced to rhyme with plow, and is perhaps a corruption of slay.)

Sorrow, adv.
Sorry, adj.


Sorter, adv.

sort of. Also 'sortuh'. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V Part VI 221 Dial. Notes. I'm sortuh

Sot, v.


Specs, n.

spectacles. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS II, 16. I've broke one of the glaäses in the specs.

Spell, n. and v.

Spew, v.
Th' wind blew th' line down, an' spewed Maw's clo'cs all over th' berry-patch. Spew, v. vomit
1386-88 Chaucer PERSONS TALE 138. As doth the hound that returneth to e'en his spewing.

Spile, n.
a small tube made by removing the pith of older or sumac or similar woods. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol.V Part VI 221 Dial. Notes.

Spile, v.

Spit, n.
Spunky, adj.


To spunk up, v. phr.

to resent. Also decayed or rotten, as wood. 1925 Jay L. B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V Part VI 222 Dial. Notes.

Squaller, n.

a whistle made from a straw or from the stem of a pumpkin or squash.

Squamish, adv.


Squoo-jawed, adj.


Squench, v.

Squinch, v.

to squint, as the eyes. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol.V Part VI 222 Dial. Notes.

Squose, v.


Stand-in, n.


Stash, v.


Billy he done stashed the jug in th' brush, an' now the damned ol' fool caint find it.

Stay more, v.-phr.

used when a guest is preparing to part. 1926 Vance Randolph WORD LIST FROM THE OZARKS Vol.V Part IX 404 Dial. Notes. Don't be drug off! Stay more Doc.
Stiddy, adj.


Stob', n. and v.


Stobber, n.


Stomp', v.


Stooped, adj.

leaning or inclined, often applied to trees extending out over the water. 1927 Vance Randolph MORE WORDS FROM THE OZARKS Vol. V Part X 477 Dial. Notes. Th' Inf'm he crepe out enter a stooped tree an' giggled him a survigrous red-horse (The red-horse is a common Ozark fish--a kind of sucker.)
Stop in, v. phr.

to stop, in passing, for a short visit. 1923

Store boughten, adj.

that which has been purchased from a merchant. 1923

Stout, adj.

in good health, never used to mean corpulent. 1926
Chaucer CANTERBURY TALES PROLOGUE 545. The Miller was a stout carl, for the none.

Straddlin', v.

standing. 1925 May K. McCord COMING OF THE GREAT L. ON HORSE Jan.p.29 Sample Case. I don't aim to have none o' them telly-whopper poles a-straddlin' round over my land.

Strenth, n.

Strollopin', adj.

Joff shore has made hisself some strollopin' good likker.

Strut, v.

Notes. Thet feller's eye-ball war strutted plum to a bladder.

Study, v.

Studdy, ad.
steady. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS IV, 23. But them's thets kunverted like they nivah hol's studdy in the hour o' trouble.

Sull, v.
to grow sullen, to refuse to talk. Also to balk, as a draft animal. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V Part VI 222 Dial. Notes.
Sulter, v.

to smother, to suffocate. 1926 Vance Randolph
WORD LIST FROM THE OZARKS Vol. V Part IX 404
Dial. Notes. I mighty nigh sultered in that 'ar holler.

Surround, v.

to go around, to detour. 1926 Vance Randolph WORD
I surrounded th' house an' snuk in back o' th' barn.

Susy, adj.

ludicrously conceited. 1927 Vance Randolph MORE WORDS
shoro did holler 'n' laugh at that 'ar susy preacher.
1926 Vance Randolph WORD LIST FROM THE OZARKS Vol. V
Part IX 404 Dial. Notes. (Usually applied to a woman
whose manner or clothing is inferior.)

Suthin' er oth'-r, n. phr.

something or other. 1923 Jay L. B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY

Suthin' tur'ble, adv. phr.

exceedingly. 1923 Jay L. B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK
Vol. V Part VI 222 Dial. Notes. Hit gravelod me suthin'
tur'ble.
Swade on, v. phr.

to persuade. 1927 Vance Randolph MORE WORDS FROM THE OZARKS Vol. V Part X 478 Dial. Notes. I didn't want t' go noways, but Elly she jes' swaded on me till I done hit.

Swag, n. and v.


Swap, n. or v.


Sweared, v.


Swiddle, v.


Swinge, v.

Swipt, v.
whipped. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS I,10.
I was sho' the aberlishernists an' nigger-stealers
and all be swipt down tow posterity.

Swivel, v.
to shrivel. 1923 Jay L.B.Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK

Swogglc,v.
to dip or stick. 1926 Vance Randolph WORD LIST FROM
yer bread in them sogrums once!

Sympathy, v.
to sympathize with. 1923 Jay L.B.Taylor SNAKE COUNTY
f'ir his troubles.
Takon, 


Take a fall out of, v.phr.


Take on!, v.phr.


Take the studs, v.phr.

to balk or refuse to obey, as an animal. To become stubborn or obstinate, as a person. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V Part VI 223 Dial. Notes.

Take water, v.phr.


Teches, v.

touches. 1926-27 Rose Wilder Lane THE HILL BILLY I,13. Ef ev'r Bull Garner teches me onct more I'm again to---
Tell, ad.

until 1910 A.M. Haswell WAYSIDE VERSES 140.

Tell Mam, she jist tuk up fer us, and you bot we come.

Telly-whopper poles, n.

telephone poles. 1925 May K. McCord COMING OF THE GREAT IRON HORSE Jan. p. 29 Sample Case. I don't aim to have none o' them telly-whopper poles a-straddlin' 'round over my land.

Tetchous, adj.


Shakespeare TROILUS & CRESSIDA I, 1, 101. "I cannot come to Cressid but by Pander, And he's as tetchy to be woo'd to woo." Shakespeare RICHARD III, IV, 4, 168. "A grievous borther was thy birth to me, Techy and wayward was thy infancy.

Tew git shot of, v. phr.

to get rid of. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS II, 15.

The oldest gaeel was married, but was obleeged tew git shot of her ole man.
Thar, ad.
That-away, adv.
That, pro.
that. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS I,8. I'm one of them thot believes thot Jesus Christ wint down hintew the watah tew be baptized.
Thicker than Hammons in hell, adv, phr.
very abundant. 1926 Vance Randolph WORD LIST FROM THE OZARKS Vol. V Part IX 404 Dial. Notes. (Doubtless a survival from some forgotten feud.)
Thin, ad.
then. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS IV,33. Thin the chillern lays down and we draps the kivers ovah them.
Think a sight of, v.phr.

This a-way, pro.phr.

'Thout, prep.

Through, n.
a series of doses of medicine, particularly applicable to purgatives. 1927 Vance Randolph MORE WORDS FROM THE OZARKS Vol.V Part X 478 Dial. Notes. I taken a through o' calomel las' week, an' now Doc's done fixed me up a turrible through o' physic.

Tie backin', n.
splitting of ties. 1923 M.S.Gross HAUNTED HOLLOW I,12. I'd be keen fer it, I would, only I got some tie-backin' north o' town.
Tie whacker, n.

Till yit, adv.

Tindah, adj.
tender. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS I, 8. I don't keep no comp'ny with them tindah saft-skinned baptists yo all have in the city.

To be took, v.phr.
to die, to be captured, as a criminal. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V Part VI 223 Dial. Notes.

To feel his lead, v.phr.
to be shot by him. 1923 M.S. Gross HAUNTED HOLLOW I, 14. Henry Wilson warn't the first man to feel his lead.

To git his tail up, n.
Tolerable, adj.

tolerable, in fair health. 1923 Jay L. B. Taylor
I'm a-feelin' jist tol'able.

Tole, v.

to entice. 1923 Jay L. B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK
(by feeding or calling them.) Tollen, v. attract, entice. 1377–81 Chaucer BOETHIUS Book II Prose VII, 18. But nonetheless, it may not drawn or tollen swiche hertes as ben y-bought to the fulle perfection of vertu.

Took on, v.

to mourn. 1926 May K. McCord A BURYIN' IN THE OZARKS
Dec. p. 19. Sample Case. The listeners were by far more interested in seeing how those most concerned "took on" at the buryin'.

Tooth-brush, n.


Tooth-jumper, n.

a mountain dentist of the old school. 1926 Vance Randolph WORD LIST FROM THE OZARKS Vol. V Part IX 404 Dial. Notes. (A tooth jumper was one who ex-
tracted teeth by means of a mallet and a slender stool punch.)

Torn downdest, adj.

Tote, v.
to carry. Less frequently used than 'pack.' 1923 Jay L. B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V Part VI 223 Dial. Notes. Totin', v. carrying. 1923 M. S. Gross HAUNTED HOLLOW I, 8. All I got to do is the totin'.

Touchous, adj.

Tourister, n.

Track, v.
to carry on the shoes, as mud or dust. Applicable also to the action of the rear wheels of a vehicle in following the path of the front ones.
1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol.V
Part VI 223 Dial. Notes.

Troups, n.
troops. 1834 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS I,10.
When I heerd the Fid'ral govern'ment was raisin'
of troops.

Tricks, n.
What was there left to ask the world for except
a little store tricks "terbacky", "kofec".

Trollop, n. and v.
a restless woman, a gadabout. 1926 Vance Randolph
Notes. I shore wouldn't let no gal o' mine go a-
trollorin' round thataway.

Truck, n.
Sample Case. Them levellanders, I don't want no
truck with 'em. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY
TALK Vol.V Part VI 223 Dial. Notes. I won't have
no truck 'ith a feller like him.
Try it on, v. phr.


Tuck, v.

took. 1884 John Montelith PARSON BROOKS XI, 80.

Ef thum names is tuck back the pa'son is willin' tow knock aout the widge an' let the split come together.

Tudy-rose, n.

a peculiar design used in quilts. 1927 Vance Randolph MORE WORDS FROM THE OZARKS Vol. V Part X 478 Dial. Notes. (Someone has suggested that it may be identical with the Rose of the Tudors).

Tunk, v.

to thump, to rap. 1927 Vance Randolph MORE WORDS FROM THE OZARKS Vol. V Part X 478 Dial. Notes. Injuns haint no sense, allus a-tunkin' on drums, or somethin'.

Turble, adj.

Tutor, v.

to pamper, to indulge. 1927 Vance Randolph MORE
She jen! tutored up that young'un till he aint
with shucks fer nothin'. Shakespeare TITUS AND-
RONICUS 98. Indeed I was their tutor to instruct
That cadding spirit had they from their mother.

Twarnt, v. phr.

it was not. 1923 M.S. Gross HAUNTED HOLLOW I, 14.
I heered 'em wunst, an twarn't no panten neither.

'Twixt, prep.

between. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS VII, 39.
What fur docs yo all foller the movls 'twixt the
plough helvcs all day threw the hot sun till soin
sundown. Shakespeare VENUS & ADONIS 76. 'Twixt and
crimson shame and anger ashy pale.
U

Use, v.
to frequent, to loiter. 1926 Vance Randolph
WORD LIST FROM THE OZARKS Vol. V Part IX 404
Dial. Notes. You-all better gin up a-usin'  
'troun' my still-house!
Wad, v.


Wade into, v. phr.


Wait on, v. phr.


War, v.

was. 1910 A.M. Haswell WAYSIDE VERSES 140. Shucked me pow'ful till I seen as nothin' warn't the matter. Seldom used by the present generation. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V Part VI 224 Dial. Notes.

Warp, v.

to bend. 1927 Vance Randolph MORE WORDS FROM THE OZARKS Vol. V Part X 478 Dial. Notes. Git a-goin' now, or I'll jes warp this hyer fence-post over yer head.
Wash-off, n.

a bath. 1926 Vance Randolph WORD LIST FROM THE OZARKS Vol.V Part IX 404 Dial. Notes. (The hillman bathes in a tin wash-tub, in which he stands upright and rubs his body with a wet cloth).

Washing up, v. phr.


Watah, n.

water. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS I,8. I'm one of them that believes that Jesus Christ went down hintew the watah tew be baptized.

We-all, n.


Weanlin', n.

one who has been weaned. 1926-27 Rose Wilder Lane THE HILL BILLY I,14. Leave him by his maw's side until he's a weanlin.

Ween, v.

Hank he talk mighty brash, but he'll mostly soon when th' shootin' sets in.

Went with, v. phr.
became of or happened to. 1923 Jay L. B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V Part VI 224 Dial. Notes. What went 'ith that corn?

Weren, v.

was. 1910 A. M. Haswell WAYSIDE VERSES 140. The water were so deep.

We've done, v. phr.

we have been. 1910 A. M. Haswell WAYSIDE VERSES 140.

Me and Pop and Sam and Bud, we've done been to town.

Western, adj.

western. 1926-27 Rose Wilder Lane THE HILL BILLY II, 54. Yore innocence is as plain to be seen as yonder westerin' moon.

We-uns, n.

we. 1923 Jay L. B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V Part VI 224 Dial. Notes. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS II, 15. We'uns is happy on leetle, an' yo'uns is happy on a heap. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS VII, 55. That's just what we'uns is ofter findin' aout.
Whang, n. and v.

Whar, ad.
where. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS I, 6. Hullo ther'. Whar's the door at? Whar, ad. where. 1907 H.B. Wright THE SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS I, 17. Whar was you tryin' to git to Mister?

Whonever, adv.

Whenst, ad.
when. 1926-27 Rose Wilder Lane THE HILL BILLY Int, 3. Whenst you find yourself among them town lawyers.

Which, interrog.

Which-away, adv.
Whin, ad.

when. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS I, LC.

Whin I heard the Fid’rel govern’mont was raisin’
of troops.

Whittle stick, n.

any piece of wood to be whittled on in idle moments.
1923 Jay L. B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V Part VI
224 Dial. Notes.

Whole hell’s slough, n. phr.

in great quantities. 1923 Jay L. B. Taylor SNAKE
COUNTY TALK Vol. V Part VI 224 Dial. Notes. They’s
a whole hell’s slough o’ persimmons down thar in
the hollar.

Whomper-jawed, adj.

distorted, misshapen. 1927 Vance Randolph MORE WORDS
oldest boy is kinder whomper-jawed. (The term is
sometimes applied to inanimate objects—crooked cabins,
vehicles and articles of furniture.)

Whoopity scoot, adv.

rapidly, and more or less at random. 1923 Jay L. B.
Notes.
Whull, adj.

I was a-thinkin' that I hedn't did m'whull jewty
when I was declarin' m'principles tow ye.

Whup, v.
to whip. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V
Part VI 224 Dial. Notes.

Whupped, v.
whipped. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS I, 10.
I was sho' the north wud fit whupped.

Whur, adv.
where. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V
Part VI 224 Dial. Notes.

Whut, pro.
Part VI 224 Dial. Notes.

Whuther, conj.
whether. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK Vol. V
Part VI 224 Dial. Notes.

Wint, v.
went. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS I, 8. I'm one
of them that believes that Jesus Christ wint down
hintow the watah tow be baptized.
Wisht, v.

wish. 1926 Vance Randolph WORD LIST FROM THE OZARKS Vol.V Part IX 404 Dial. Notes. I wisht I was cut'n this hyar jail-house.

Withy, adj.


Work brickle, adj.


Worldly, adj.


Worritin', n.

worrying. 1926-27 Rose Wilder Lane THE HILL BILLY Int.

3. Any's the babe I've nurtured with work and worritin' until the day when it goes its own way in the broad world.

Wrench, v.

Write,v.

wrote. 1923 Jay L.B.Taylor SNAKE COUNTY TALK


Wropped,v.

wrapped. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS IX,66.
And when he's wropped his foine silky caud around
yo, then yo shall look behind.

Wudn't mine,v.phr.

would not mind. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS I,10.
You all mort let mo hoy the forty acre paitch over
on me, I wouldn't mine havin' of hit agin this year.

Wunst,ad.

once. 1923 M.S.Gross HAUNTED HOLLOW I,14. I heered
'on wunst, an 'twarn't no panter neither.
Yaller, adj. and n.

Yellow, the yolk of an egg. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor

Yan, adj.

Yon, that. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor Snake County Talk

Yan-away, adv.

Yonder. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor Snake County Talk

Yander, adv.

Yonder. 1923 Jay L.B. Taylor Snake County Talk Vol. V
Part VI 225 Dial. Notes. He went yander right now!
(i.e. disappeared in haste).

Yarmed, v.

to thrust into, to insert. 1926 Vance Randolph Word

Yawed, v.

came. 1925 M.S. Gross Haunted Hollow I, 6. At last,
along toward eight o'clock, we yawed into Cedar Knob.

Ye, pro.

you. 1924 John Monteith Parson Brooks I, 8. I'm proud
I've saw ye. Bein' so pow'ful nigh one anothah I
'lowed we'd orter be acquainted. 1926 May K. McCord
A BURYIN' IN THE OZARKS Dec. p.19 Sample Case

Before morning the whole kit and bile of ye may be on the coolin' board.

Yer, pro.


What might yer name be.

Yere, ed.

here. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS II, 17, Wal.

I don't run agin no pertic'ler snag in this yere.

Yip, v.


Yo', pro.

you. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS I, 8. I rout ez well be bold with ye, an tell you who I be, fer I reckin yo' nivah heerd of me.

Yo'all, pro.

you. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS I, 8. Neber yo' all is of them I'm referrin' tew.

Yon, ed.

yonder. 1884 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS I, 8. In yon cabin. 1386-88 Chaucer REVES TALE 4178. If that I may, yon wenche wil I swyve.
Yore, pro.

your. 1926-27 Rose Wilder Lane THE HILL BILLY
III, 31. Well I remember yore paw.

You-all, n.

you. Also you-alls and you-uns. 1923 Jay L. B. Taylor

Yo'uns, pro.

you. 1864 John Monteith PARSON BROOKS II, 15. Yo'uns
is happy on leetle, an' yo'uns is happy on a heap.

Yourn, pro.

yours. 1907 H. B. Wright THE SIEVERT OF THE HILLS IV,
36. We aint got much but what we have is yourn.

Yowl, v.

to howl, to cry out. 1923 Jay L. B. Taylor SNAKE COUNTY
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