

# Dried Rabbit Was A Tasty Fare

By WAYNE GUTHRIE  
JADELS NEWS

Did you ever taste dried rabbit ham? Or, perhaps, rabbit meat that had been broiled over red hot coals?

I never had heard of either until they were mentioned recently in a note from Anna E. Young, 3420 N. Riley, who praised them highly.

"Years ago there was no limit to the number of rabbits and squirrels a hunter bagged," she said. "My two brothers were hunters, along with my father who trapped in the fall and winter."

"My father often had two dozen rabbit hams, all ready for the drying process, after a big day's hunt. He salted the hind legs and let them stand long enough to take the salt. Then he took a strong

cord and ran it through the small end of the leg and made a loop by which to hang it on a nail in the attic alongside the kitchen chimney. It took only a week or 12 days for that meat to dry. Then it was taken down and stored, to be eaten later.

"That dried rabbit was superior to dried beef. We used it chiefly for snacks as we sat by the wood-burning stove of evenings when the snow was piling high outside.

"He also had a home-made broiling rod he used to broil pieces of rabbit over the hot coals for those who preferred that. It tasted much better than fried rabbit any time. That was usually our Sunday night supper.

"Apples could be roasted that way, too.

"For dessert, if we wished, we could make our own snow ice cream by using the fresh outside snow with plenty of rich cream for it. Mother also always had a big pan of gingerbread ready and waiting."



Guthrie

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Her letter about rabbits brought to mind a note from L. R. Gray, Gosport, pointing out the expense to which some hunters go to engage in that pastime and hobby. He wrote about three Indianapolis men who were in that Owen County locality recently "looking for rabbits in our briar patches."

"I figured that, counting the cost of the trip and their time—even at \$1.75 an hour—the rabbits cost them about \$8 each. I have seen the day when two men went out in a boat during the high water of White River and killed 80 rabbits that brought 10¢ each."

Here's another echo to recent discussions about leather boots that were all the rage with youngsters years ago.

J. D. Miller, 48 N. Audubon, recalled that in his boyhood on a farm just south of Palestine, Ill., he had a pair. He was about 7 or 8 at the time. That footwear had been bought at a store in Palestine

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Narrow front*