

DEPARTMENT OF FOLKLORE

You can help us to preserve the folklore of Newfoundland.

This traditional material is part of the unwritten history of the province which the university is attempting to record.

Every community is rich in many areas of folklore, so if you have any information on the subjects in which we are interested or can get it from someone else, please find answers for our questions.

General Instructions.

1. Write down the information exactly as you learned it or as it was told to you. Use the exact words and phrasing of the informant. Do not attempt to "correct" the form of the information.
2. Write in black or blue ink, or type (double-spaced).
3. Write on one side of the paper only.
4. Number pages in the upper right hand corner.
5. Complete the following information requested at the end of each item, as illustrated.

Informant's name	age	occupation	
Home community	Ray	religion	
Learned from	community	relationship	
When			
Student's name	age	Course number	Home community
St. John's address			Date

6. Indicate clearly if you or your informant want any names withheld.

Q 71 D: CHECKLIST OF NEWFOUNDLAND EXPRESSIONS

The following is a list of words on which there are only one or two reports in the files of the proposed Dictionary of Newfoundland English. We would like more evidence and explanations from different parts of the Province. If you know the word, or a variant form of it, would you please put down information about its meaning and pronunciation. It would be very helpful if you could give a sentence in which the word is used. If you know the meaning but not the term, put down the word or phrase you know.

1. ackering: "I'm ackering with the cold."
2. ailes: "There was one remedy for all the ailes of life and that was 'senna leaves'."
3. air: "First now, you'd get the air (tune) that was on it."
4. anguish: "I got de anguish in me neck."
5. ankerjacks) (also 'half legs')- short pair of
ankle jacks) leather boots
6. Advent Wreath: wreath made of candles during Advent
7. 'argand' lamp: ". . . the big 'argand' lamp with its brilliant shade and winking crystal pendants."
8. arrowroot: the root of the raspberry bushes
9. back pinks: "It is years ago now, and 'back pinks', and mummers have ceased to be."
10. bam: An exaggerated tale - to ridicule, etc., a person or sacred ceremony
11. ballase) to throw rocks or stones at a person
ballast) or thing
12. balling: a form of Bowling
13. bargoo: "Hash is referred to out west as 'bargoo'"
14. barrack: "Four high posts, with movable roof, pressed on hay piled between and stored for winter outdoors."
15. bas/basse: to kiss
16. basam/bazzam: "'blue' - such as blue in the face"
17. bays berries: loganberries
18. bautom: ball of wool or yarn
19. beastins: first milk in sheep's udder for its young
20. boat harbour: "such as "Quiddy-Biddy"
21. bunt: or loose bag of netting of the seine
22. beaver thorns: garden snails
23. bell topper: "a tall hat with a glazed top"
24. bellyied: means built. "He bellyied that boat"
25. benney: a small trout
26. "berried hen": lobster - "She glues them on the outside of her body. Hence she is called at such times a "berried hen" lobster"
27. berry-fish: cod with a red "seedy" growth under its gills
28. berryocky: drink made from partridge berries

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29. bevel, to: means to make an angular cut with an axe
30. billy-tub: 1/4 of a flour barrel used for a 10 line tub of brilloes
31. bitchue: "'female fox' (used by very old people)"
32. bittle stock: "Had I been present when the Prince committed that outrage on old Foley it would have been worse for him than Mother Carter's bittle stock or old B-'s cuvvel staff."
32. bitten sticks: used for tightening up the [wood] load
33. double bitter: axe with two handles
34. blar, to: "To blar (turn with an oar) a boat around against the sun (west north east direction) will bring bad luck."
35. bleacher: "a marriageable girl, esp. when not attached"
36. bluff: (1) "A bow of a boat is said to bluff when closer to the vertical; rather than more gradual, which is suent"
(2) "a rounded hill"
37. bold water: "But they found a bold coast - 'bold water' the seamen call it - offering a deep & secure passage almost to the shoreline."
38. Bonnet Hop: " . . . Bonnet Hops, Soirees and the big Ball . . ."
39. bonny clabber: sour milk
40. bogan: "an area of a stream or river which is relatively still and shallow, often filled with water plants; may be formed at a turn in the stream"
41. boggan: "Down north they call it a whiffletree. 'Cross-bar behind horse to which traces are secured"
42. bogue: "He bogued over the rail - to peep at something"
43. bore up: "Bear up for home"
44. boreen: A narrow path or lane
- 45: bouchal: "Come on me bouchal let us have a rale owld come all ye"
46. boydle: Heavy wooden maul
47. brabble: Tide rips or overfalls
48. brackedy/bracket: "spotted, speckled; of hens, but sometimes of sheep, cows and horses"
49. brancheys: baby trout about one inch long - caught by children in brooks.
50. breade, in good: "I put e 'in good breade' I bet e 'I warn e. -Just wait and see if I won't do something good for you"
51. break 'er downs: "Square dances, and- or- they would be called- they are called 'break er downs."
52. breasted: proud (used by grandmother) "I'd be some 'breasted' if you passed your exams."
53. breast-marks: land-marks
54. breathing up: wind is coming
55. brichins/brichet: cod roes
56. brickly/crispy: "Boxy timber is hard--right brickly."
(will crack if you put a nail through it)

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57. bride knot: Pronounced 'brim knot' - given by bride to bridesgirls
58. brile: confusion, mess
59. brims: rose fish
60. brindy: "You're a brindy (young child) thing." (saucy)
61. broad day, a: "'Tis a broad day. -It's a lovely day"
62. browse: "To pull in slack rope, e.g. of halyards, and fasten it."
63. brunet(te): "In Western Newfoundland an ethnic minority of mixed Micmac Indian-French origins"
64. bubbly-squalls: jelly fish
65. Bullamarue: "A bully; a noisy aggressive fellow"
66. bulljoin: engine
67. byrne: "A term used in coopering to indicate a quantity of hoops. 'X byrnes in a bundle' (of hoops)"
68. cabin-hunting: going from house to house to gossip
69. cabooses: ". . . to make a fire in, used for boiling and baking grub"
70. cadder: quilt
71. calaglear: hill
72. cam: crooked, bent
73. cambouses: "3 stoves--Cabin and shop, and Cambouses"
74. caniver: sly
75. car-trap: "Large crate for storing lobster. Also ramshorn."
- carasho: ". . . carajou is French for Wolverine"
77. Carey church: "Schooner's masthead lamp (square in shape in the old days)"
78. Carey; "Carey, Crumble - names of fishing grounds"
79. carjal/cardjal/carjel: Accordion.
80. carrowattin': "A bunch of old women carrowattin' meant women gossiping over the back fence"
81. cartwheel penny: ". . . (a cartwheel penny was worth two cents) . . ."
82. case up: "to upholster or reupholster"
83. cast: (1)"[young hoods] cast their young a week or two later"
84. cast (caplin): (2) catch caplin for bait by using casting net
85. cast, a: (3) "And a bedlamer b'y with a cast in his eye"
86. castaway: "A fishing skiff from Ramea, a castaway did fly"
87. castor: beaver
88. caudle: "A sloppy drink in cookery"
89. Cover the Buckle": "Gabe Ronan and John Goodall contended in the dance of 'Cover the Buckle' for the superiority of Cork or Waterford."
90. chaeved: "We have, to use the dialect, 'chaeved' quite a lot of frankum"
91. chafe: vexation; bother
92. chair-box: "Mary is sitting in her 'chair-box', knitting"

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93. Char: narrow lane or path
94. chary: "Sometimes a Polar Bear we'll meet, / But of them we are chary, / As of the maide we left behind"
95. chat-you: talk to you
96. chaw-round: a talk - conversation, discussion
97. chebacco boat: ". . . fishing-vessel employed in the Newfoundland fisheries. It is probably named from Chebucto Bay"
98. checkers: treads on soles of rubber boots
99. cheek: "There is a little loss of flesh on the cheek of the fish . . ."
100. chicken-halibut: young halibut
101. chiffonaire: old-fashioned cupboard used to store dishes
102. chime-built: Like clapboard - as life-boats are built
103. chimbs: ridges on bottom of a boat
104. chimbe: Part of staves beyond the head of a barrel
105. chin-cough: whooping cough
106. choppin': "To hear fish choppin' is a sign of plenty"
107. choule: the jaw, not jowl
108. chouse: brook
109. chum, gone to: "The potatoes are gone to a chum" - all gone to pieces, all soaked to pieces, almost creamed potatoes.
110. circle lines: "The hardships of those Georgie's Banks no mortal can pen down / With circle lines, and shifting sands and breakers all around."
111. clopp: a blow on the head
112. coaxer: a jigger with hooks broken off - used when squid are plentiful
113. cockstiddle: ". . . woman watching boys turn somersalts in sack race . . . said, 'Oh, look at them cockstiddle!'"
114. collie: "large salmon; large enough to 'get away'"
115. colly: "large, huge"
116. concern: "The business house of this worthy [merchant] is known as 'the firm,' or 'the concern'"
117. crop ball: crop of bird [partridge, etc.] taken out and dried and blown up for a ball for a child
118. crossed path: path once well-travelled but now unused - if a house is built on it the house is usually **haunted**.
119. constant screecher: concertina
120. cosh: "Here a brook empties itself into the sea, having run for about three miles through a narrow pond, or 'cosh', as my men called it"
121. course bag: ". . . a canvas cylinder with a wooden bottom" [contained blocks with compass points on them, and men drew from it the course to put out their trawls]
122. cow days: "The first of April to the thirteenth. . . . These days are usually cold and windy. The old folk years ago used to say that those were the days for skinning the cow. . . ."
123. cowbees: "In the course of an hour I had upset the ecology . . . to the tune of 38 nippers, 16 cowbees . . ."