

# Your Sourdough Starter Turns Orange, Time for Flapjacks

By GEORGE JENNINGS GALE

Sourdough flapjacks are associated with Alaska and the Yukon, but they are nothing new for lumberjacks.

Miners and cowboys in the Old West and the northern states and Canada often claim that an ancient wad of sourdough starter that had turned orange was ripe for flapjack making. But if it turned green, "just leave it for the skunks or bears."

But the sourdough flapjacks of Jack London and Robert W. Service's days were associated with grizzled miners or prospectors who lived in snow-covered log cabins. These men brought in their type of flapjack from the logging camps of Michigan, Wisconsin or Minnesota or the cow and mining camps of the West.

You may have come upon an item in the Geographic Magazine long ago about their research on sourdough bread.

You may also recall something

about the Alaskan Native people making hootch from sourdough but again this is nothing new, for in Ancient Egypt this same thing was done.

Sourdough bread, when made right, has a nice sweet taste to it.

My wife used a sourdough starter that had a weird history. It was loaded onto a pack mule that fell and killed himself on the Dawson trail and the sourdough had spilled down on his

rump and legs. This was carefully scraped off and saved.

Perhaps some of your readers in the Tundra Times also have some of this sourdough and also the history behind it.

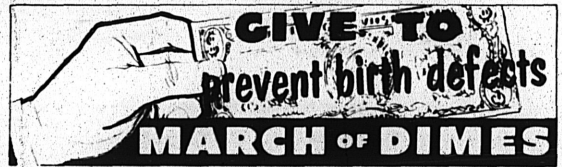
In the early days, one of the most valuable items among the bride's dowers was a starter for sourdough flapjacks.

When you are out of this item, you can pour sauerkraut juice from a can, mix with flour and water and sourdough will

begin to form.

Many an old miner took his sourdough into his sleeping bag with him to keep it from freezing.

In God's due time the people in Alaska, known as Sourdoughs, will only be those who have Indian, Aleut or Eskimo blood in their veins.



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