

SPEAKING HILLBILLY

By J. W. Henson

Glossary

When I was a kid we would visit family back in the country and it was disgusting to hear the usage (misusage) of the language.

The following Hillbilly words are by and large understandable in context. Otherwise they are a foreign language. This is by no means a complete dictionary to mountain word usage, but just a sampling to give you the feel for their talk.

I feel that the universal use of TV, and better education have brought our backwoods Americans into the modern world of speech.

A'gin	Against, 'He lent a'gin a tree'
AIG	Egg
AIR'in	Any, or One, "I ain't got airin", Sometimes Nair'in
AISLE	Oil
ALGEEBERRY	Algebra
ARE	Arrow
ARE'PLANE	Airplane
ARN	Iron
ARSE	Ass
ARSHMON	One from Ireland
AST	Asked
AT'air	That there
ATTER	After
BAG	To plead for; beg.
BAGGER	Beggar
BARN	Born, "I was barn in 1900."
BEAN	Being; Humanbean
BILE	Boil, "Brang hit to a rollin bile."
BIRF	Birth; as in birfday
BOODJUM	Bosom
BRAINCH	Branch
BRANG	Bring
BUCKIE	Bulky
BUM	Bomb
BURRIE	To Bury

CHE	You; "Ain't che goin?"
CHEER	1. Chair, "Sit in this cheer." 2. Here, "Come out cheer."
CHILE	Child, "Why you a whuppin at thar chile?"
CHIMBLEE	Chimney
CIFER	Siphon
CLUM	Past tense of to climb
COAL OIL	Kerosene
DAD-DAB-IT	A mild oath
DEE'TROIT	Detroit
DIV	Dive; sometimes dove
DIVE	A low class Roadhouse
DRAWERS	Mens' under shorts
DRECKLY	Directly, "I'll be down to your house d'wreckly. This did not mean at once, but more of "after awhile". "When we get time, or finished with the chores."
EACH	Itch, "Fly bites shore do each!"
EXTREE	Extra
FAR	1. To discharge an employee. Fire. 2. Fire. "Build a far." 3. Fire. Discharge a gun.
FATE-ful	Faithful
FIT	Past tense of fight; Fought
FITTY	Fifty
FLARE	Flour; Flower
FUNNEL	To drink alcohol in excess
GARN-tee	Gurantee
GASS	Gasoline
GHEE-TAR	Guitar
GOOD BOOK	Bible
GOODUN	Good one, "He's a goodun."
GRAVEL	A mild form of anger
GRUB	Food
GRUB HOOKS	Hands
GUFF	Gulf
HAINT	Haunt, Ghost
HAIRD	Howard
HAR	1. Hire, "He's the one what hars and fars." 2. Harrow, "I've been harin the field all day."
HAWG	Hog
HEARED	Past tense of hear

HEARD	King Herod of the Bible
HEE-CUP	Hicough
HERN	Her's
HETHERN	Heathen
HOLLAR	Hollow, or to call
HOLP	Help. "Holp (or hope) me lift this."
HOOVER HOG	Rabbit or o'possum; from depression days
HORNESS	Harness
HOSS	Horse
HINDU	Chicken excrement
HISN	His
HIT	It, "Where did hit come from?"
HOUNGREY	Hungry
HUE-MING	Human
HUNK	To blow the car horn
HUNKER	To squat; Hunker down
IDEE	Idea, and ideal
INJUN	Indian
INSHORANCE	Insurance
JINE	Join
JOHNSON ROD	A pipe slipped over a wrench for extra leverage
KINDLY	"Kind of" hot today
KIVER	Cover, blanket, or comforter.
LAG	Leg, "Your'e pulling my lag."
LAR	One who tells lies
LARD	Lord
LARNT	Learned
LENT	Past tense of 'to lean'
LEAVE-HER	Lever
LIE-BERRY	Library
LIGHTBREAD	Store bought loaf bread
LINE	Lion
MARVEL	Marble
MITCH-A-GHIN	Michigan
MOTORSICKLE	Motorcycle
N-AHEADEN-OF	Before, in front of
NAR	Narrow, "This board is too nar."
NARY	None
NEWJEAN	Eugene
NEW-MONIE	Pneumonia

NEW-NITED	United
NICIN	"Nice one"
NOOSE	News
OCREE	Okra
PAINTS	Pants, "How do like my new paints?"
PAIR	Power
PATTERNIZE	Patronize
PEUNIE	Sick
PIE-ZUN	Poison
PITCHER	Picture
PIAINT	Plant
PLUM NELLY	Almost entirely (NELLY, nearly)
POKE	1. A bag for carrying 2. A quick jab
POUR	Poor
QUAR-PRACTER	Chiropractor
RAGLAR	Regular, "I use raglar gass."
RANG	Ring
RAT	Right, "You come rat cheer chile."
RAILLY	Really
RAINCH	Wrench; or to rinse.
RATTYO	Radio
RE-TAR	Retire
RETCH'ed	Reached, (sometimes retch)
SALLET	Salad
SAND BOX	Toilet
SEA-GAR	Cigar
SHAIR STICK	Umbrella (shower stick)
SHET	Shut, "Shet yoar mouth yungin."
SHORE	Sure
SPAR	Spare
SPELL	An acute sickness
SPRANG	Spring
SWEETMILK	Not buttermilk
TAR	Tire
TARRED	Tired, "I'm tarred."
TATER	Potato
TAXES	Texas
TESTES	Tests
THANG	Thing
THAR	There

THEYS	There is, "Theys a bunch of them over here."
THISN	This one
THURN	Theirs
TOSSLE	Tassle
TOTE	To carry
VOMIC	Vomit, to upchuck
WAAR PLARS	Wire Pliers
WENDER	Window
WHAR	Where
WHUP	Whip
WIREHOUSE	Warehouse
WONDER	To wander
YAR	Year
YELLAR	Yellow
YOAR	Your, "Is this yoar coat?"
YOARN	Your's, "Is thisn yoarn?"
YUNG-EN	Young one, "Come here yungen!"