

Jess: I still buy my mutton at El Reno or Oklahoma City when I'm down there. Bring home a shoulder or leg--lamb-leg, you know, or chest of lamb, and I keep it at home.

KINDS OF MEAT EATEN: LAMB; PORCUPINE; BEEF

(Where can you get mutton around here?)

Jess: Well, you can get it in El Reno. I used to get mine here at Stevens Grocery--right there southwest of the Rock Island Depot in El Reno.

(How much does it cost?)

Jess: Oh, it's not much different from meat. Where I trade in El Reno, north of the old post office, Winey's, he orders my chest of lamb or a leg of lamb or chops. I like that mutton. When I'm in Wyoming--(I'm not sure whether Jess is distinguishing lamb and mutton--he may be including lamb as mutton). Now up in Wyoming they don't use hog for bacon. You know how fat these porcupines get? Great, bit--and they're always up in a tree, clean. Well, those Arapahoes and those ranchmen, they find two or three of them and they shoot them and butcher them, and blood 'em, and take them home and they use just like this birch bark-- They don't have the big birch there in Wyoming, they have this brush, you know. And after you get all of them the smoke from this--and it's good bacon. I brought twenty-six pounds home one time of this porcupine bacon. Lot of meat, just like candy-striped, you know. I like them.

Bob: I was going to tell you a while ago that this Arapaho and Cheyenne out here is a beef-eater. He has a craving. When you talk to a hungry Indian, the best thing you can talk to him about is beef. And if he can just get a hold of some beef. Well, some of them have been criticized, Jess, for eating one that's been dead. Well, I've figured this out, if a person loved red meat like an Indian loves it, and the economy has got to the point where you can't go to the grocery store and buy that, like mutton-- Now his income--you take the income of the average Indian here will not exceed fifteen hundred. And you can't live very high off fifteen hundred a year, unless you're on welfare. So naturally if he has that craving he will go and eat one that's been dead