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FOLK BELIEFS

F.KEITH MCLENDON

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PROF. BURT FEINTUCH

FOLK STUDIES 462/462G

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The content of this paper came from Mrs. Sarah Wootton Brashear, she is the grandmother of my roommate. Mrs. Brashear was born in the year 1914 on a farm in Fairfield, Kentucky. Mrs. Brashear is a graduate of Western Kentucky University, class of 1935. She taught Junior High English for ten years, after which she was the high school librarian at Leestown Junior High for fifteen years. Mrs. Brashear is of Irish descent. Her religious affiliation is protestant (Baptist). Mrs. Brashear was married and is survived by 2 children. She is currently residing in Cox's Creek, Ky. Mrs. Brashear talked about different beliefs, and remedies which she was brought up with. The following are ones which she discussed the most.

Chest Congestion:

1. Eat raw honey. (Brown 1109)
2. Heat mutton tallow and apply it directly to chest. (Brown 1128)

Colds:

1. Wear a flannel shirt with turpentine and lard on it all winter. (Brown 1140)
2. Eat onions roasted in ashes, good for children. (Brown 1112)
3. Drink tea made from wintergreen fern. (Brown 1120)
4. Drink some of the brine from kraut put up in churn jars. It makes you thirsty, therefore you drink lots of water. (Brown 1100)
5. Boneset and peppermint mixed together and make a tea out of it. (Brown 1105)

Earache:

1. Dissolve table salt in lukewarm water and pour this into ear. (Brown 1328)

Fever:

1. Boil two roots of wild ginger in a cup of water, strain and drink. (Brown 1461)

Headaches:

1. Tie a flour sack around your head. (Brown 1602)