DO MAMARONECKERS LIKE TO NECK?

MARY STEWART CRAIG
Pineville, Louisiana

Mencken writes in The American Language "A rough popular humor often supplies opprobrious forms of names for inhabitants of cities and towns in the United States. Thus the people of Chicago (or at least some of them) have been called Chicagorillas, those of Louisville Louisvillains, those of Swampscott, Mass., Swampskeeters, and those of Cedar Rapids, Iowa bunnies (see der rabbits)."

People with uninhibited imaginations often wonder about things that wouldn't cross saner minds. Do lobsters hurt when you boil them? Why is a lieutenant general higher in rank than a major general when a major outranks a lieutenant? What do you call people who speak Flemish besides Belgians? Until I found out they're plain old Flemings (how mundane!), I had dreamed up names with much more oomph. Why, they could be Flams, Flams, or Flooms! You get the idea. Anyway, at a late hour recently I began dabbling with names of towns, fancifully attaching suffixes promising to yield the most entertaining or outrageous nomenclatures. Be warned - you're about to enter a nutbrain's world...

How about my old hometown for starters: are folks who live there Colorado Springers?

This silly speculation flipped a crazy switch in my head. Next came the perfect name for the townspeople just south of Denver, the Castle Rockers. And, speaking of Denver, is this the home of the ever-truthful Denveracities, as distinguished from the dissembling Centraliaris?

That reminded me of show business for some reason, and the musically-inclined Little Rockettes and the Lansingers, accompanied by the Olympianos. Some other groups that might be worth hearing are the North Platters, the Minotes, the Concordettes, and the Appletoners. Elizabethans are, naturally, made up backstage by the Baton Rougers. Catch them all at the Twin Fallies!

Do you suppose a few bathing Buttes have been attracted to show business? That brings up the notion of stars, which of course reminded me of the time when I looked through a Mt. Palomartian telescope at all the Seattlites and Alamedeorites as they flew by.

Speaking of the heavens - stars need to stay in heavenly shape, so call in the exercising Abileners, Gallupers, and the South Benders to bring up the rear!

From exercising, we go naturally to athletics and teams like the Springboks, Dodgers, the Longhorns...

At sportscases are ma and LynchP, make it sin sacolas or Saginawers, the Wonderers, theers, the pot do the job...

Some people consider the Rockies and Fargoes.

Fortunate Waterprooferos, the Poplar Bluffers, the Petalumars, the sawyers.

You can get into the act besides the Poplar Bluffers and Petalumars, the sawyers and...

This brings me to types, the famous the Syracusians, the Annapolars, the Annaporans, the Provosts.

Without any doubt between the Slipperers and the Slammers.

The Occidental Warriors could help.

Ending with the Fort and the umbussers.

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people of Chicago, Ill., and the people of Springfield, Mass., (See Munsters) began dabbling in promising futures. Believe they're going to grow up big and bloom!

People don't do dishes, but their fortes lie in other areas. Consider the get-up-and-goers called the Mobilizers. The Romers and Fargoers are, of course, afflicted with wanderlust.

Fortunately, there are plenty of working folks around like the Waterproofers, the Tucumcarriers, the Kokomowers, the Fairbankers and Burbankers, the Kankakeeyers, the Birminghammers, the Ruidosowers, the Pueblos, the Bismarkers, the Saranackers, the Petalumars, the Davenporters and Bridgeporters, and the Texarkanawyers.

You can't talk about this country without politicians getting into the act, and there are plenty of them, including the Spokanides and Portsmouthers (pretty far left?), the Council, Pine and Poplar Bluffers, the Pocatellers, the Ann Arborators, the Wichitalkers. In the Congress there are likely to be both laughing Omahners and pessimistic Phoenixers or Renoers.

This brings up people with interpersonal problems or unpleasant types, though there's no offense meant to the Walla Wallawers, the Syracusers, or the Baltimoron. Do close your curtains at night so as not to attract the Topekans or Chesapeakers. We may need the Annapolises, the Minneapolises, and the Indianapolises, as well as Provosts, to keep all of them in line.

Without their help, we might expect a gang war to break out between the Anchoragers and the Tempers, or the Houstoners and the Slippery Rockers.

The occult conjures up the Norwiches, the Tallahasseeers, the Warwicks, and the Eau Clairvoyants. I wonder if the Eugenics could help here?

Ending on a lighter note, one certainly thinks of the eminent Fort and Leavenworthies, and the amorous Mamaroneckers and Columbussers.

Which leaves me with an awful name for my wonderful little Louisiana hometown - do I sound like a Pinevillain?