

NOMENCLATURE AND IMPLEMENTS OF RURAL BUTTERMAKING IN THE SUDETEN LANDS

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In the last fifteen years, the Archive of Sudeten German Folklore in Giesen has managed to collect the material culture of the Sudeten Germans at least in the form of good sketches and descriptions, along with all the pertinent terminological data, for some five hundred localities well distributed over the whole of the Sudetenland. The present article deals with the material available on the theme of buttermaking. It describes the various implements used in such important processes as cream extraction, butter production proper, and the further treatment of the butter obtained, discussing their application, distribution and designations. Included with the article are six plates with sketches of the individual implements. The distribution of the most important names is presented in four maps, while a fifth one indicates the distribution of the oldest butter tubs which were still in use up to the Second World War. The picture is rounded off by a final survey of the role played by butter and its production in the customs, popular beliefs, and popular poetry of the Sudeten Germans.