

TAPE INDEX
DOWN HOME DAIRYLAND RADIO PROGRAMS

Arthur Renard
Duvall, Wi
May 4, 1988

Recorded by Jim Leary
Ampex 632 tape
Nagra 4-L recorder

1. Announcement.
2. Born in Namur, 1917, May 23.
- * 3. Mother used to sing in Walloon. She used to sing to the kids when they were young.
- * 4. Picked up button accordion at 14 years old, had dad order one for him from Montgomery Wards. At age 17 began playing with guitarist, Norbert Ross, at parties. Country, polka and old time tunes, some Belgian stuff. Played after church for many a wedding dance, \$5 for the two, \$1 for gas.
5. At weddings mostly polkas, waltzes, brides dances.
6. Kermis on Saturday, Sunday, sometimes Monday. Food, dancing, drinking.
7. Parades at kermis: Brussels, Luxemburg, etc. Norbert and Art would lead the procession, would play a march. Then would play in the hall. Would have Belgian pies and other Belgian food.
- * 8. When A married, broke up playing with Norbert, Norbert went north to a lumbercamp. A bought a drum, had a mouth organ he could play from school. Then started playing three-four times a week. Kind of rough because he liked his beer. Zeke's One Man Band, a nickname from his brother, from ca. 1945-late 1970s.
9. Mother used to sing the potato song, the other he made up in a milk shed in the winter, then he taped it on his tape recorder. Art still keeps potatoes in the winter. He can sing several other songs in Belgian, including some he has translated from English, like "In Heaven There is No Beer."
10. Has always been a farmer, never worked for anyone else except threshing and silo-filling.
- * 11. Has always loved music, has had about ten of them. Wears out the reeds.
12. Art not a joketeller.
13. Plays "Dji m'fou d'ca, dj'a des canadas."
14. Plays "N'av nen mi p'tit musicyin?" Forgets how it goes after two verses.
15. Plays "In Heaven There Is No Beer," with lyrics in English and Walloon.
- * 16. Repeats # 14.

[end of the session]