GASTRONOMIC RECORDS

Records for eating and drinking by trenchermen do not match those suffering from the rare disease of bulimia (morbid desire to eat) and polydipsia (pathological thirst). Some bulimia patients have to spend 15 hours a day eating, with an extreme consumption of 384 lb. 2 oz. of food in six days by Matthew Daking, aged 12, in 1743 (known as Mortimer's case). Some polydipsomaniacs have been said to be unsatisfied by less than 96 pints of liquid a day.

The world's greatest trencherman is Edward Abraham ("Bozo") Miller (born 1909) of Oakland, California, U.S.A. He consumes up to 25,000 calories per day or more than 11 times that recommended. He stands 5 feet 7½ inches tall but weighs from 20 to 21½ stone, with a 57-inch waist. He has been undefeated in eating contests since 1931 (see below). The bargees on the Rhine are reputed to be the world's heaviest eaters with 5,200 calories a day.

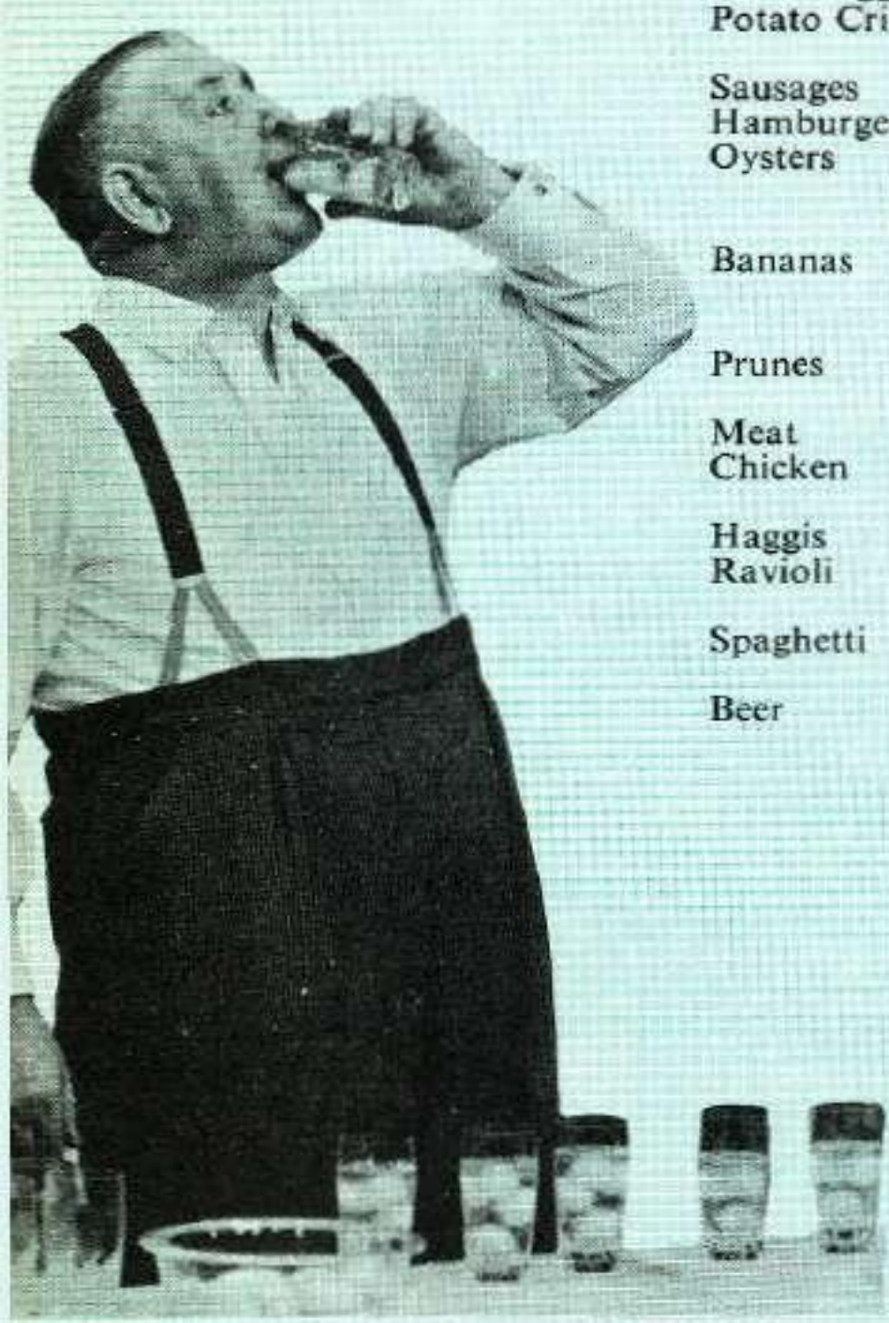
Specific records have been claimed as follows:

Raw Eggs	24 in 28 seconds. Charles Hales (G.B.) (b. 1902), in Tokyo, Japan, 16 Nov. 1967.
Boiled Eggs	44 in 30 minutes by Georges Grogniet of Belgium on 31 May 1956.
Potato Crisps	30 bags in 29 minutes 50 seconds, without a drink, by Akim Akintola (Nigeria), aged 24, at Manchester College of Science and Technology on 28 Feb. 1965.
Sausages	24 2 oz. sausages in 10 minutes by Walter Cornelius at Peterborough, on 2 March 1967.
Hamburgers	77 at a sitting, by Philip Yazdizk (U.S.A.), Chicago, Illinois, U.S.A., on 25 April 1955.
Oysters	480 in 60 minutes, by Joe Garcia (Australia), in Melbourne, on 5 Feb. 1955. The record for opening oysters is 100 in 2 minutes 21 seconds by a restaurateur in Biarritz, France, on 25 May 1957.
Bananas	40 in 39 minutes 40 seconds by Anthony Figg, aged 17, at Eastleigh Technical College, Hampshire, on 26 May 1967. Robin Lea ate 22 in 7 minutes at the Civic Hall, Nantwich, Cheshire, on 26 March 1967.
Prunes	104 in 11 minutes 2·1 seconds by N. E. G. Newell at St. John's College, Durham University, on 21 Nov. 1966.
Meat	One whole roast ox in 42 days by Johann Ketzler of Munich, Germany, in 1880.
Chicken	27 (2 lb. pullets) by "Bozo" Miller (see above) at Trader Vic's, San Francisco, California, U.S.A., in 1963.
Haggis	19 oz. haggis in 65 seconds at Waterloo Station, London, on 1 Jan. 1967.
Ravioli	324 (first 250 in 70 minutes) by "Bozo" Miller (see above) at Rendezvous Room, Oakland, California, U.S.A., in 1963.
Spaghetti	100 yards in 1 minute 34 seconds (by 14 people in a 3 ft. diameter circle), St. Mary's, Balham Youth Club, London, Oct. 1967.
Beer	Lawrence Hill (b. 1942) of Bolton, Lancashire, drained a 2½-pint Yard of Ale in 6½ seconds on 17 Dec. 1964. A 3-pint yard was downed in 12·4 seconds by Michael M. Douglas in the Edinburgh University Union on 22 Feb. 1967.

The most extreme recorded drinking feat was one recorded in 1810 at Wroxham, Norfolk, England where a man was witnessed to have lowered 54½ pints of porter in 55 minutes. This must be regarded as an exaggerated report and the true record is closer to 30·79 pints in 60 minutes by Horst Pretorius (West Germany) aged 36, in June 1968.

The Oxford University "sconce" record is 12·0 seconds for 2½ pints of beer set by the Australian R. Hawke (University College) in 1955 and Clive Anderson (Magdalen) on 26 Feb. 1967. Two pints in 7·7 seconds was achieved by John Wood at Guy's Hospital, London on 16 Feb. 1968.

The world record for 52 oz. (2·6 pints) of beer is 7·9 seconds set by Leo Williams at the University of Queensland, in May 1961, and the record for 2 litres (3·52 Imp. pints) is 11 seconds by J. H. Cochran (Class of 1925, Princeton University, New Jersey, U.S.A.) in Harry's New York Bar, Paris, on 26 June 1932.



◁ *Charles Hale, holder of the raw egg eating record—24 eggs in 28 seconds*

From a medical point of view, record attempts must be regarded as extremely inadvisable.