

Sunday's chicken dinner breaks all records

When you take your seat in Kellogg Park to feast on the well-done chicken at the annual Rotary barbecue, you'll be helping to establish a dining record.

Before dusk settles on the park and the smoke clears over the long pits, more than 15,000 chicken dinners are expected to be served. Nowhere else in America is there a feast that comes in such numbers over so short a time.

Since the Rotary started its barbecue, many areas throughout Michigan have followed. One of the largest imitators is Manchester, where close to 10,000 dinners have been served in an entire day.

Marine City Lions also have a chicken barbecue, but it cares for the appetites of only about 600 persons during an afternoon. This pos-

sibly is a record, too, for a city that size and so short a time.

The only feasting that surpasses the Rotary barbecue, according to a recent survey, is the baked bean dinner served on the Boston Commons in Massachusetts. But again, the 21,000 are fed during an entire day and evening.

In Plymouth the case is different and therein lies the claim to a record. The Rotarians don't start

serving until about noon and finish about 6:30 in the evening.

That means 15,000 dinners are served in about seven hours, or more than 2,000 dinners an hour.

This has been going on for several years and it seems now that the peak has been reached.

But serving 15,000 dinners in seven hours is quite a feat and deserves a place in the Guinness Book of Records.



Chicken is the magic word on Fall Festival Sunday as the Rotarians sponsor the big barbecue each year to cap off the eventful weekend. The Rotary barbecue is one of the biggest dinners offered in the nation. (Staff photo)



More than 15,000 chicken dinners have been sold in recent years as people from all over the state come to please their appetites. (Staff photo)

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