

**Wonderful Tales Told of Monster Serpents**

From time immemorial the sea serpent has figured in story and legend. Pliny, the Roman naturalist (23-79 A. D.) tells of enormous water and land serpents, some so large that whole armies were sent against them. The hardy Norse fishermen gave thrilling stories of sea monsters. Olaus Magnus, a Swedish bishop, wrote of "a very large serpent of length upward of 200 feet and 20 feet in diameter, with a row of hairs 2 feet in length hanging from the neck, sharp scales of dark color, and brilliant, flaming eyes. It attacks boats and snatches away the men by raising itself high out of the water, and devours them." Hans Egede, a Norwegian missionary to Greenland, tells of encountering, on July 6, 1734, "a very terrible sea animal, which raised itself so high above the water that its head reached above our mainmast. It had a long, sharp snout, and blew like a whale." The orkish, with a body from 25 to 30 feet long, and almost as thin as a ribbon, is believed by some naturalists to be the creature which gave rise to many remarkable yarns, told from ancient days until now, of "sea serpents." The silvery body, crossed with dusky stripes, the grotesque head and face, with enlarged fins tipped with red, waving above like a horse's mane, might well give foundation, it is said, to almost any story. Still no one can definitely say that the sea serpent does not exist.

**Humming Bird Small but Famed as Fighter**

A man's bravery can never be judged by his size. Frequently the midget has the spirit of a raging lion while the big, hulking 200-pounder has the timorous heart of a rabbit. The same law of nature applies to birds, Kendrick Kimball writes, in the Detroit News.

The humming bird, sometimes called the "jewel of the air" because of his flashing luster, is only three inches in length, but his courage knows no boundaries. Humming birds are fearless. They will attack a hawk, a crow or an eagle, and against such a nimble adversary the bigger bird would have no chance.

With his rapier bill, which he thrusts into flowers for their nectar, the humming bird is capable of dealing an adversary a sharp prick which would discourage further aggressiveness. Among themselves, the humming birds fight frequently. Like skilled fencers, they thrust at one another with their long, needle-like bills, ducking and darting so fast that the eye can hardly follow them as they maneuver for openings.

**Here Endeth the Lesson**

A thrifty Scotch farmer started off each day by reading a chapter from the Bible to his field hands. One morning during the harvesting season, he struck the sixth chapter of Chronicles, which consists of 81 verses of genealogical names. He droned on until he came to:

"And Shallum begat Hilkiah, and Hilkiah begat Azariah, and Azariah begat Seraiah, and Seraiah begat Johszadak."

Then he paused and looked over the leaf.

"Well, my friends," he said, "they begat one another right down to the end of the page and a lang way over on the ither side, so we'll jist leave them to it. Off w' ye to yer work."—Boston Transcript.

**Nature Always Fair**

How just is Nature in distributing her gifts. As a tribute to the gossamer skin she doles to the true blondes and the Titian blondes, she is greedy in the coloring pigment, for eyelashes and eyebrows. With the stirring, vivacious beauty of the Black-eyed-Susan type, she mingled a nice brownish skin, none too delicate perhaps, but which is far more resistant to sun and wind than that of the fairlike blondes. To the face that is not perfect in any sense, she adds the body silhouette of a beautiful siren. In each case, there is sure to be one feature, fact or figure that is nearly beautiful.—The Dance Magazine.

**First Maple Sirup**

Maple sugar making is an ancient art entirely confined to the North American continent. Before the advent of the white man, the Indian had learned to extract and concentrate the sap of the maple tree. On the approach of spring the trees were gashed with the tomahawk, and a wooden chip or spout inserted to direct the fluid drop by drop into a receptacle on the ground. The sap was caught in a birch bark dish and boiled in earthen kettles. The small quantity of dark, thick sirup thus made was the only sugar available to the Indians and is stated by early writers to have been highly prized.

**Few Left-Handed People**

From the meager information accessible on the subject it appears that primitive peoples are as predominantly right handed as civilized peoples. Any theory which seeks to explain the origin of right handedness must go back farther than civilization. According to the bureau of American ethnology, there are very few cases of left handedness among the present-day Indians. It is supposed by that authority that the Indians were predominantly right handed before their contact with Europeans.

**Royal Splendor That Once Dazzled Europe**

Europe was dazzled by a display of royal pomp unequalled in the history of pageantry, when Henry VIII met Francis I of France on the Field of the Cloth of Gold.

For his entertainment a temporary palace was built at Guines, near Calais, covering three acres. No fewer than 2,800 tents stood around it to house the knights and ladies of his splendid train. Their chapel had 35 priests to serve it and for the 20-odd days they were in France 2,200 sheep went to form one item of their menu.

There is a picture in Hampton court which will give you some idea of the splendor of the day. It shows the Great Harry, that giant ship, with her sails of damasked cloth of gold and four royal standards flying from her fore'st, sailing out of Dover harbor. Other ships, bearing Yeomen of the Guard, drummers, fifers and banner bearers, are making ready to follow, and the water is thronged with small boats full of spectators, one of whom is graphically represented in the act of being seasick.

The diplomatic results of this magnificent display of wealth and power, it is sad to read, were as near nothing as doesn't matter.

**Chairman Didn't Quite Get Idea of Lecture**

Being a Scot, and therefore a sentimentalist, I have always had an appreciative eye for good-looking women.

As a consequence of many wanderings I thought I could give a lecture about the ladies of many lands. I gathered a lot of pretty photographs—ladies walking in Hyde park, dusky maidens dancing in the South Sea islands, and that kind of thing—and wove a cheery lecture. "Sovereign Woman: Being the Impression of a Man in Thirty-eight Countries." It went well.

I delivered it in a Surrey residential town. My chairman, who had entertained me ardently at dinner, said the customary things a chairman is expected to say—information culled from "Who's Who"—and concluded by remarking, "Now I will call upon our lecturer to give you his experiences with 38 women in different countries!" The audience roared. I blushed. The chairman inquired in a loud whisper, "Have I said anything wrong?"—Sir John Foster Fraser in London Graphic.

**Disappointing**

The big house in the wood had been untenanted for years and was supposed to be haunted.

In despair the owner had the place re-decorated, fitted with electric light and every possible labor-saving device, and offered the whole concern at a very modest rental.

Later he happened to hear that a man had been shown over the house, and in great excitement he rang up the agent.

"Is it true some one's taken that house at last?" he asked.

The agent's voice was sad. "So far he's only taken the electric light fittings," he replied. "Perhaps he'll come back for the rest."

**Not Case of Attraction**

When two small objects are floating near each other in a basin of water why are they suddenly drawn together as if by a magnet? The bureau of standards says that the weight of the floating particles stretches the surface of the water, forming a dimple when the two particles come close enough; the two dimples coalesce into one, throwing the particles together. The action is due to surface tension, in virtue of which the surface is constantly striving to reduce its exposed area to a minimum.—Washington Star.

**Problem**

Last year I asked my best girl to marry me and she refused. I got even with her by marrying her mother. When my father married the girl. Now what am I to myself?

When I married the girl's mother the girl became my daughter and when my father married my daughter she became my mother. Who am I?

My mother's mother, who is my wife, must be my grandmother. Since I am my grandmother's husband, I am, therefore, my own grandfather.—Vancouver Province.

**Where the Shed Horns Go**

Why aren't the woods full of the horns which deer and moose shed every winter? The answer, according to a writer in Field and Stream, is that they are eaten by rodents. "Many," says the sport monthly, "have been found partly eaten which have the teeth marks of mice, chipmunks, squirrels, ground squirrels and porcupines. Horns disappear quickly after they are shed, as few are found in the woods."

**Versatile Publishers**

The Centralized, central publishing house of the Soviet republics, faces a big task in supplying books to the various small nations of Russia in their respective tongues. Most of the books are textbooks, printed to supply the demand of the newly liberated backward peoples for education and knowledge. Six fundamental alphabets are used to print the 42 dialects: Russian, Latin, Hebrew, Arabic, Gothic and East Gothic.

**First Door Knockers Utilized as Weapons**

The decorative quality of door knockers has been gaining in recognition and is now held in popular favor, says a writer in Your Home Magazine.

"Door knockers," reads Your Home, "were little known in the obscure reaches of ancient history, and their development from articles of mere utility to objects of art has covered centuries. The Greeks considered it a breach of etiquette to enter a house without warning the inmates. Spartans gave this notice by shouting their arrival, but the Athenians announced themselves by using the knocker, which introduction was doubtless made at the time when doors superseded hangings for purposes of greater privacy or safety. First it consisted of a rod-like piece of iron chained to the door, but unfriendly visitors sometimes wrenched it from the door and used it as a weapon of offense against the inmates. It was then that the form was changed to that of a heavy ring fastened by a strong clamp or plate to the door, thus serving the double purpose of knocker and handle. From Greece the custom was transmitted to the Romans and through their conquests to nearly every country of Europe. It was not long before they were very much elaborated, beveled, chased and designed in many variations, of which reproductions may be found for the door that would be interesting today."

**Guinea Fowl Resists Appeal of the Wild**

Guinea fowls have been domesticated all over the United States, comments a scientist of the United States Department of Agriculture, and have had plenty of opportunities to escape to the wild. They have shown little indication of desiring to do so, and this seems rather surprising, in view of the fact that they have done so in some of the islands of the West Indies. They were certainly introduced long ago into most of these islands and are now found in a wild state in Jamaica, Cuba, Porto Rico, Dominican Republic, and a few of the Lesser Antilles. Where the mongoose is present it preys extensively on guinea fowl and keeps their numbers much in check. On Barbuda, in the Lesser Antilles, which was made into a sort of game preserve more than 200 years ago, the birds still flourish. Wild guinea fowl have been directly introduced into the southeastern states in recent years, but the outcome of these experiments is not yet known.

**"Fifty-Four Forty"**

The phrase "Fifty-four forty or fight" is believed to have originated with William Allen, who was United States senator from Ohio in 1844, at the time of the controversy with Great Britain over the Oregon boundary. This slogan, which helped to elect Polk to the Presidency, meant that Great Britain must recognize as American soil the whole Pacific coast from the northern boundary of California to the southern limits of Russian Alaska, the line of latitude 54 degrees 40 min. north, or else the United States would declare war. The matter was settled by treaty in 1846, without war, by making the forty-ninth parallel the boundary line west to the island of Vancouver, which was given to Canada.

**His Occupation**

"I hear your son has taken up a profession, Mr. O'Casey," remarked the visitor.

"He has, indeed," rejoined the host. "He's phwat they call a 'cross-examiner.'"

This was too much for the stranger. "And phwat's a 'cross-examiner?'" he asked.

For a minute or two O'Casey was at a loss, but eventually he pulled himself together.

"Sure, it's a fellow who asks you questions, an' you answer the questions, an' then he questions the answers," he returned easily.—Montreal Family Herald.

**Bird's "Language"**

A scientist who has been making a study of the songs and noises made by birds, says that the African finch seems to have a vocabulary of about 300 words, and apparently an alphabet of 24 letters or symbols. Instead of singing when it opens its beak, it really makes a little speech of many words. Often the bird will use a word one day and not use it again for many weeks.

It wakes up at the same time every morning, and usually makes the same morning speech of about 20 words that lasts 14 seconds. Its daily schedule varies less from day to day than that of human beings.

**Juvenile Curiosity**

Little Margaret had been presented with a splendid toy with which she was never tired of playing; in fact, she played with it all day long.

"Margaret," remarked her mother, "how is it that you never play with any of your other toys?"

"Oh, let her play with it," protested the child's father, "as soon as the novelty wears off she'll stop."

A few minutes later mother noticed her little daughter examining the toy very closely, and asked what she was doing.

"Looking for the novelty that wears off," the little one replied.—Pearson's

**Ants Never Found at Loss in Finding Water**

In a thirsty land where, as sometimes happens in South Africa, a three-years' drought dries up every blade of grass, the white ants always have water. The reason has been found by M. Marais, a South African naturalist. The ants are water-finders and well-sinkers.

On a Transvaal farm while a man's well was being sunk the borers came upon a tiny two-inch shaft running into the earth. The ants had been there before them! They had sunk an ant well 65 feet deep to where water was to be found.

Up and down this shaft, night and day, water-carrying ants went, each bearing its drop of water. It took each ant half an hour to get down to the reservoir, draw its water, and bring it up to the nest. Then down again it went. There appeared to be night shifts and day shifts, and the night ants worked the hardest.

It may be true, as declared by M. Forel, the greatest living authority on ants, that they are creatures working almost wholly by instinct, and only to the extent of about 2 per cent by intelligent or reflective observation; but when it comes to water finding, their intuition makes them hard to beat.

**Insect Hunters**

Giant hunting grasshoppers nearly five inches long, that prey on small animals such as mice and the young of ground-nesting birds, are found in the Congo.

They rival the kangaroo as jumpers and can leap a considerable distance on to their prey. The hunting grasshopper is not so great a leaper in proportion to its size as the king grasshopper, the young of which, even before its wings are developed, can jump a hundred times its own length. Very few men can cover more than twice their own length in a jump.

The hunting grasshopper is the largest of all grasshoppers. Its great front lip hides a pair of jaws as effective as a hay-chopper, and its appetite makes it a plague to mankind.

**POPULAR ST. LOUIS GUEST LAVISHLY ENTERTAINED**

Miss Ruth V. Minor of St. Louis, Mo., who has been the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Earl L. Waldron, 2423 Maple street, for two weeks, returned home Saturday evening.

Miss Minor was royally entertained while here and left praising Omaha highly. Mrs. Waldron introduced Miss Minor with a beautiful pink tea.

The following social affairs were given in her honor:

Five theater parties, by Mrs. Rhedia Harold, Mrs. Wm. McAllister, Mrs. Jessica Wright, Mrs. Russell Reese and Mrs. D. E. Oliver.

Two breakfasts in the park, one by Mrs. Blanche Buford and Mrs. Bessie Peoples, another by Mrs. J. S. Turner and Mrs. Helen Mouton.

She was one of the honor guests at Mrs. A. L. Hawkins' beautiful whist party, Mrs. Oliver's and Mrs. Murphy's delightful garden party, and Mrs. Frank Blackwell's dinner party.

She was also an honor guest at Mrs. Theo. Thomas' bird party, the Domestic Science Bridge club's party and the Bridge club meeting at the home of Mrs. Edith Gray.

She was one of the guests invited at Mrs. H. Greenfield's, at the Trustees' Helpers club's picnic.

**LINCOLN NEWS NOTES**

Rev. W. C. Simmons of St. Louis spent several days in the city as the guest of Rev. and Mrs. H. W. Botts. Rev. Mr. Simmons preached for Rev. Mr. Botts' congregation Sunday.

Mrs. Kathryn Moore entertained friends at dinner Saturday in honor of Mrs. Alma Wiley of Plattsburg, Mo.

The Elks picnic at Lincoln park, Monday and Tuesday, was fairly well attended.

Mrs. Kathryn Moore, accompanied by her mother, Mrs. Alma Wiley, Miss Anna Johnson and Mr. Gray Wiley, motored to Omaha Sunday, returning Monday.

The Rt. Rev. Bishop John A. Gregg made his official visit to Quinn Chapel A. M. E. Church Sunday night.

Remember the M. W. Grand Lodge of Masons and O. E. S. Chapter convenes here next week, August 15, 16 and 17th.

W. W. MOSLEY.

**LEGION'S SECOND BOXING SHOW AUGUST 13, AT COLUMBIA HALL ARENA**

With the battle clouds hovering about the Columbia hall arena, and the enthusiasm of the "fight fans" raring in anxious expectation to be released, the Legion is completing extensive plans for launching their "Second Boxing Show" at Columbia hall, next Monday evening, August 13, at 8:30 p. m., offering to the

public the following high class card: Main event, Freddie Penn of Omaha, vs. Jackie Daniels of Fort Crook, Omaha. Eight rounds.

Semi-windup, Tuffy Langford of Omaha, vs. Rich Madlock of Omaha. Eight rounds.

Four sizzling hot four-round "perlims." Ringside seats, \$1.00; reserved seats, 75 cents; general admission, 50 cents.

Comrade Metz Manion is operating the "Legion Cigar Store" at post headquarters. This well equipped establishment carries a complete fresh line of popular brand cigars, cigarettes, tobaccos and candies. The Legion will appreciate your patronage.

Comrade Henry (Peaceful Henry) Brown was sent to the government hospital at Jefferson Barracks, Mo., last week, for medical treatment.

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