

MAGINE a great, fat slimy something poked out of the water into your face, quickly followed by another slim; something and then another and another: each endeavoring to secure an option on a different portion of your anatomy, and you have one of the various joys of fishing for the devil fish.

WILLARD W. GARRI

ican coast of the Gulf of Mexico there are lots and lots of men who eke out their livings doing just this thing. For the man who doesn't have to fish for the devil-fish, it's fun, but to the man or crews of men who do it for their daily bread; well, they content themselves with a single catch a day.

Aristotle of old is recorded in history as the first writer on the subject of devil-fishing, but as he was exceedingly fond of Mr. Aristotle's health he left lots unsaid because he didn't investigate.

Every Gulf of Mexico sailor who fishes for this creature carries a hatchet close by, for that is the only means of getting away from the fish's tentacles-simply cutting them off as they are about to grasp the intended victim.

In the gulf the devil-fish is harpooned and seldom after one of these great prongs has been imbedded in the body of the victim are the fishermen able to land their quarry within two hours. Usually it takes from three to four hours of good, hard muscle-grinding work and then lots of times the crew of the hunting craft must cut the cable and lose the harpoon simply because the brute fights too hard to allow the occupation to be carried on safely. It is little wonder that one fish a day of this variety is considered sufficient.

Many wild, weird tales are told of the devil-fish. One class of stories deals with the creature's addiction to towing ocean-going steamers out of their courses. So strong is the deepsea monster that captains of vessels have been known to wonder what was carrying them to windward, and



READY TO LAUNCH es THE MARPOON NO



upon investigation find that a devil-fish or cuttlefish was trying to bite off a corner of the rudder. Numerous cases of the fish attempting and suc-

ceeding in towing ten-ton sloops for miles have been recorded in the annals of the industry. The devil-fishers always are compelled to put up a hot fight against this animal of the sea. The intended quarry will pull them far out of their course after the first harpoon has stung his hide and it takes two and sometimes three of them before the catch can be brought close enough to the sloop to allow the gunner to place a shot in a

The fish must be continually worried or it will descend to the bottom to rest, in which case it usually takes the boat, crew and apparatus

A story is told of a boat crew which had not had a devil-fish strike for two days until finally the harpoon expert on the bowsprit imbedded his instrument of torture within the vitals of one of the monsters. The creature, of course, went through the formality of turning the water thereabouts into a delicate black, this being one of the traits of the species when attacked. This done the devil-fish started for home, which was the bottom of the gulf. The harpoon expert hated to iet go, on account of strikes being few and the boat, crew and harpuonist also began the descent in inky darkness. The craft being provided with air tanks at each end, the harpooned had some job on his hands, and when down in the sea about 20 feet, as near as the mariners could tigure, the eight-armed namesake of the American trust gingerly climbed into the boat with the men who were seeking his life-blood. It being dark the fishermen did not perceive his presence. Once more at the surface, however, and there was a miniature fire panic. Regaining his presence of mind, however, the harpoonist put an out drop on his second throw and put an end to the pranks of the fish. That tale has been called "just a fish story," but there are three deep sea fishermen to-day who vouch for the truth of a portion of it and they still ply that trade on the coast of the gulf. But now when the devil-fish stacts for home, they let him go.

The manta, as the creature is called by science, is to be found as far north on the Atlantic coast as the Carolinas and in those waters some of the largest of this class of sea creatures have been seen. One caught on the Atlantic coast several years ago required three yoke of oxen to drag it from the sea and its weight was estimated at four tons.

Usually the devil-fish measures from 20 to 25 feet across its back when full grown and one mariner on the Pacific coast reported that he had

fense, and thus the Almighty has endowed the species with more than the ordinary powers, for usually fish, beast or bird of the air has only one natural mode of protection. The cuttlefish. however, can cast from its tissues an inky substance known as "sepia," which turns the water in its vicinity an impenetrable black and

allows escape. Combined with this there is the set of eight tentacles. which possess grips of iron and are lined underneath with "suckers," which, when in working order, form a vacuum over the object grasped and thus insure a firm hold.

So firm is this grasp that story tellers of several decades ago were fond of dropping the treasure-hunting hero into the hold of the sunken galleon and there bump him up against the "terrible devil-fish which had thwarted all human wiles and for umpty hundred years been the guardian of the don's loot." The hero always won and captured the coin, being dragged to the surface unconscious.

There have been one or two cases where the cuttlefish has made its home within the cabins of sunken ships. In one case in particular off the northern coast of South America it is told that a devil-fish killed three divers who descended to lay plans for raising the ship. As each man was brought to the surface dead from a cause which none of his mates could guess, another was sent to take his place. Finally the trouble was suspected and the last man sent down gave explicit instructions about being brought to the surface upon the faintest tug at the guide line. After numerous trips up and back he succeeded in dislodging the creature by cutting off its arms one by one. Deprived of its arms, it fled and no further trouble was experienced.

Perhaps the most uncanny sight which ever befalls the devil-fish hunters is when, on a clear day, the denizens of the deep may be seen on the bottom walking along with the aid of their tentacles, which are used as feet. On land, it is recorded, this is a physical impossibility, for the fish, but buoyed up by the water of many fathoms, it's easy.

Though absolutely the most dangerous of creatures of the sea, it is said the devil-fish displays greater fear of human attack than any of the other species. The first move when assailed, is to try to grab the hunters with two or more of the long arms that stretch out as occasion demands. Failing in this the fish will attempt to get away under cover of the inky "sepia," but when caught with the harpoon and it finds there is no apparent escape the real tug of war commences and the struggles are never ended until the quarry ceases quivering in death. Then the cables which hold the harpoons are lashed to the stern of the craft and the sailors turn the vessel's nose towards home, the most welcome part

Study the habits and origin of the cuttlefish is one of the most interesting which any scientist ever attempted. The fish are propagated d one to be 40 feet, which eye measure by means of eggs. The tiny creature at first has The creature has two well defined plans of de- gradually divides into two and then into four of an Australian.

and after a year or so into eight small arms. These grow larger and stronger as the age of the fish increases. Some adult specimens have been caught, the tentacles of which were over 20 feet in length. Jets of water squirted by means of fins constitute the method of locomotion of the cuttlefish.

MARPOONED &

The devil-fish's choicest occupation is that of feeding upon shoals of smaller members of the finny tribe and when interrupted in this pursuit he effect is terrifying. The great creature will toss several of its tentacles to the surface, still continuing to feed with the rest of them; and if this bluff fails to scare the intruder away, the devil-fish will come to the surface personally to see about it.

While next to human beings, sharks are the greatest enemies of the cuttlefish, the scavengers of the sea are just about as frightened by the tentacled monsters as the latter are by the sharks. Mariners have

often told of the battles which they have seen in clear water between these warriors of the briny cashmere colors. Navy blue and black deep, but accounts telling of the victors are scarce. are always good and always popular. Along the coast of the Gulf of Mexico the sharks

show their delight at the plight of the devil-fish when caught by following in its bloody wake and with wide-open jaws, seeking a bite here or there from the carcass. At night along the coast they fight in the water for the opportunity to consume the dead devil-fish after the fishermen have finished with him.

All in all devil-fishing is the most thrilling, most hazardous, most entrancing method of angling which has ever been discovered, for the creature is doubtless the craftiest of the inhabitants of the tropical waters. And the man who goes after the scalp of the devil-fish while he is not armed with modern accoutrements is taking his own life in his hand. The plain hardware store hatchet with the short handle is declared to be the best weapon of defense in close quarters and dozens of lives have been saved simply because the parties attacked were equipped with hatchets and knew how, when and where to use them upon the anatomy of the cangerous fish.

UNCLE SAM SEEKS STAMP VENDER.

Will the time ever come when Uncle Sam can dispense with letter carriers? The increasing use of the automobile, the pneumatic tube and mechanical devices in the postal service would indicate that eventually some method of delivering mail will be found which will, in a large measure, do away with the present system of distribution.

The postoffice department has an annual appropriation which is used to experiment with mechanical devices, and every year the officials are called upon to investigate the practicability and utility of inventions. There have been hundreds of different styles of mail boxes submitted, and there is no end of devices designed for picking up mail bags by fast-moving express trains. There is no doubt, so experts say, that the stamp-fixing machine will come into general use, and they are equally certain that the government will adopt slot machines for the automatic sale of postage stamps, as Germany and numerous other foreign countries have. The department has made an official trial of such machines.

A little more than a year ago the postmaster general appointed a special committee of officials to make a thorough investigation of the stampvending machines. Washington is now having its extended public demonstration of these machines, and other cities also will have a chance to try them for a long period under the direct supervision of the postoffice authorities.

When the postmaster general decided to make experiments with stamp-selling machines, he invited all persons with inventive tendencies to submit models. He did not confine the invitation to America. The result was that some 75 machines were offered for experiment, and the postoffice committee had a long and tedious task in selecting those that appeared to be practical.

After much investigation the committee selected half-dozen machines for further test. To the owners or inventors of these six makes was given the opportunity to make public tests of the venders under the direction of the department, but at their own expense. Finally three different models were picked out for an extended public test at

government expense. ment, of course, is within the realm of possibility. only one tentacle, which, when it grows older, one a German machine and the other the invention

"Keep this pin when the flowers have faded as a souvenir of me and to a around the line of the yoke and a bias remind you also that it is the duty of band to form the belt. This makes all of us to look as well as we can at all times, and especially that it is the duty of women."

Wisdom from Uncle Eben.

TRIUMPH OF ART SGARF IS LIKED! DOLLAR WHEAT HAS New Gown the Mas- Many Wear Them So terpiece of the Poremost Parisian.

Zimmerman, who was the creator of It is practical, too, and just the thing an even more extended vogue. for afternoon visits, tens or any function where a pretty toilet is desired. and yet a wrap is a necessity. It can and will hang in graceful folds, such as charmeuse, liberty satin, crepe de nothing is more delightful to wear.

The model gown was of the latter. and in a color that is neither rose or mauve. It was cut like a princess robe, close fitting about the hips, and with some fulness around the bottom. Here it was finished with heavy cords of the same material, which gave weight to the skirt and took away the absolutely plain look. The lower part of the tightly fitted sleeves was of dull silver lace and so was the short high yoke. A little shoulder cape was fastened in front with an arrangement of cords, tassels and loops. An inchmatch edged the cape, and also the long sash ends which hung down over the skirt in the back. This sash was attached to the waist by some fine shirrings, giving the long line that is formed the trimming and the wrap or now the fashion

When worn indoors it is a charming gown, simple in style and with nothing about it to suggest that it might style and worn carelessly over the serve two purposes. When, however, it is to be worn out of doors the little cape suddenly becomes a wrap sufficiently ample to afford protection, and as coquettish as possible. It is all done by simply taking the sash ends and bringing them around over the arms and to the waist in front. Here they are knotted and the ends wrap extends to the waist, where it is becoming. held in place by shirring.

It is all cleverly contrived, for the wrap can be adjusted in a moment and without the slighest difficulty. There is no striving to see if one's garment is straight in the back, for it cannot possibly be anything else. The hooks which fasten it in front are of of these set together in artistic dethe kind that work themselves and sign. every fold falls into place with only one or two slight movements of the fingers. The astonishing part of the gown also is that there is not one unnecessary inch of material in it, nor a bit of fulness that could apparently be dispensed with.

Hints on Being Well Dressed.

The smartest colors for the early spring will be taupe, mole, smoke, vapor gray, sulphur, old gold, heliotrope, cinnamon brown, jade and the Sleeves should be made without lining; the present styles demand that the sleeve shall be as small as possible, so the general tendency is to dispense with linings wherever it is

possible to do so. Net the color of the dress material is an extremely smart trimming at present for yokes and sleeves. It can be used either plain or tucked. Its popularity for waists has not at all diminished.

Procrastination is the worst of faults in dress. It is the instinct of the good dressmaker and the well-dressed woman to be ever on the alert for something new. Don't be a "trailer" in adopting new fashions.-Daineator.

To wear with the pretty flowered organdle gown is the cabriolet hat of dainty laces and embroideries, and adorned with flowers of delicate

Wide as to Resemble a Mantle

There, is no gainsaying the popu the transformation gown of last win- larity of the scarf. With both day tor, is again to the fore with a similar and evening costumes it is a promi-costume for summer, which is, if any, thing, more fascinating than the first.

In the first place there is great variety. Scarfs are now shown in many different materials-in nets, embroidbe made in any material that is soft ered and plain, in chiffon, crepe, satin, cashmere de sole and lace. They are braided, embroidered, beaded, spanchine, or toile de ninon, than which gled, printed in design and orna mented with hammered metal work. Not only do they show increasing length and ornamentation but increas ing width also, says the Dry Goods

> Economist, some of them being so wide as to assume almost the form of a mantle. With day dress the scarf often matches the hat, and with evening costume may be of the same material as the dress. Both these points are

distinctly new and are indicative of

a far reaching vogue. Scarfs which match the dresses are made of chiffon, satin and cashmere wide trimming of loops and tassels to de soie. A notable instance of matching scarf with evening costume was seen in a debutante's toilet of pal-blue chiffon, with woven border of broad satin stripes. This border scarf was formed of a full width of the chiffon, showing the border on either side draped in bedouin cape

shoulders throughout the evening. Many of the new scarfs are fringe trimmed. Very beautiful are those made of the coarse mesh nets of both silk and metal trimmed with heavy fringes made from lacet braid. Many of the scarfs are draped in the bedouin cape style at the back, the point being weighted with a tassel. This draper? finished with balls, and cords are an gives a more graceful outline to the additional trimming. In the back the scarf when worn and makes it more

> Other novelty forms show the scarf shirred or plaited in the center back. where it is held in shape by a large ornament of rich embroidery. The increased favor shown the hammered metal scarf is very apparent. Entire evening mantles and coats are formed



The absurdly tall neck ruching is demode. White is not fashionable for street

costumes. Taffeta silk is regaining its one time popularity for gowns.

There is a fancy for laced fasten ings in the spring gloves. Cherry and poppy will be two of he favorite colors this season.

Usually when the suit is of a de

cided color a hat of some soft, vague tint is worn. The picturesque Charlotte Corday fichu is appearing on some of the sheer muslin gowns

Unusual, to say the least, is a wreath of prickly green burrs around

the crown of a straw hat. Serge is a good, practical material

for all-around wear. It wears well and has a decided style of its own. A pretty opera bag is of pink satin with a gold cord, and decorations of hand-painted wreaths in dainty Louis colorings.

The Josephine gown is very beautiful for evening wear. It is usually fashioned of some gorgeous, glittering spangled net or chiffon, over satin.

Two Pretty Hats



A becoming hat in taffetas "prune." lined with black satin. Cluster of tier," with shaded pink roses and a roses "prune."

"Cabriolet" of taffetas "bleu natlong scarf of chiffon "bleu nattier."

Simple Frocks for Summer Wear, Says Fashion, and the Edict Is Well Liked.

This year the girl of moderate means has ample opportunity to look her best at the least possible cost, for she may indulge in frocks of cheapest gingham, made very simply. These summer wear, and if they are made up with an eye to utility as well as to line, she will find that at all times she is among the best of well-dressed people. The beauty of the fashion is that one may wear the plainest sort all trimming unnecessary, and, as the yoke itself is made of some tucked batiste, you will see at a glance that the dress will be very inexpensive. It is not essential that the dress be and fasten at the side of the dress, made in one piece-neither the prin- then extend to the hem, are among cess nor the empire style. The shirt- the latest consignments of attractive will be very effective for the business wear with directoire costumes.

GINGHAM IS POPULAR FABRIC girl, and this is far easier to make frock. The wise girl will choose several ginghams of more or less dark color, and, if possible, each dress will be made to open down the front, so that when it is sent to the laundry

The First Teeth.

it may be easily ironed.

when the little one begins to eat something besides milk he should have cereals which are rich in the bone making elements.

A tiny tooth brush, soft and pliant, should be used by the small child, and of gowns with a bias band of the same the least decay should be sufficient reason for calling upon the dentist. To lose one of the first teeth prematurely is a pity.

Lace Shoulder Pieces.

Lace pieces that cross the shoulder

COME TO STAY

IN LESS THAN FIVE YEARS CEN-TRAL CANADA WILL BE CALLED UPON TO SUPPLY THE UNITED STATES

A couple of years ago, when the an ent was made in those col umas that "dollar wheat" had come to stay, and that the time was not far distant when the central provinces of Canada-Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta-would be called upon to supply a large part of the wheat con sumption in the United States, there were many who laughed at the predictions and ridiculed the idea of wheat reaching the dollar point and staying there. Both of these predictions have come to pass. Dollar wheat is hereand it is not only here, but is here to stay; and at the same time, whatever unpleasant sensations it may arouse in the super-sensitive American Central Canada is already being called upon to help keep up the bread supply, and within the next five years will, as James J. Hill says, literally "become the bread-basket of our increasing millions."

There are few men in the United States better acquainted with the wheat situation than Mr. Hill, and there are few men, if any, who are inclined to be more conservative in their expressed views. Yet it was this greatest of the world's railroad men who said a few days ago that "the price of wheat will never be substantially lower than it is today"-and when it is taken into consideration that at that time wheat had soared to \$1.20, well above the dollar mark, the statement is peculiarly significant. and doubly significant is the fact that in this country the population is increased at the ratio of 65 per cent... while the yield of wheat and other products is increasing at the rate of only 25 per cent. For several years past the cost of living has been steadily increasing in the United States, and this wide difference in production and consumption is the reason.

This difference must be supplied by the vast and fertile grain regions of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta. There is now absolutely no doubt of this. Even the press of the country concedes the fact. Results have shown that no other country in the world can ever hope to equal those provinces as wheat producers, and that no other country can produce as hard or as good wheat. Said a great grain man recently, "If United States wheat mainwill be well above a dollar a bushel. for in every way it is superior to our home-grown grain."

With these facts steadily impinging

their truth upon our rapidly growing

population, it is interesting to note just what possibilities as a "wheat grower" our Northern neighbor possesses. While the United States will never surrender her prestige in any manufacturing or commercial line, she must very soon acknowledge, and with as much grace as she can, that she is bound to be beaten as a grain producer. It must be conceded that a great deal of the actual truth about the richness of Canada's grain producing area has been "kept out of sight." as Mr. Hill says, by the strenuous efforts of our newspapers and magazines to stem the exodus of our best American farmers into those regions. It is a fact that up to the present time, although Canada has already achieved the front rank in the world's grain producers, the fertile prairies of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta have as yet scarcely been scratched. Millions of acres, free for the taking, still await our American farmers; and when these millions are gone there are other millions in regions not yet opened up to immigration. A few years ago the writer, who has been through those wheat provinces several times, laughed with otners of our people at the broad statement that Canada was bound to become "John Pull's Bread Basket." Now, after a last trip (and though he is a stanch American) he frankly believes that not only will Canada become John Buli's bread-basket, but it will within the next decade at least BECOME THE BREAD-BASKET OF THE UNITED STATES. Perhaps this may be a hard truth for Americans to swallow, but it is a truth, nevertheless. And it is at least a partial compensation to know that hundreds of thousands of our farmers are profiting by the fact by becoming producers in this new country.

urally made the most of the brief period of depression which swept over Canada, but now there is not a sign of it left from Winnipeg to the coast. Never have the three great wheat raising provinces been more prosperous. Capital is coming into the country from all quarters, taking the form of cash for investment, industrial concerns seeking locations, and, best of all, substantial and sturdy immigrants come to help populate the prairies. Towns are booming; scores of new elevators are springing up; railroads are sending out their branch lines in all directions: thousands of prosperous farmers are leaving their prairie shelters for new and modern homes-"built by wheat:" everywhere is a growing happiness and contentmenthappiness and contentment built by wheat-the "dollar wheat," which has come to stay. Notwithstanding this, the Canadian Government is still giving away its homesteads and selling The first teeth have a considerable pre-emptions at \$3.00 an acre, and the effect on the second; and, therefore, Railway and Land Companies are disposing of their lands at what may be considered nominal figures.

The papers of this country have nat-

What Did He Mean? Miss Bore-Do you ever think of me

when you are driving your car? Auto Enthusiast-Why, certaintlyespecially when I run over somebody. -Harvard Lampoon.

Kill the Flies Now before they multiply. A DAISY FLY KILLER kills thousands. Lasts the sea-son. Ask your dealer, or send 29c to H. Somers, 149 De Kalb Ave., Brooklyn, N. Y.

If thy friends agree in calling thee waist suit with the belt of the material dress ornaments. They are woven to an ass, go and get a halter around

GIFT OF CHINESE EMPRESS

Miss Carl, Portrait Painter, Has an Interesting Jewel Presented

by Tsi Ann. Miss Katherine Cart, the portrait

It was while Miss Carl was living at worn in the Chinese fashior, with the the palace for the purpose of painting leaves all removed and a long pin the empress' portrait that the incident thrust through rows of blossoms, occurred. On one occasion when Miss | which were packed tightly together on Carl appeared before her the empress the pin. The head of the pin has a was not satisfied with the unrelieved branch of coral, with a setting of two painter, has an interesting jewel, pre- gray of the painter's gown. Sending large pearls. sented to her by the empress of China, for flowers from the garden she tried | When the empress had tried this which reveals Tsi Ann, even amid her them against the gray gown, but as flower strung pin against Miss Carl's Eben, "is like neglectin' de flowers

Finally she drew from her own hair thrusting it fato Miss Carl's hair, she the floral decoration which she herself said: wore. This was of jasmine blossoms,

cares of state, as a remarkable enthu-siast for the minor harmonies of life. combination did not please her. hair and gown she was pleased with the note of color it afforded, and, tendin de weeds."

"Nursin' a grouch," said Uncle