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Fish Might Be Called "Rattler" of the Sea

The weaver fish, or sting bull, is a good fish to stay away from. It carries a five-pointed fin heavily charged with venom, situated immediately behind the head. On each gill plate it carries a poisoned dagger half an inch long, which it is able to send out at right angles to the body. A sting from these fins is most painful, and the flesh surrounding the puncture at once assumes a dark purple color, while the limb swells to an alarming extent. The sting bull dines on the young fry of other fish, and it only feeds when the sea is shining. In dull weather it burrows into the sand, completely covering the body, with the exception of the five-pointed fin on the back. It is good eating. But care is required to see that the head has been properly taken off. In Spain there is a heavy penalty for offering the fish for sale without removing the spines. The fish is to be found in the Mediterranean.

Few Advances Made in Perfumer's Art

Queen Elizabeth, like all other queens and royal ladies, not only applied delicate perfumes to her clothing and body, but wore cloaks and shoes of perfumed leather.

Since the days when a favored Italian perfumer went to Paris and opened his royal shop, a pioneer in a delicate art which has since grown into a refined industry dealing with the mysteries and fragrant powder of pleasing odors, the fundamentals of perfuming have not undergone radical change, says the Detroit News.

Even though extensive flower farms have been established, single scents superseded largely by bouquets and chemical knowledge added to the skill of the natural-born perfumer, the process of making the sweet-scented odors, particularly those of unexcelled quality, remains now much as then.

Deadly Weapon

A kindergarten teacher permits her charges to spend the first half hour of the day in any game that they wish to play. Recently one of them appeared with a toy pistol and the play period turned into a Wild West fight. When it was ended more than half of the pupils were lying on the floor, victims of the young desperado's aim, who shouted "Bang, you're shot." All was well until the teacher tried to call the children to order. Those that were shot refused to admit that they were alive. The situation could only be ended when the gun was confiscated and the "dead ones" paddled into realizing that they were much alive as far as feelings went.—Detroit News.

Everybody Pleased

At the intermission a supercilious young man occupying an expensive seat at grand opera reached for his glossy silk tie. This he placed on his chair while he stood and surveyed the house. It was evident he wanted everybody to see that he was occupying an expensive seat. The orchestra tuning up sooner than he had expected, he decided that he couldn't go out after all. Then he sat on his glossy hat. For those around him it was the happiest episode of the evening.—Louisville Courier-Journal.

Nazarites

Among the Israelites the name Nazarites was given to such persons as consecrated themselves to the service of Jehovah, in accordance with a peculiar vow prescribed in Numbers 6. They abstained from the use of wine, refrained from shaving their heads, and avoided the defilement resulting from contact with the dead. The usual period of the Nazarite vow was 30 days, although Samson, Samuel and John the Baptist are mentioned in the Bible as "Nazarites for life."

Preserved by Burning

A flame-throwing device which was designed by Germany and used during the war is now being successfully utilized in New York state as a means of protecting electric light and telephone poles from decay in the earth. The pole before being set up is treated with the flame thrower until a charcoal surface is formed. Creosote, which hitherto has been used alone, is then applied. This system of treating the poles, it is stated, lengthens their lives considerably.—London Answers.

Few Wives Willing to Give Husbands Credit

"I was lately talking to an intelligent woman I have known many years. (She didn't have a very good start, as her father was somewhat tough and did all he could to disgrace the family.) 'You have made a success of your life,' I said to her. And then she said a very surprising thing; in my entire acquaintance with women I have heard nothing equally surprising," says E. W. Howe in his monthly magazine.

"My husband is entitled to the credit," she replied. "He is an intelligent, steady, fair man and has done a great deal for me. When we were first married he was so kind and indulgent that I rather lost my head. I forgot that marriage is a reciprocal contract and imposed on him a little. He soon rebelled and gave me a good talking to and it cured me."

"... There are thousands of such husbands, but never before has one had proper credit from his wife, so far as I know."

Astronomers of Stone Age No Mere Guessers

Recent discoveries of what are held to be Stone age observatories on a site only a few miles from Glasgow demonstrate, according to Ludovic McL. Mann, who made the discoveries, that the prehistoric men of that time were able to predict as accurately as the astronomers of today the occurrence of the more important solar and lunar phenomena such as eclipses.

Patient research has shown that tunnel systems embody the means whereby the ancients recorded their knowledge of the movements of sun, moon and of the five planets known to them—Venus, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn and Mercury—and that by means of this data carved in the living rock they were able to predict the incident of various astronomical phenomena.

Tombs of Pharaohs

The Egyptian department of the Metropolitan museum says the tomb of Smenkhkara (it is not certain that this is the correct reading of his name) has been discovered. Thirteen fifty-eight B. C. is a better date for him than 1300 B. C. He was not a great pharaoh, nor was Tut-Ankh-Amen. It is true that the tombs of all the great pharaohs are now known, but they were all plundered in antiquity, and there is a considerable number of pharaohs, perhaps several dozen, whose tombs have never been found. We do not even know with certainty the names of some of them and those who had very short reigns in troublous times may never have had tombs.

Couldn't Stand for It

Victor Alessandro, bandmaster for the school board, met an acquaintance the other day, also a bandmaster, who was bemoaning the loss of a tuba player.

"Yes, sir," affirmed the friend sadly, "that fellow was probably the best performer on the tuba that ever struck these parts. I certainly did hate to have to fire him."

"What made you do it, then?" asked Mr. Alessandro.

"Well," replied the dolorous one, "he just would bring his lunch to work in the bell of his horn, and it looked so bad."—Houston Post.

Father's Name for It

Two little sisters were sitting on the floor near their mother, who was sewing. The elder of the two was telling her sister what the pictures were in a book at which they were looking. When they came to the picture of a kid, the elder sister was puzzled and said: "What is this a picture of, mamma?"

"That," said the mother, "is what your papa calls you girls sometimes." The little girl looked thoughtful for a moment, then exclaimed, "Oh, I know, it's a brat."—Rochester Democrat.

Two-Thirds Rule

The two-thirds rule may be regarded as American in its origin and grew out of the jealous vigilance with which the smaller communities included in the Union of states sought to safeguard their political rights. The Constitution, for example, in providing a two-thirds vote of the senate for conviction in impeachment cases secures to a minority of the states as represented in the senate the power to decide the result.

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