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GIANT SPECIES OF CENTIPEDE
Reptiles Found in Trinidad Secrete a Poison Which Enables Them to Paralyze Their Prey.

Trinidad centipedes have been presented to the London zoo, an exchange says. They are more than a foot long, and at the broadest part nearly half an inch across. They are dark brown, with rings on the long feelers and on the legs, a pair of which projects from each flattened segment of the body. These tropical centipedes live in shady places, hidden under bark, stones, or dead leaves, moving chiefly at night. They run quickly and can climb vertical surfaces if there is any foothold for their claws. They are entirely carnivorous, living on insects, grubs, small birds or mammals, which they kill with their venom.

It has been shown that the whole of the body of these centipedes secretes a volatile venom, so that even the wounds made by the sharp claws are extremely painful. The under surface of the head carries a formidable pair of poison fangs, the venom of which escapes by a pore in the claw, being formed by large glands at the base of the claws. The venom is an acid opalescent liquid, hardly miscible with water. When injected into the veins of rabbits it produces instantaneous paralysis, with coagulation of the blood; when injected under the skin enormous abscesses are rapidly formed. The bite is very painful to human beings, but has not been known to be fatal, although it causes insomnia, local swelling and occasionally ulcers.

GREAT DAY AMONG SEMINOLES
Florida Indians Made Holiday of Occasion When Whole Tribe Turned Out to Shoot Fish.

In the old days before statehood, fishing was a great holiday with the Seminoles in Florida. A chief Bahama was selected. He appointed the various committees looking towards the fishing; some to gather the "devil's shoestring," some to do the shooting and some to beat the boat after it was tied in bundles.

The "devil's shoestring" grow in abundance in the sand hills of Seminole county. The Seminoles dug down deep into the sand until they could get a firm hold on the root and then pulled until it came forth. These roots were then tied into bundles of 12 or more, according to the size of the water stream. A board or log was then erected in the pool and the shoestring beaten with little mallets. It gave off a milky kind of coloring into the water and when this had thoroughly permeated the stream, the fish became intoxicated and would jump out of the water or skim along on their sides.

The shooters would then begin their work with the bow and arrow, and as the larger fish came to the surface they would shoot them with arrows and the younger Indians would pick them out of the stream.

When Chance Befriended.
Inventors have gone a long way towards producing to order whatever man and his industries require. But invention is not yet an exact science and never is likely to be. Artisans and experimenters continue to stumble upon useful discoveries. So with Roentgen's X-ray fame. While working over his vacuum tubes he was unexpectedly called out of the room. He left a bulb still glowing on the book he had been reading, and in the book was a large, antique key used as a bookmark, while beneath the volume there happened to be a photographic plateholder he had ready for an outing that afternoon. When developing some plates later, there upon one of them he found the shadow of the key. He sought an explanation of the curious phenomenon by replacing the "properties" and energizing the tube as before. There was the shadow again on the plate. The X-ray was found.

Queen Ants and Bees.
It has been contended that the queen ant has not had justice done to her by naturalists. As compared with the famous queen bee, she is regarded by some as a far more admirable creature. In fact, they are, in many respects, diametrical opposites. The queen bee is a degenerate creature, unable to nourish either herself or her young, to visit flowers, to build combs, or to store them with honey. With the queen ant quite the reverse is true. She is a perfect example and embodiment of her species and the worker ants suffer from incomplete and retarded development. The queen ant is a very industrious and intelligent worker and it is pointed out that she forms an exceedingly interesting subject for study, and has not hitherto been well understood.

End of Cromagnon Age.
About 15,000 years ago the Cromagnon age in Europe came to an abrupt end. There developed a sudden mildness to the climate, accompanied by cool rains. Heavy forests sprang up on what had been the open grass lands of wild reindeer, wild horses, and wild bison. Glaciers pulled back up their Alpine slopes; the ice fields that were over what is now Norway and Sweden melted away. The Pleistocene age was over and the modern era was at hand. Cromagnon people all but vanished from western Europe; Cromagnon art was no more. Whether these wild chestnut-haired hunters followed the ice into what is now Russia, or whether they became extinct, no one knows. Certain it is their former lands were deserted when the next race of man appeared.

EYE AFFECTS WHOLE BODY
Why Routine Examination of School Children is Imperative is Explained by Authority.

Dr. de Schweinitz, in Hygeia, first points out that only about 4 per cent of eyes are entirely normal according to optical standards. At birth nearly all eyes are far-sighted. Near-sighted eyes most commonly make their appearance from the sixth to the tenth year of life, that is to say especially during school years. Such errors when marked give rise to eyestrain or "weak eyes." While it is true that few eyes are absolutely normal, many approach it so closely that for all practical purposes they may be considered normal. They do not give rise to discomfort, and correcting glasses are not required, at least, in younger years. But it must be realized further that good vision and painless eyes do not necessarily exclude eyestrain; and eyestrain may cause headache, pains in various parts of the body, twitching of the face, night terrors, nervousness, indigestion, and many other symptoms. The need for the routine examination of the eyes of school children is therefore clear, and the possible effects of failure to recognize the fact of eye trouble are pointed out. These effects are not limited to the eye itself. "The eye is not confined, as it were, to a little area of its own, subject to diseases and defects unconnected with the rest of the body. Quite the contrary. It is most intimate in its relations to the rest of the body." "The problems which surround it, whether they relate to optical faults or to disease, are medical problems, and must be solved with this fact always in view."

SELF-PITY SHOWS WEAKNESS
Can Properly Be Set Down Not Only as a Bad Habit, but a Poisonous One.

Have you among your friends or acquaintances any men or women who are always plying themselves? If so, you can set them down as weaklings. Self-pity is self-destruction. Self-pity saps one's self-reliance. Self-pity breeds despair. The strong don't indulge in self-pity. They are too busy thinking and working and talking constructively. They are intent on attaining some object, some goal. They are so engrossed in practicing self-help that they have no time to waste on self-pity.

Self-pity is not only a bad habit; it is a poisonous habit. It hurts self and it disgusts others. The person who is chronically full of self-pity hasn't in him the spirit of self-sacrifice, and without self-sacrifice no human being can qualify to go far or rise far. Self-pity reveals a lack of self-discipline. We all encounter difficulties and discouragements; we all have ambitions thwarted. But we do not let discouragements discourage; we do not give up because balked and thwarted time and again; we do not wear our occasional streaks of pessimism on our sleeve or on our countenance. We keep a stiff upper lip. We wrestle on. And we smile on. We don't become cry babies. We may inwardly wince, but we don't flinch. We don't pour tales of woe into the ears of others—we know they have troubles enough of their own.

We refuse to be cowards. We refuse to wear the white feather. We strive to be men. We become men. We are men.—Forbes Magazine.

Clerk's One-Cylinder Mind.
"I usually know what I want and when I do I ask for it explicitly," said the Man Who Grumbles. "Yesterday I entered a paint store and to the clerk who offered to wait on me I said: 'I want a quart of white paint, best quality, for wood to be used outside.'"

"The clerk seemed puzzled. He studied a moment and asked: 'How much do you want?' I told him. He seemed satisfied and after a brief pause asked: 'Interior or outside?' I again supplied the information. He made no objection but still sought information. 'Going to use it on wood?' he suggested. I assured him that I intended to smear it on my window frames and they are of wood.

"I thought the transaction was about to be closed, but the clerk was still in doubt on one point. 'What color?' he asked cheerfully. I satisfied his curiosity and he got the paint for me. Stupid? Not a bit. He simply had a one-cylinder mind. I had supplied too many facts for him to assimilate at once."—New York Sun.

Sociability an Asset.
A political candidate, on paying a second visit to the house of a doubtful voter of the agricultural class, was very pleased but somewhat surprised on hearing from the elector that he would support him.

"Glad to hear it," said the candidate. "I thought you were against me."

"I was at first," said the other. "The other day when you called here and stood by that pig sty and talked for half an hour you didn't budge me an inch."

"But after you had gone away, sir, I got to thinking how you'd reached your hand over the rail and scratched the pig's back until he lay down with the pleasure of it. I made up my mind then that when a man was so sociable as that with a poor fellow creature I wasn't the man to vote against him."—Harper's Magazine.

Chemistry Examination.
Professor—What is As₂O₃?
Student—I—I—it's right on my tongue.
Professor (alarmed)—Spit it out; spit it out; it's arsenic.

DISEASE CAME FROM EUROPE
No Record Of, or Name For, Malaria, Has Been Found Among the American Indians.

The slow diseases which sap vitality do not have spectacular records, but in the long run the damage which they do is incalculably greater than that of epidemics, writes Herbert J. Spinden in the World's Work. Malaria, for instance, is a greater obstacle today to the development of the tropics than yellow fever ever was, although the latter could accomplish much at one fell swoop. For one thing the effects of malaria reach around the globe and into nearly all its habitable parts.

The three kinds of malaria are described by the Greek physician Hippocrates and the names which we use today are of Roman origin. The two-day fever is called tertian, or third, because the Romans counted both ends of any numerical sequence, and the three-day fever is called quartan, which means fourth. There is no good evidence that malaria existed in America before the discovery. We do not find terms for it in American Indian language nor do we find any records that the early explorers in Central and South America suffered from this disease. For instance Cortes led an army across the base of the peninsula of Yucatan, through a region of swamps and flooded streams where today malaria is rife in every village, yet we find no mention of this illness among any of his troops or Indian burden bearers.

CAN GO LONG WITHOUT FOOD
Healthy Human Being, Drinking Plenty of Water, Will Survive Fast of Forty Days.

Some weeks ago a pig disappeared from its sty on a Cornish farm. Search was made, but the creature could not be found, and was given up for lost.

Twenty-four days later a man passing an old mine shaft heard something below, and made a search. There was poor piggy, some thirty feet down, quite unhurt, and it was speedily got out.

It was thin, but otherwise not a bit the worse, and at once started feeding ravenously, says London Answers.

It takes a long time to starve a fat pig, which can actually lose half its weight before it dies. Most full-grown animals can go without food for a long time, and can lose as much as two-fifths of their weight before succumbing. An exception is the mole, which, when deprived of food, starves to death in less than 48 hours.

A healthy human being can fast 40 days if he or she takes plenty of water. A case is on record of a woman going 43 days without food, during which time her weight decreased from 143 to 99 pounds.

Children cannot fast for long without fatal consequences. They collapse after a fast of three to five days, and lose a quarter of their weight.

Snakes, of course, are the champion fasters. The big python in the zoo recently went more than two years without a meal.

How to Get Used to Noises.
"What I like about the neighborhood," insisted the enthusiastic resident of Brooklyn Heights, "is the quiet. No trolleys, no elevated roar, no heavy trucks thundering through our streets, no sound from the subway. Why, I think—"

"Just a minute," objected his friend from across the bridge. "You live so near the harbor that your back door is virtually a dock, and yet you have the nerve to tell me that yours is a quiet neighborhood. What about the tugs and harbor craft that go tooting up and down the bay all night?"

"Well," admitted the Brooklynite, "I do remember hearing a toot or two the first few nights I lived there. But I never hear 'em now."

"Exactly," said the Manhattan man. "Just what I thought. Used to 'em now. That's just the way the elevated and the two-ton trucks affect me now. Any neighborhood's quiet if you live there long enough."—New York Sun.

A Quack Quacks.
A quack cure for the evils of reckless driving is offered by a psychologist, who says the slow, nervous driver who has in his mind or his subconsciousness the vision of a wreck is the one who goes headlong into a crash. "Instead of a vision of the accident and how it happens the driver must have a clear vision of how to drive correctly" in critical situations.

Every seventeen-year-old driver of a light delivery truck proceeds with perfect self-confidence, proceeding in many cases without regard to the rights of other drivers, feeling that the impressive displacement of his vehicle in the atmosphere ahead of the driver of a passenger vehicle will warn that driver not to stand up for his rights, has a clear vision of how to drive. He sees himself hogging the road and getting away with it.—Louisville Courier-Journal.

True Sacrificial Spirit.
Dad was having one of his economical fits. Blue-belle received a solemn caution to cut down on expenses. Dad pointed out a number of things the government was taxing and declared that more would be added to the list. He said he had even heard it rumored that the authorities were contemplating slapping a tax on bridge games.

The girl was not greatly disturbed. "All right," chirped Blue-belle. "I'm willing to play bridge all day long for my country."

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