

DO FISHES HAVE A MEMORY?

The Fishes Psychological Researches of a German Professor. Professor Ludwig Edinger of Frankfurt-on-the-Main is collecting information on this point and writes to us as follows: "Have fish a memory? A request for information. There is a general opinion that fish have some sort of memory; that they can recognize people, know how to find or avoid places where they have had formerly some experience; that fish which have once escaped the rod know the bait, etc. It is highly desirable that all experience of this kind should be collected in the interest of comparative psychology. The reason is that till now we believed the function of memory to depend on the action of the brain cortex. All experience in man and in the higher animals has led to that conclusion. During the last years it has been proved that fish have no brain cortex at all. They are the only existing vertebrates without a brain cortex. Now, if we could prove beyond the possibility of doubt that fish really have a memory, that they gain experience and can make use of it, then we should have to give up the till now general opinion that memory has its seat in the brain cortex. Therefore it is extremely important to have an entirely new set of experiences." Professor Edinger then asks all anglers and naturalists to communicate to him any experiences they may have had, requesting them particularly to take nothing for granted, as the smallest observation may prove of the greatest importance. Here, then, is a splendid chance for anglers to tell their pet tales and to throw light on this interesting question. Many incidents which commonly occur to anglers would decidedly go against the theory that fish have memories. Thus a fish which has had a fly broken in its mouth will often immediately take another, and on being captured the broken one may be found still sticking in his mouth, and then it is well known to fishermen that a pike which escapes while it is being played will often again ferociously seize the bait if it be at once temptingly offered him. Such well known facts as these do not at first sight point to any highly developed powers of reasoning in the fish, but before drawing any conclusions from them another factor—that of sensibility—must also be taken into consideration. It is highly probable that a fish hooked with a small fly hook in a gristly part of the jaw feels little or no pain, and therefore, if the hook immediately breaks, the fish possibly looks upon it as a very slight inconvenience which in no wise need hinder him from continuing his meal. A fish's brain is a very small mass compared with the weight of the body, and is also small in comparison to the spinal cord. We have no doubt that Professor Edinger will receive many interesting communications from people who are in the habit of studying the habits of fish carefully, and it is to be hoped that some reliable conclusions will be drawn from them.—London Lancet.

SIGNBOARDS.

There must be considerable vitality in a custom which has survived for 3,000 years. As far back as the beginning of the Christian era symbolic signs were adopted in Rome and other Italian cities, for, when the art of reading was by no means general, an emblem above a booth was a much better advertisement than a name. Thus discoveries at Pompeii have revealed bas-reliefs of a mule in a stable, and of a goat on the front of a dairy, while a shoemaker of olden time made an artistic bid for custom by a floating cupid with one hand gayly balanced a half boot on this curly pole and with the other waved its fellow in the air. Two slaves supporting an amphora on a pole across their shoulders delightfully indicated the mart of a wine merchant. The picturesque square, swinging signboard was the outgrowth of the symbol developed by civilization, and this flourished in its greatest glory during the middle ages of merry England, when hall and hostelry alike were made interesting and beautiful by carving, forging and limning, and crests and armorial bearings were the natural fruit of the days of feudalism. At first these, for the most part, bore heraldic and emblematic devices of animals, birds, fish and flowers or figures of a religious character, as saints and martyrs, and sometimes, among mechanics, the tools of the artisan. In the days of the commonwealth we can imagine Fraise God Barones and his cronies quaffing their daily tankards of ale at the inn places named God Encompasseth Us or at the sign of the Alpha Beta. Yet it was not long ere both of these had fallen from their high estate, the one being known far and wide as the Goat and the Compasses, with a prancing beast and mathematical instrument conscientiously depicted on the signboard, and the other as the alphabet, with all the letters from A to Z printed above the door. An exceedingly popular hostelry at a point from which several mail-coaches formerly started was originally named Boulogne Mouth, in honor of a British victory gained at the mouth of Boulogne harbor in the reign of Henry VIII, but the waterscape or battle scene having after awhile become effaced by time and weather from the signboard some stupid Boniface thought he was doing the proper thing when he had painted an enormous mouth with a jooose little bull beneath. From that day on the place figured as the Bull's Mouth. The time was when artists of note scorned not to try their pretence hand at the painting of signs, and many a Royal academican gave the public a lion or a unicorn, a magpie or a cockatrice, the last fabulous animal, supposed to have been hatched from a cock's egg by a toad, being for some unknown reason quite a favorite and represented as a serpent with a rooster's head. Among these painters were Charles Catton, one of the original Royal academicians; Samuel Wale, who delighted in figures of Falstaff and other Shakespearean characters; Hogarth and Richard Wilson.—Lippincott's.

A WHEEL SONG.

Oh, the ship has made for the swirling wind, The salmon flies in the wake of the wind, In the speed of the wheel of the Redoubt head The most long high to the hooch's head As the loaves are left behind! But what care I For the birds that fly Or all the vessels that sail the sea? For the wheel that blows Till the waves break low. Or the birds of Araby? For with I more for the wings of fire, The feet foot one of the fabled owl, For the whirled rod of the messenger god Or the winged sandals wherein he trod In the happy days of gold. Let poets mourn For the days of old, But these glad mornings are still divine, Those flying feet, Were they half so fleet As the speed that springs from mine! Then, ho, for the wheel, with its strength of steel, Yet blessed buoyancy of airy born things, And the rush of the near and crystalline clear Sweet breath of the manner that sings in the air. Like harps of a thousand strings! But what care I In the joy to me To breast the breeze and whirl about, To skim the ground Till the heart bursts in song, And the heart bursts in song. —New York Ledger.

VENTES A L'ENCOIN.

PAR HARRY H. HODGSON. ANNONCE JUDICIAIRE. VENTE EN PARTAGE. Dans l'affaire de Louise Gehlbach, exécutrice testamentaire, vs Pauline Gehlbach et als., Dossier No 52,126. Propriété Améliorée. —DANS LES— Second et Troisième Districts. Sur la rue de l'Espérance, le Chemin de Bayes, la rue N. Johnson et l'ave. St Roch.

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VENTES A L'ENCOIN.

PAR GALLAGHER, SPITZPADDEN ET LESSEPS. ANNONCE JUDICIAIRE. Magnifique Résidence Simple en Bois. No 813 Champs-Élysées. Mercredi, 21 avril 1897.

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PAR LOUIS A. RICHARDS & CIE. ANNONCE JUDICIAIRE. VENTE EN PARTAGE. Mardi, 27 Avril. No 818 rue N. Galvez. Nos 1120 et 1122 rue Villere.

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ANNONCES JUDICIAIRES.

VENTE D'UN INTÉRÊT DANS DES PROPRIÉTÉS DE VALEUR. Frank F. Wigginton vs Linus F. Fowler, COUR CIVILE DE DISTRICT POUR LA PAROISSE D'ORLÉANS. No 52,126. VENTE EN PARTAGE. Mardi, 27 Avril. No 818 rue N. Galvez. Nos 1120 et 1122 rue Villere.

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TESTING A TRAVELER.

When an English diplomatist of note was traveling in Serbia some years ago, he was entertained at a small town by a number of the local magnates. The people of Serbia are not much given to traveling, and their ideas of England and its greatness are gained chiefly from books. After dinner a strong, broad-faced man began in a solemn matter of fact way the following speech: "You are a great traveler in our times; for none of us ever went farther than our country's limits. The greatest traveler of your country that we know of was that wonderful navigator of York, Robinson Crusoe, who, poor man, met with many and great difficulties, but by the blessing of God was at length restored to his native country, his family and his friends. "We trust that the Almighty will watch over you, and that you may never in the course of your voyages and travels be thrown, as was your illustrious countryman, on a desert island."—Youth's Companion.

ANIMALS' EYES FIND TRAIL.

"Yes, we have a good deal of experience with wild animals," remarked an engineer, "but not so thrilling as that of the engineers on western roads when the buffalo was common on the plains. But there is enough still left of wild animal life to make it interesting. The eyes of the wolf, coyote, wildcat, jackrabbit, polecat and other animals look like red lights when facing the headlight. Did not these animals quickly undeceive us by turning their heads an engineer might think his train was being flagged and stop his engine. The wolf, wildcat and coyote are quick and jump from the track, but the jackrabbit is less fortunate. The headlight has a strange fascination for this animal and often it is killed.—Denver News.

FOR MEN ONLY.

Services for "men only" are now very common in the London churches. Why for "men only," the London Telegraph observes, is not quite apparent, except on the principle of an east ender's opinion of them, "I don't mind being lectured by a parson so long as my old woman ain't about to 'ear it." One clergyman in a church near Brixton hit upon a shrewd device for "drawing" a congregation recently. The service was advertised for "men only," and the bill bore the ominous words, "Ladies admitted." Needless to say, curiosity led to a large attendance of those who were anxious to know something of the doctrine usually promulgated to "men only."

TELL OF HER NOSE.

Noemi Saumon, a middle aged woman, arrested for shoplifting in Paris, went off in a fit when she arrived at the station, and an inspector tried to revive her by applying smelling salts to her nose. The woman remained in a state of coma and showed no signs of returning to consciousness. Then the inspector tweaked her by the nose, and to his horror, that organ came off in his hand, being made of papier mache.

PAY OF GERMAN ARMY OFFICERS.

It is fortunate for them that the majority of the officers in the German army have an income outside of their salary; otherwise it would be difficult for them to maintain a position on their salary from the empire. German officers' salaries are very low compared with the salaries paid in the United States army. Recently the German officers' pay was increased. It is now: First lieutenants will receive \$480 a year instead of \$315, captains \$995 instead of \$900, majors \$1,800 instead of \$1,850 and colonels \$3,100 instead of \$1,950.

IN IRELAND THE HARP WAS INVENTED WITH A SORT OF PROPHECY POWER.

One tradition relates that at a feast given to the O'Neills by the lords of the English pale an Irish bard was warned of intended treachery by his harp, on which he could play nothing but a wild war tune when on deavouring his best to enliven the festival.

THE EARLIEST NATIONS KNOWN TO US, BEING INHABITANTS OF WARM COUNTRIES IN ASIA AND AFRICA, WERE VERY LIGHT COVERED FOR THE HEAD.

Folds of lawn or other light stuffs wound loosely round the temples formed the common headdress of the Hebrews in the patriarchal days.

THE BRITISH MINT COINS HALF A TON OF PENNIES, HALF PENCE AND THINGS WEEKLY.

Out of 240,000 domestic iron nails in London 10,000 are always out of employment.

THE LONDON ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS SPEND EACH WEEK \$500 IN FEEDING THE INMATES.

The London Zoological gardens spend each week \$500 in feeding the inmates.

PURGATIFS & DÉPURATIFS. ENGORGEMENTS D'INTÉRIEURS. (Constipation, Migraine, Comestions, etc.)

PILULES ANTIPYRÉTIQUES PAR FACIL. DE PARIS. (Chlorure, ou pilule, ou autres, l'émulsion des pilules de Vallet)

THE NEW ORLEANS BEE. (L'Abille de la Nouvelle-Orléans.) A Daily Newspaper, established on the 15th of September, 1897, and universally known.

ANNONCES JUDICIAIRES. VENTE DE PROPRIÉTÉ DE VALEUR ATTRAYANTE ET AMÉLIORÉE DU SIXIÈME DISTRICT.