

FISHY FACTS

FROM THE GOLD MEDAL NETTING NEWS

SCIENTIFIC FISH BLUSH AT THEIR JOB

The widdle fiddies from the widdle poo, so popularized in song by swimmers, do more than merely swim over the dam for the mama fiddle.

Boop-boop, dittum, dottum and wottum, too, are helpers in scientific research, it was shown at the Johns Hopkins Hospital recently.

In fact, they're so good at their particular jobs that Dr. Charles F. Geschickter, in the surgical-pathological laboratory, declared that fish are ideal for laboratory work, far better than monkeys, rats, guinea pigs and other animals serving as soldiers in the war on disease.

"They can be used over and over again," Dr. Geschickter said. "They also are easy to handle."

The fiddies, or fish, in case you don't speak Swingeroo, are elritzes and bitterlings, types of minnows. The former hails from Switzerland and the latter from Japanese waters—though both have now become naturalized Americans by virtue of special propagation in New York laboratories.

The elritzes are used to aid in the purification and identification of a powerful extract from the beef pituitary gland. This substance is used in the treatment and control of diabetes incipidis, a rare but extremely harmful form of diabetes. In order to test the extract before it is used, some of it is injected into one of the male elritzes in greatly diluted state. A very, very delicate reaction is sought—and the extract is okay if the fish turns red.

The elritze is a fast worker. He'll tell a technician in twenty minutes whether the extract is okay. Within twelve hours after he turns red because of the injection he goes back to his natural state.

WHY ATLANTIC FISH ARE FOUND IN PACIFIC

Panama Canal traffic is not confined to big ships and little boats. Fishes, both big and little, use the locks in passage from ocean to ocean—and never pay any tolls.

Dr. Samuel F. Hildebrand, of the United States Bureau of Fisheries, has made a detailed study of the fish found in the canal when the locks are dewatered, and reports 159 species ranging in size from anchovies to tarpon, as well as crabs, shrimp and several other kinds of invertebrates.

Not all the 159 species are known to pass through the canal. It isn't all plain sailing for the fish. The water changes from salt to brackish to fresh and back to salt again, so that both fresh-water and salt-water fishes have to be able to adapt themselves rapidly to changes in both salinity and temperature.

Not many fish can do this; nevertheless, a considerable number of Atlantic fish have been found in locks opening to the Pacific, and vice versa.

HOW FREEZING FISH RETARDS ROTTING

There are two principal types of spoilage of non-fatty fish; one of these is caused by the action of bacteria upon the fish flesh and the other is from the action of the natural enzymes which are found in the flesh of all animal life.

The bacterial infection of fish

SHADE TREES NEED TO BE CULTIVATED

Too many people think that a shade tree is just something that Nature provided for our pleasure, and that its needs are supposedly met by Mother Nature, says John H. Harris, landscape specialist of the State College Extension Service.

"This might be true if we let Nature work its own way," Harris stated. "If we allow the trees to be fed an annual crop of decaying leaves and other organic matter, then we would have little or nothing to worry about. But we are unable to do this in most cases, because we need lawns to make the home attractive. This, of course, means that instead of adding something to the soil, we are constant-

ly taking something away." He advised fertilization of trees with manure, if possible, or with a good commercial fertilizer such as a 6-8-6, 5-10-5, or 4-8-4 mixture. Manure may be applied at any time, but the commercial fertilizer should be used from February 15 to July 15 to do the most good. About one-half to one pound of commercial fertilizer to each one-inch diameter of the tree is recommended.

Some of the symptoms of an under-nourished tree are thin foliage, leaves undersize and yellow, lack of growth, dead branches, branches dying back at tips, and undersize buds. Harris frowned on the use of Texas umbrella and other exotic trees for shade because of their unnatural appearance, short life,

FORGOTTEN GRAVES

We lay our loved ones down, with flowers to wither In the rain's beat, or fade in the long sun;

They are so helpless as we bring them hither, Piling the sods above them, one by one.

Words of our last love, poignant with our sorrow, Echo about them, muffled by our tears;

We hardly dare, we say, to face the morrow, And oh, how lonely look the coming years!

A little while our loving promise lingers; A few times we return to weep anew;

A little while—then we unclasp the fingers Once held in ours; we have so much to do.

A little while—and then is torn asunder The last thin fragment of the care we gave;

How those who trusted us must wait, and wonder, Holding their own love changeless in the grave.

We like to think that these, in heaven recalling How dear we were on earth, may love us yet;

That when the Shadow on our path is falling, They will be waiting, and will not forget.

How can we hope to claim such gracious sharing In the bright bliss our longing spirit craves,

When we remember how we walked, uncaring, Down the long aisles of these forgotten graves?

K. A. G.

The above poem is being printed at the request of Mrs. Lillian Daniels of Wanchese, who has kept it as a valued clipping for many years.

Mrs. Daniels is in charge of collecting money for the upkeep of Cudworth cemetery, and says that the cemetery is being kept up better now than previously, but that contributions must continue coming in if the work is to go on. The first cleaning cost \$7.75 and 11 mowings since have cost \$5.00 each, making a total of \$62.75. Contributions plus the \$9.75 left from 1938 totaled \$63.75, leaving one dollar in the treasury.

The following persons have paid for this service: G. C. Daniels Jr., Norfolk, five dollars; Camp Wright, Manteo, two dollars; Lillian Daniels, one dollar and five cents; Doshier Derrick, Kitty Hawk, Carl Pugh, Smithfield, Lois Bridges, California, Clayton Brothers, Avon, John L. Daniels, Brigantine, Spencer Daniels, Jerry Godsey, Ike Hayes, Joe Hooker, Bob Green, Mary Harris, Earl Tillet, Zorada Hayman, Ida Daniels, Arthur Williams, Dell Saunders, Joe Gaskill, Emma Daniels, John Cudworth, Vivian Baum, Rowena Midgett, Jake Daniels, Dezzie Daniels, Pete Sanderlin, Mamie Etheridge, Claud Brothers, Lucetta Montague, Richard Gray, Lora Creef, Mattie Mann, Mrs. Scarborough, Somers Baum, Mrs. Mary T. Tillet, Pansy Owens, Oscar Daniels, all of Wanchese, Mrs. Orlando Burrus, Esta Peele, Mamie Midgett, Mary O'Neal, Irene Smart, all of Manteo, Cloyce Daniels, Philadelphia, one dollar each;

Mary Midgett of Skyco, seventy-five cents; Tone Gaskill, Matilda Johnson, Mattie Melson, Arvilla Midgett, of Wanchese, Alvah Ward, Milah Meekins, of Manteo, Pat Toler, of Skyco, fifty cents each; Dell Pugh, Wanchese, forty-five cents; and Lucy Midgett, Wanchese, twenty-five cents.

Molasses

By adding another pan to his equipment, H. P. Nicholson of the Little River Section in Transylvania County could produce about 150 gallons of molasses daily.

MISSING THE SIGHTS

An artist was out painting in the country. A farmer came and watched him.

"Ah," said the artist, "perhaps you, too, are a lover of the beauties of nature. Have you seen the golden fingers of dawn spreading across the eastern sky, the red-stained, sulphurous islets floating in the lake of fire in the west, the ragged clouds at midnight, blotting out the shimmering moon?"

"No," said the farmer matter-of-factly, "not lately. But I've been off the booze for a year."

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