

Having settled the question of the common fresh water eels which breed in the Atlantic, he has now turned his attention to those found in the Pacific and Indian Oceans about which there is very little scientific information available. He has just spent two months in Tahiti where he has collected a large mass of material and data that will be worked up and studied on his return to Copenhagen and from which it is hoped valuable information of the life history of the Pacific eels will be obtained.

During his stop in Washington Dr. Schmidt was made an honorary member of the Washington Academy of Sciences.

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#### OIL OF WINTERGREEN FOUND POISONOUS INTERNALLY

Oil of wintergreen, commonly used in salves and liniments, is extremely poisonous when taken internally even in moderate doses. Drs. N. C. Wetzel and J. D. Nourse report that quantities of less than two fluid ounces have resulted in death.

The toxic effects of this familiar drug, in frequent use in medical practice to allay pain and reduce fever, seem not to have been generally recognized. They are ascribed to the fact that oil of wintergreen, after being taken into the body, undergoes very little chemical destruction, or breaking up into less dangerous components.

Editorial comment in the Journal of the American Medical Association says that from the standpoint of public welfare, "Access to oil of wintergreen should be made impossible for children and for persons ignorant of its poisonous properties."

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#### MACHINE CLEANS APPLES BY SLAPPING

Wiping machines are the latest wrinkle to be added to the mechanism of fruit packing. The Apples Growers' Union of Washington is one of the first to install this apparatus which is designed to remove spray residue from apples packed during the season of 1926.

The fruit will pass over horizontal revolving rollers and is slapped clean by 500 pieces of canvas. The machine is electrically driven and provided with a fan to remove dirt and dust.

This invention is doubtless designed to counteract the impression that seems in some regions to have gained considerable ground that poisoning has resulted from the arsenic residue left on apples during spraying.

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Czechoslovakia is one of the world's chief producers of plate glass.

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