

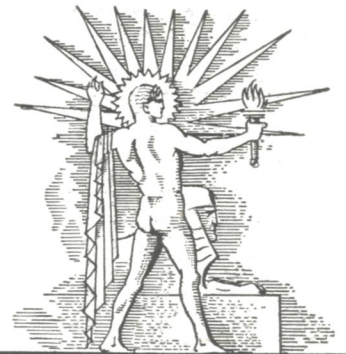
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# SCIENCE NEWS LETTER



THE WEEKLY SUMMARY OF CURRENT SCIENCE •



SEPTEMBER 5, 1931

The Mask of a Marauder

See Page 152



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## DO YOU KNOW THAT

Ancient Babylon had houses three and four stories high.

Open flames will be employed in cooking on the new airship Akron.

The network of cables under the sea has a total length of 345,000 nautical miles.

Fish quickly desert areas where forest fires have raged because of lack of vegetation and insects.

If two lumps of sugar are rubbed together in a room that is completely dark, they will give off a faint light.

In Wisconsin there have been discovered several wet deserts: lakes fed by spring water so pure that little or no fish or plant life can thrive there.

The insect poison rotenone, which is harmless to human beings, was discovered when scientists heard that natives of the tropics used plants containing the poison to help them in catching fish.

In ancient Cyprus, copper pots were used for money.

The name quebracho, given to the world's heaviest wood, means "axe breaker."

Measurements of the aurora borealis show that these northern lights are usually not more than 100 miles above the earth.

A dinosaur's footprint recently placed on exhibit at the American Museum of Natural History is 39 inches long and almost three feet across.

Archaeologists digging in the eastern Alps found "left hands" made of iron nailed to a coffin of about 600 B.C., apparently with the idea of warding off evil spirits.

A shower of fish was vouched for by scientists in England, in 1918, when a shoal of small fish were caught in a waterspout and carried up into the air and a strong wind swept them inland, to drop them on the earth.

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