

Based on research by the author, a sociologist, on the situations which are of basic importance in calling forth the behavior patterns of the members of the family group.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE WESTERN COMPUTER CONFERENCE—G. D. McCann, Chairman Conference Committee — *Institute of Radio Engineers*, 231 p., illus., paper, \$3.50.

REGULAS DE SELECTION PRO SPECTROS VIBRACIONAL DE MOLECULAS POLYATOMIC—Forrest F. Cleveland—*Instituto Technologic de Illinois*, 21 p., paper, 75 cents. Monograph on molecular spectra written in the new, practical, readable-at-sight international language, Interlingua.

SOME NEW AND NOTEWORTHY APHIDAE FROM WESTERN AND SOUTHERN SOUTH AMERICA (HEMIPTERA-HOMOPTERA)—E. O. Essig—*California Academy of Sciences*, Proceedings, Fourth Series, Vol. XXVIII, No. 3, 105 p., illus., paper, \$2.00. Little previous work has been done on collecting and describing the aphids of Chile.

STEWART'S SCIENTIFIC DICTIONARY—Jeffrey R. Stewart assisted by Frances Elizabeth Spicer—*Stewart Research Laboratory*, 4th ed., 788 p., \$10.50. For manufacturers and others concerned with the materials used by the various chemical process industries. The scope of this edition has been greatly widened.

THE THEORY OF THE LEISURE CLASS: An Economic Study of Institutions—Thorstein Veblen—*New American Library*, 261 p., paper, 35 cents. An inexpensive paper edition of a well-known classic of social science originally published in 1899 by *Macmillan*.

THIRTY-DAY FORECASTING: A Review of a Ten-Year Experiment—Jerome Namias—*American Meteorological Society*, 83 p., illus., paper, \$3.50. A summary of research results and operations.

A TREE IS A TREE—King Vidor—*Harcourt, Brace*, 315 p., illus., \$3.95. The autobiography of one of the pioneer directors of great films in Hollywood.

TREES OF THE WOODS—David S. Marx—*Leafprinters*, 52 p., illus., paper, \$2.00. Description of the flowers, fruit, leaves and wood of native trees illustrated by leaf prints.

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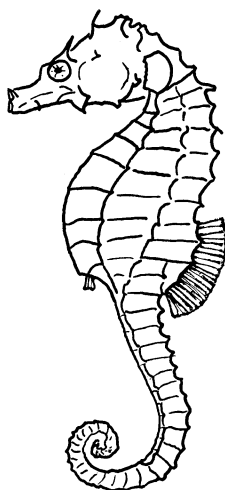
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Sea Horse

► IN GREEK and Roman mythology, the sea horse was a fabulous creature, half horse and half fish, driven by sea gods and ridden by their daughters, the sea nymphs.

Medieval and even more modern writers put on a few trimmings: "The Sea Horse between Brittany and Norway is oft seen to have a head like a horse, and to neigh; but his feet and hoof are cloven like to a cow's; and he feeds both on land and in the sea. He is seldom taken, though he grows to be as big as an ox. He hath a forked tail."

Neptune's Pegasus is a queer enough little fish in its own right, without embellishments which make it a new form of sea monster. Only in Pacific waters where there is giant kelp in which to hide does the sea horse grow to as much as a foot in height; elsewhere it lives out its life only a few inches high.

It has no hoofs, cloven or otherwise. Its tail is neither forked nor actually a tail, but part of its body. It has a tough hide

stretched over a bony frame, which gives the impression that the sea horse wears a suit of armor.

Though the sea horse is really a fish, it acts like a monkey, coiling its posterior appendage around bits of eelgrass or seaweed and hanging there at anchor. The only difference is that the sea horse hangs head uppermost. The danger in the sea is not the chance of falling to the bottom but of falling upward to the surface.

Likewise the sea horse swims in a vertical position. Its gait is a series of short convulsive jerks—an elfin gallop hampered by blind staggers. Standing nearly upright in the water, it propels itself by a supple fin midway on its back which waves to and fro faster than the eye can see. There is a tiny fin beneath the sea horse's business paunch, and two others spotted where humans have ears. By waving these and bending its head, the fish goes uphill or down.

Some say the sea horse has a jet in the top of its head for sudden crash dives. A naturalist who lives in a sea horse country says, "I have seen sea horses near the surface squirt a jet of water three inches into air in their frightened efforts to submerge." But detailed studies of sea horse locomotion make no mention of such a blow-hole.

In the sea horse family, it is the male who brings up the children. In breeding season, the male develops a pouch like the pocket of a female kangaroo. The mother's eggs are laid in this pouch, and there the youngsters stay until they hatch and are old enough to swim. When they emerge, it looks exactly as if the father were giving birth.

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