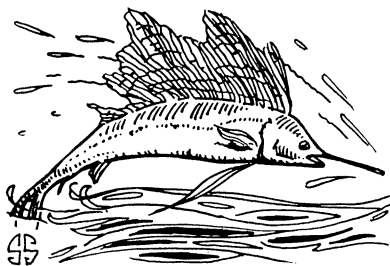


NATURE RAMBLINGS

By Frank Thone



Sailfish

WHEN we have a President who is also an angler—which happens about once in a generation—he is apt to have a favorite brand of fish. Members of the portlier generation can remember Grover Cleveland's preference for trout. Calvin Coolidge caught trout also, but the fish he made famous was a perch. Now, with a second angler-President in immediate succession, we find Herbert Hoover going in for bigger game and having his luck with sailfish. Both on his pre-inauguration trip to South America and recently off the coast of Florida he brought to gaff first-class specimens of this strangely-shaped, hard-fighting fish.

Sailfishes (there are several species) are related to the swordfishes, as witness their long upper jaw, projecting into a formidable beak. Like the swordfishes, they are big fish. The kind President Hoover went after is the most northerly-ranging and the smallest, reaching a length of six feet and a weight of 150 pounds. There is one tropical species that gets to be more than half again as large.

The various species of sailfish are pretty strictly tropical or at most subtropical. The President's fishing waters, off Lower California and southern Florida, represent about as far north as they choose to run. Occasional specimens have been taken as far up the coast as Savannah and Norfolk.

Being large fish they require much food. Being swimmers in the open and not bottom feeders they require speed and agility in order to pursue the smaller fish on which they prey. Hence the flaring tail and the great sail-like dorsal fin. Hence also the long, almost wing-like pectorals.

Science News-Letter, April 12, 1930

Chemistry—Continued

ing pine forests in this section. These economic facts were presented by Prof. Lauren B. Hitchcock, of the University of Virginia.

"New and economical methods of manufacturing wood pulp from southern pines must be perfected by American research chemists in order to meet foreign competition," Prof. Hitchcock declared. "It should be possible in the middle of a southern pine area, with as staple and satisfactory a labor supply as can be found in America, to profitably manufacture kraft pulp and deliver it a few miles away at some different amount, however small, below the price asked by foreign manufacturers after a 4,000 mile water shipment."

Kraft pulp is used in the manufacture of strong wrapping papers, and is the staple product of southern mills. Virginia, whose rate of industrial growth in recent years has exceeded that of other states, can fairly credit her success to wood pulp and cotton linters. A large portion of the state's industries, both old and new, involve chemical processes, and 65 per cent. of these are based on cellulose, said Prof. Hitchcock.

"Although Virginia's twelve mills are situated in a region generally regarded solely as a kraft district, the average value per ton of their product is exceeded by only two other states, Massachusetts and New Hampshire, large writing-paper producing districts," said Prof. Hitchcock.

Among Virginia's mills is the first ever built to manufacture a type of cardboard from chestnut chips.

Science News-Letter, April 12, 1930

New Names

To Cobh and Oslo add Istanbul, Gelibolu and Ankara. The Turkish Government has announced its official ways of spelling many names of cities and other geographic features, according to advices received here by the United States Geographic Board. And they add to the strangeness of the post-war map, agreeing not at all with the names that used to be in the geographies when we were children.

Constantinople, the Greek name chosen by the Roman emperor who built the city centuries ago, becomes Istanbul. Gallipoli, the scene of one of the most epic struggles in the history of warfare, is re-spelled Gelibolu. Angora, seat of the present Turkish Government, will henceforth be known as Ankara.

Geography

Science News-Letter, April 12, 1930

STATEMENT OF THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, CIRCULATION, ETC., REQUIRED BY THE ACT OF CONGRESS OF AUGUST 24, 1912

Of SCIENCE NEWS-LETTER published weekly at Baltimore, Md., for April 1, 1930.

Washington }
District of Columbia } ss.

Before me, a Notary Public in and for the State and county aforesaid, personally appeared Watson Davis, who, having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that he is the Editor of the SCIENCE NEWS-LETTER and that the following is, to the best of his knowledge and belief, a true statement of the ownership, management, etc., of the aforesaid publication for the date shown in the above caption, required by the Act of August 24, 1912, embodied in section 411, Postal Laws and Regulations, to wit:

1. That the names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business managers are:

Editor, Watson Davis, 21st and B Sts., N. W., Washington, D. C.

2. That the owner is:
Science Service, Inc., Washington, D. C., a non-profit making corporation and science institution.

3. That the known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding one per cent. or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: None.

4. That the two paragraphs next above, giving the names of the owners, stockholders, and security holders, if any, contain not only the list of stockholders and security holders as they appear upon the books of the company but also, in cases where the stockholder or security holder appear upon the books of the company as trustee or in any other fiduciary relation, the name of the person or corporation for whom such trustee is acting, is given; also that the said two paragraphs contain statements embracing affiant's full knowledge and belief as to the circumstances and conditions under which stockholders and security holders who do not appear upon the books of the company as trustees, hold stock and securities in a capacity other than that of a bona fide owner; and this affiant has no reason to believe that any other person, association, or corporation has any interest direct or indirect in the said stock, bonds, or other securities than as so stated by him.

Watson Davis,
Editor.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 1st day of April, 1930.

[SEAL]

Charles L. Wade.

(My commission expires April 6, 1933.)

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