

FLAG ETIQUETTE

When the colors are passing, the spectator, if a man, should halt if walking, arise if sitting and uncover, holding the headdress opposite the left shoulder with the right hand; if bare-headed, you should salute with the right hand. A woman should stand at attention as the Flag passes by.

When the Flag is waving from a stationary flagstaff or pole it is not saluted with the hand.

In decoration the flag should never be festooned or draped. Always hung flat. If hung with stripes horizontal, Union should be in upper left corner. If hung perpendicularly, Union should be at the right.

When the Flag is carried in parade, or when crossed with other flags, the Stars and stipes should always be at the right.

The law specifically forbids the use of the Flag in any manner or in any connection with merchandise for sale.

The Flag should be raised at sunrise and lowered at sunset. It should not be displayed on stormy days or except when under fire of the enemy, left out overnight. Although there is no authoritative ruling which compels civilians to lower the Flag at sundown, good taste should impel them to follow the traditions of the Army and Navy in this sundown ceremonial. Primarily the Flag is raised to be seen, and secondly, the Flag is something to be guarded, treasured, and so tradition holds it shall not be menaced by the darkness. To leave the Flag out at night, unattended, is proof of shiftlessness, or at least carelessness.

On Memorial Day the Flag should be displayed at halfmast from sunrise until noon, and at the peak from noon until sunset. It should, on being retired, never be allowed to touch the ground.

When the "Star Spangled Banner" is played or sung, uncover, stand and remain standing, in silence, until it is finished.

Applause at the end of the "Star Spangled Banner" is out of place.

Worn-out and useless flags should be destroyed by burning.

A Flag torn or frayed by the wind and weather should never again be hoisted until it has been repaired. This is a regulation of both the Army and Navy and should also be followed by all civilians.

A BIT OF NATURAL HISTORY

Many of our young readers are interested no doubt in the mysteries attending nature in her many manifestations, and it is well that they are. We believe that the following article on the "sea horse" will be of interest to a great majority of our subscribers:

Among the strange, interesting creatures that in-

habit the seas is the sea horse or hippocampus. The name hippocampus is of Greek origin, from "hippos"—horse—and "kampos"—sea-monster. These fish—they are really fish, despite their unfishlike appearance—are found in various parts of the waters off our own Atlantic coast.

One of the most remarkable characteristics of the sea-horse is a sort of external pouch in the front of the male's body. In this the eggs of the female are deposited in the mating season. The pouch protects the eggs from various agencies which destroy eggs of other fish and in it conditions essential to the development of the life germs contained in them are maintained. When the young hatch out they are nourished by a substance secreted by the lining of the pouch.

The baby sea-horses remain in the pouch until, in Father Sea-Horse's opinion, they are large enough to fend for themselves. Then he swims up to a shell, a rock or anything else that may be convenient and by rubbing against it forces them out of the pouch.

The mouth and jaws of the sea-horse are at the end of its tube-like snout. Its body is sheathed in a stiff armorplating so that it cannot bend itself about as most other fish do. In swimming the body which is from six to 10 inches in length is maintained in a vertical position.

Like other marine creatures, it has an air-bladder which normally contains just the proper amount of gas to insure its equilibrium. The adjustment is so fine, in fact, that if the gas in the bladder is diminished by even a very minute amount, the sea-horse drops to the bottom where it is obliged to crawl about until the air bladder has been sufficiently filled to restore normal buoyancy.

THE MONROE DOCTRINE

Following overthrow of Napoleon in 1815 Russia, Germany, Austria and France formed an alliance for purpose of preserving the balance of power and suppressing revolutions that might occur within their dominions. Mexico and some of the states of South America revolted against Spanish occupation and in 1822 U. S. recognized independence of these states. There were grounds for believing that allied powers of Europe might come to Spain's assistance and for that reason President Monroe in his message to congress, Dec. 2, 1823, enunciated certain principles that came to be called the "Monroe doctrine." In this message he declared "that the American continents are henceforth not to be considered as subject to colonization for any European power. With the existing colonies or dependencies of any European we have not interfered and shall not interfere, but with the governments which have declared their independence and maintained it, and whose independence we have acknowledged, we could not view any interposition for the purpose of suppressing them or controlling in any other manner their destiny, by any European power, in any other light than as the manifestation of an unfriendly disposition toward the United States."