

### Do You Really Know Your Sea?

While we pride ourselves on our proximity to the ocean, as witness Brookings - by-the-Sea, many of us take its presence for granted. Intensive work by oceanographers in recent years has revealed the amazing productivity of the sea and indicated possible future use as a source of food materials. Again, that part of the shore which lies between high and low tides is more heavily utilized by organisms than any other area on earth.

In view of these facts, perhaps a few tips on how best to observe this life would not be amiss. Things needed are protection against wet feet, a bucket or similar container to contain your catch, and especially a stock of ready answers for curious children and suspicious adults. A tide book to give the time of low tides is a good addition to this list, but here a word of warning. It is best to work out with the tide until it turns, then quit. Starting at low tide may get one trapped by rising waters, especially if one is engrossed in collecting.

The method itself is simple. Search the pools left by the tide, the underside of damp rocks, and areas covered with seaweed which helps retain a moist atmosphere. Turn rocks back over again, or the animals living on

them will die when exposed to sun and dry air. Try to notice the surroundings of a particular specimen, as the type of bottom (sand, mud, gravel, rock), relationship to tide level (high, medium, low), and turbulence of water (surf, spray, quiet pool). This information useful in identifying specimens.

The most rewarding hours are spent in watching the animals in how and what they eat, and of place. In this manner one learns their many adaptations to life in different surroundings.

If you wish to preserve your catch for identification or further study, use a 6 per cent formalin solution. To make this, buy formaldehyde at the drug store and dilute one volume of it with five volumes of water. Use tightly closed glass containers, and specimens will keep indefinitely.

Starting at high tide level, one finds snails and their first cousins, the limpets, clinging to the rocks. Mussels clinging by strong byssus threads and goose barnacles attached by a stalk may be found in large beds where spray and high waves wash over them. The barnacles, attached by their heads, wave their feet in the water to strain out food. Hermit crabs frequent the pools in a constant search for food and large shells to house their growing bodies. These crabs have no shell, but insert their soft bodies into an uninhabited shell left by a

dead snail. Flower-like anemones open out in an innocent rosette but their tentacles mean death to small animals which come too near. Starfish and sea-urchins are closely related, a fact which becomes easier to see if one visualizes a starfish with his arms curled up to form a ball. The same five-sided symmetry is present in both, as are the small pincer-like pedicellariae which are used for protection.

Farther out, life becomes extremely varied and abundant. Clams, certain limpets, the many-rayed starfish, scallops, and many other forms are found here. One of the more interesting animals is the brittle-star. To find them, run your fingers through the fine sand that is found under rocks. They may twist and squirm, but are harmless. If handled excessively, they may shed their arms piece by piece in an attempt to escape, as will some starfish and crabs under the same conditions.

These are only a few examples of what can be found in a few minutes' search. To find out more about them and other marine organisms, read *Between Pacific Tides* by Ricketts and Calvin. This is the best book on this subject available to and readily understood by the layman. Information on the sea itself is well presented in *The Sea Around Us* by Rachel Carson. Both these books should be welcome additions to the library of any Pacific Coast dweller.

dent of Oregon for a year, you are eligible to vote, if you registered before the books closed, prior to the election for city council September 12. Residents may register at Moore's Variety store after that date.

Mrs. Dr. Smith came home from a day's fishing on the Rogue with a sunburned nose and a 22-lb. salmon. The noses of the men in that family are slightly out of joint, especially a visiting uncle's.

O. S. Young received a telegram Monday afternoon that his sister, Mrs. Charles McRillister, of Anchorage, Alaska, had passed away last Saturday at San Pedro, Calif. The funeral was held there Wednesday. Mr. Young, because of Mrs. Young's absence, was unable to go.

Two nephews and their families accompanied Mrs. Edith Moore when she returned home from a trip to Spokane, Wash., and Missoula, Mont.

Mrs. Lillian Zumpf is getting her 4-H girls work ready for display in front of the grandstand at the Curry County Fair on Saturday, Sunday and Monday. The girls have been working on their handwork the past year and are becoming quite capable at 'sewing a fine seam,' and other home arts.

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'Twas the day before pay-day,  
And all through my jeans  
I have hunted in vain for the  
Ways and the means.

Not a quarter is stirring,  
Not even a bit,  
The greenbacks have left me,  
The pennies have quit.

Forward, turn forward  
Oh time in thy flight,  
And make it tomorrow,  
Just for tonight.

### LOCAL NEWS

L. C. Harbin and Mike Page report excellent fishing on the upper Chetco. Limits of trout have been caught easily the last week.

Don Raymond is spending a 10-day leave from Camp Gordon, Ga., with his family. Don attended the Brookings-Harbor school.

If you have lived in Brookings six weeks and have been a resi-

### NEW FALL PROGRAM OF THE CHETCO INN

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Brookings, Oregon

### BOARD AND ROOM

Two persons to a room, breakfast and dinner, lunch packed to take out, every day, except Sunday, for each person per week, \$30.00; for man and wife without hotel service, \$25.00 per week (six days meals); for one person in a room, \$37.50. Some rooms with private bath connecting.

These meals will be cooked "family style" with food cooked by ADRIAN, and by MOLLY on Wednesday.

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COMMENCING SEPT. 4, 1951

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