

Along Azalea Row

By Mrs. E. F. Rapraeger

The October meeting of the Azalea Garden Club was held at the Grange Hall on October 9th, with Mrs. Warren Smith presiding in the absence of our president, Mrs. Charles Grayshel. The meeting was preceded by a dessert luncheon served by Mesdames Fowler, Johnson and Hanks under the chairmanship of Mrs. Lloyd Harbin. The speaker for the afternoon was Mrs. Walter Wollam who spoke to the members and their guests about spring bulbs. Mrs. Wollam's informal talk, sprinkled with humor, contained a lot of pertinent information regarding the use and method of planting bulbs of all kinds. Mrs. Albert Joy gave a brief and interesting account of the Woodpecker and its habits, and a talk in miniature was given by Mrs. Roy Wiedeman, Program Chairman, on the Japanese Anemone. Our songbirds for the afternoon were Mesdames McKenzie, Rice and Christensen who sang "Danny Boy" and "Little Orphan Annie" to an appreciative audience. They were accompanied at the piano by Mrs. L. Harvey.

It is not unusual at this time of year to see a seal gamboling in the surf near the mouth of the Chetco river, its black head bobbing up and down and its smooth coat glistening in the sunlight as it twists and turns.

The seal found hereabouts is usually the Hair seal also known as the Harbor seal or Spotted seal. It is closely related to the fur seals of the Pribilof Islands but does not possess their valuable pelt. Adult seal are said to be five to six feet in length and weights are given as 60 to 100 pounds.

Years ago the seals were abundant along the coast of Oregon, in the bays and well into the mouths of the larger rivers. Those that remain are very shy, very difficult to approach and quickly disappear if alarmed. Shooting has taken heavy toll.

Some people kill seal because they suspect them of eating salmon. Undoubtedly the seal feeds extensively on fish as anyone knows who has seen them being fed at the circus or at the zoo. But before they are accused, tried, convicted and destroyed, the kind and amount of fish eaten and amount of other food eaten should

be determined. One Researcher of the U. S. Biological Survey examined the stomachs of 35 seal and concluded that instead of the food of these seals being entirely or largely salmon, as is so often claimed, it is largely of a harmless or possible beneficial nature, and may well be an advantage to the salmon industry.

So far as most people are concerned, the seal add an interesting form of wildlife to our shores and beaches, and they would be far more attractive if more abundant and less timid. It behooves all of us to conserve the natural beauties of our area, whether on land or sea. In order to survive and elude his killers a seal needs as many eyes as a fly to look ahead, behind, beneath, above and on all sides at the same time.

The seal catches his fish in a fair chase underwater. A fisherman catches his with a rod and line. To some extent they are competitors. Most fishermen would not deny their fellow fishermen a fair catch whether they be human or animal.

A seal eats because it must live. In nature there is little philanthropy. Something is always eating something else. A bird eats a bug and a cat eats the bird. A fish eats a salmon

egg and a seal eats the fish. Something else eats the seal. Here is a rhyme which tells the story very well:

"A bee flew down and ate an ant,
A bug he ate the bee;
A hen then gobbled down the bug
But failed the hawk to see.
The hawk had eaten up the hen
Before he saw the cat
Which ate him up, but then a dog
Ate pussy quick as scat!
A wolf now sprang upon the dog
And ate him in a trice,
And then a lion ate the wolf
And found him very nice.
But when the lion fell asleep
He said "I really can't
Imagine why that wolf should taste
Exactly like an ant!" "

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The MILK PRODUCTION AND MARKETING ACT on your November ballot will give the people of Oregon a FAIR milk law—fair to consumers and producers alike. It will do away with state enforced milk prices, by which the present unjustified middleman's margin is protected by law. It will permit the lower pricing of cash-and-carry milk, relieving store customers from paying the higher costs of home delivery whether they use it or not. It will protect fair farm prices.

Don't be deceived by these LIES about the new milk bill

A reckless, unscrupulous minority of selfish interests is telling barefaced lies about milk. These interests are preying upon the fears of Oregon mothers for the health of their children.

Behind a misleading front of baby pictures they make a false emotional appeal. They hope this will keep you from forming judgments based upon the truth. We herewith quote some of these lies and accompany them with verified facts.

The lies are quoted directly from campaign literature of the minority group of milk interests leading the fight against the new milk bill.

LIE No. 1 "Baby's sanitary milk supply endangered."

This is a downright falsehood, as shown by the following statement by Dr. Thomas Meador, Portland city health officer: "Sanitary regulations for milk are set up by the state department of agriculture. Repeal of the present milk control law in favor of the proposed new law backed by the Affiliated Milk Committees of Oregon would have no effect whatsoever on the sanitary requirements set up by the state law. In addition to the state regulations on purity of milk, Portland has its own milk code, the operation of which would be affected in no way by repeal of the milk control law."

LIE No. 2 "The new substitute milk control initiative... could disrupt your steady milk supply" and "put Oregon's many small dairymen and distributors out of business."

Lie No. 2 is a complete reversal of the actual facts. While our population has increased by almost 60% our dairy farms have decreased by 19%, the number of dairy cows is down 23% and our milk production has decreased nearly 8%. Here are the figures from "Agricultural Statistics" issued by United States Bureau of Agricultural Economics:

NUMBER OF FARMS IN OREGON

	All Farms	Dairy Farms
1930.....	51,958	8,150
1950.....	59,827	6,618

While the total of all farms increased 15% the number of dairy farms decreased 19%.

NUMBER OF DAIRY COWS IN OREGON

1934.....	263,000
1951.....	202,000

This is a decrease of 23% since 1934.

MILK PRODUCED IN OREGON (in pounds)

1934.....	1,323,000,000
1951.....	1,208,000,000

This is a decrease of over 7 1/2% since 1934.

POPULATION IN OREGON (Oregon Blue Book)

1930.....	953,786
1950.....	1,521,341

During the decline of the dairy industry in Oregon the population increased 59 1/2% over almost the same period.

How has Oregon made up this deficiency in its milk supply? The answer is largely in the fact that Portland gets the greater part of its milk from the neighboring State of Washington, which has no state controls that limit milk production.

The Oregon Producer-Distributors Association, composed of small dairymen who produce and distribute their own milk, has announced its support of the new milk bill with these words:

"Under Oregon milk control (in effect since 1934) the number of producer-distributors has shrunk from 600 to less than 100. Unless we organize we will find ourselves out of business."

In the face of these facts the noisy opponents of the new milk bill are claiming to be the friends of the small dairymen.

DON'T LET THESE LIES FOOL YOU. VOTE 332 X YES.

AFFILIATED MILK COMMITTEES OF OREGON

Pub. adv.—Affiliated Milk Campaign Committees of Ore. Mrs. Irene Taylor, 426 Park Bldg., Portland, Ore.

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