

Lions Will Entertain Troop B-4 at Picnic

June 11 has been selected as the Scoutree for Troop B-4 when the Birmingham Lions club will hold a picnic at Springdale Park for the scouts.

Lions will provide transportation from Adams school to the park, where the evening's program will start with the flag raising at 6:15.

A picnic supper is scheduled for 7:15. Other events include a tug-of-war between Lions and a

Scouts; a council fire program consisting of contest awards, songs, and stunts by both groups.

Bob Grogan, chairman of the boys and girls committee, is in charge of arrangements.

Smile a Minute

One woman talking to another woman: "My husband wouldn't chase other women—his too fine, too decent... too old."

—The Detroit Chemist

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NATURE NOW
By Lydia K. Frabas

'A Sparrow Sings'

Everyone knows a sparrow. But too many of us think of him in terms of a sooty nondescript bird. This is true of the common English sparrow, but among his family which numbers some 62 species there are aristocrats whose voices and manners are above reproach. Sparrows will never be remembered for their looks although in their nest boxes and groups.

But it is with their voices that they do make a bid for our favor. It is well to know and recognize any bird by its song for there are countless times when it can be heard when it cannot be seen.

My earliest memories of bird song are linked with a meadow which encloses a place called "home." Bobolinks and meadowlarks are, in summer voices, but early spring-time it belongs to the joyous and bubbling trill of the song sparrow.

WE HEARD HIM there in the low alders along the bank of the creek, before the ice at its edge had melted. We heard him all through the winter and harvesting until we saw him last, a small brown shape, perched atop a dried-out cup which Anne's hare or swaying on some empty milk-weed pod.

His song was so continuous in all weather, on all days, that it became an unconscious attribute of a season which began and ended and did not end until the first snows of November.

While the song sparrow's singing is in no way remarkable, yet it includes in its repertoire at least six selections, all of them clear, sweet and entirely joyous. Sometimes he may even sing in his sleep. So say the book-makers who describe his final effort as a "simple strain."

THE SONG of the vesper sparrow recalls our first camping days in the Oak hill-country. Here by noon day the summer heat envelops everything in a blanket that renders it almost unbearable.

At four o'clock the cow bells begin to tinkle and the vesper sparrow sounds his two opening notes—a plaintive minor strain, and the teeming world comes alive again. His territory there included a piece of plowed field a meadow across from our cabin which stood level with the tree tops on the banks of Thickety Creek.

I could hear him every late afternoon as he followed his first minor strain with a trill. Those were the days of my honeymoon and I was then a bird book through for the first time.

It was easy for me to remember the words of the author who wrote that the syllables of the vesper sparrow's song sound like "Sweet-yeon, I love you, you, you, you music we heard as the long bright day ended."

THE FIELD SPARROW has his best audience early to the spring woods as we did today, to walk there among last year's dead leaves. The first buds of hepaticas; blood root and adler's tongue have already dropped their petals but violets, wild phlox and trillium are at full tide.

The world of blue sky is not yet shut-out by a canopy of unfolding leaves and we had not gone far until we were interrupted by a song which was borne gently on the spring wind. It came from the throat of a field sparrow perched on a low bush in the old pasture just beyond. It is sweet, it is tender.

It is simply delivered on a single oft repeated note in rhythm that gains intensity and speed and then dies softly away. As one listens, it evokes the memories of many another of life's spring-times.

BUT OF ALL the sparrows, it is the voice of the white-throat that is the most frequent. Hereabouts he makes a migrating stop-over sometimes between May 1-15, on his way to his more northerly nesting grounds.

It is not spring in any year until we have heard his first call. We listen for it of an early morning

JUNIOR!
NO FIGHT, MA, BUT SOME GENERAL WAS HERE

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THE DWP REPAIRS THEM... AND THE CITY SAVES ON THE WATER BILL!

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WE HEARD IT SAID BY—
MRS. BRENT K. HOGSHEAD, 1619 Henrietta, "baseball mother" at Pierce school: "The article in The Eccentric a few weeks ago about our young baseball stars has aroused quite a bit of interest in our teams. We've had guests from the Little League down to watch the teams and have had a number of inquiries from other schools and PTA groups about our program. I still would like to see more of the mothers become interested in helping the teams because I honestly feel it is well worth their time and effort and is a wonderful thing for the children to know that a grown-up is interested in their play."

Rotary Club President To Attend Convention

The Rev. W. Glen Harris, Ph.D., pastor of the First Presbyterian and president of the Birmingham Rotary club, will depart in Texas, before attending the Rotary International convention at Mexico City.

More than 8,000 members and their families, representing 60 European countries, Asia, Africa and North, South and Central America were expected to attend this 43rd annual convention which convened May 25.

Throughout the five-day affair emphasis will be given to the opportunities Rotarians have for the advancement of international understanding, goodwill and peace.

Modern Kitchen Design Wins Better Rooms Prize

Among the prize-winning designs from the Chicago Tribune's 1952 Better Rooms competition, on display in Blackstone hall, Chicago Art Institute, is the \$500 second prize modern kitchen entry of Leonard S. Parker, 748 Grandfield Court, and Niels Different, 1120 N. Woodward.

The display, running from May 21 through June 11, climaxed the final week of a community wide Better Rooms pageant in which more than 60 full scale rooms, developed from among entries were displayed in retail stores throughout Chicago and suburbs.

Rotary Club Sees Views Of Detroit Celebration

Hank Weber, 339 Chesterfield, commercial photographer, showed stereoscopic views of Detroit's 260th anniversary and parade at the Monday meeting of the Birmingham Rotary club.

Sam J. Reeve, owner of the Telegraph-West Maple gas station, was inducted into the organization by Victor Ulrich, vice president.

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when the first lilacs are opening. It is a varied song, so high that it cannot be imitated by a voice or whistle, but so unvarying in its rhythm and quality that once learned, it cannot be forgotten.

It was our alarm clock during a memorable vacation in the White Mountains and on the day we climbed Mt. Monadnock the voice of the white-throat came up to us after we had reached the summit.

The dairy tree sparrow, the friendly chipping sparrow, the large fox sparrow and the handsome white-crowned sparrow; all these are one time or another members of our bird community. Their voices add a pleasing overtone to the chorus of bird music.

But today a field sparrow sang, and the timid notes were borne gently across the old pasture on the vagrant winds of May-time.

PROF. R. L. MORGAN

Prof. Robert L. Morgan To Do Cancer Research

Prof. Robert L. Morgan has been named by the Ben May laboratories of cancer research in Chicago to start a research project at the University of Chicago July 1.

Prof. Morgan completed his studies at Antioch college in February and went to Salem college, Salem V. Va., to teach chemistry. In Chicago he will do extensive research on the synthesis and physiological properties of steroid fluoride compounds.

A graduate of Baldwin high school, he is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter C. Morgan, 727 Purdy. He will start his work for a Ph.D. degree in the fall, and will be granted a fellowship at the university.

Smile a Minute

Marion: "Don't you hate people who talk behind your back?"
Gloria: "Yes, especially at the movies."
—The Scholastic

Picture of Michigan Shown to School Board

Russ Martin, for 30 years a member of the Michigan state conservation department, is displaying at Hill school a large collection of oil-color photos taken in Michigan.

Members of the Birmingham board of education last week viewed the pictures which Martin has suggested be purchased for display in the new school.

The series, "Pictures of Michigan" are mostly of wild flowers and the scenic northern part of the state.

No board action has been taken since board members felt it best to confer with Mrs. Pippin Swanson, who has handled the interior planning of the school.

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