

Nature's Plan Gives Owls Important Role

By LYDIA KING FREHSE

Special Writer for The Birmingham Eccentric

A owl belies the mind's image of a bird. He is weird or fierce or comical as the occasion demands. His eerie cry, his nocturnal habits and his odd looks are strictly his own. Owls are a cosmopolitan species, with some 500 varieties scattered all over the world. Of these are 55 recorded for North America.

Since the screech owl is the most sociable of the species, he often makes his home in a dwelling and sometimes finds woodpecker holes in urban or village. In the country he frequently selects a discarded woodpecker's hole in an old apple tree as his nesting site. His only call is a plaintive "tuh-tuh-tuh"; a not unpleasant sound to the initiated.

One morning in March some 10 years ago, I was talking over the telephone when my eyes suddenly came to rest on Mrs. Frehse's screech owl perched on the end of a curtain pole in the living room. He gave me a glary stare and remained motionless throughout the day while my own children and a host of their companions gav e him curious audience. At bedtime he had not moved.

IN THE MEANTIME we had called our friends, the Hadleys (wild life photographers), who came and made a record of the doings of this unusual visitor. During this process, the owl flew about the room and was finally rescued by my husband from his husband's glove pocket.

We supposed that he was attracted by the warmth of the chimney and flew into the house from it to get away from the cold. His search for the rat and mice which are his food. When held in the hand he was curiously light in weight.

Smaller than the screech owl are the saw-whet, the pygmy and the elf owl. The last of these is no larger than the common English sparrow and is in the western part of the United States.

IN CONTRAST, the great horned owl is among the largest and most ferocious of birds. His hoarse, curding scream and his booming "hoo-hoo-hoo-hoo-hoo" are familiar to all who share with him the seashore and the prairie where he makes his home. He needs only the satisfaction of his last blood to see him through the long normal winter.

The sparrow-sized owl is Michigan's earliest nesting bird. It late February or early March, while others are sojourning in the South waiting the spring, signs of their courtship and nesting period takes over the abandoned nests of an eagle, hawk or heron.

The female of the enormous wings (which may measure five feet in spread) over her two or three eggs to begin her motionless brooding. She is unassisted by the late spring that left over her when the young are hatched; they are already belligerent and fierce looking land are equipped with a hooked peak strong enough to pierce the warm flesh which is their food.

THE PARENTS' foraging trips at night find not only the usual rodent fare but such unlikely quarry as cats, rabbits and such birds as partridges and hawks.



REPRESENTATIVES OF BIRMINGHAM women's clubs gathered at the Baldwin library last week to hear details on the library's request for increased millage. Head Librarian Jeanne Lloyd explained the library's reason for placing the millage question on the April 6 ballot in a charter amendment. Here several of the club presidents review the names of those organizations asked to participate. (Eccentric Staff Photo)

Lily of France

Shapes a new YOU
with nylon
for minimum weight
and maximum control

A bright new season . . . a slimmer, lovelier you in Enhance white girdle, destined to pare actual inches from your hips. Sizes 24 to 29. For bosom beauty, the white nylon lace bra. Sizes 32 to 38.

A and B cups.

Brassiere, \$4

14" Girdle, \$11

16" Girdle, 12.50

Jacobson's

BIRMINGHAM



FOUNDATIONS PARKING LEVEL

Intangibles Tax Principles Are Explained

In increase of one-half percent in the tax rate and higher dividend payments by corporations will make many Michigan citizens who in past years have been exempt the return and pay the Michigan intangible tax which is due March 31.

The State Bar of Michigan in co-operation with the Michigan Department of Revenue has prepared a series of three articles of which this is the first to explain the principles of the tax as applied to individuals.

The new rate is 3 1/2% of the income from intangibles. Thus a specific deduction for the tax does not apply to the tax on money or bank deposits or building and loan shares. It also provides that joint interest or dividend income in 1962 will be subject to the tax.

Intangible personal property is defined in the act as "money on hand or on deposit; shares of stock

in corporations; bonds, debentures and notes; real estate and chattel mortgages and land contracts receivable; accounts and other credit or evidence of indebtedness."

IN THE INTANGIBLE produces no income, the tax rate is \$1.00 per \$1,000 of its value per year. The tax is levied on money in banks or in a deposit box or on shares in a building and loan association at 40c per \$1,000.

The well known economist from a round-the-world tour and author of many months in Europe.

On his travels he interviewed many important political leaders,

Fischer is universally recognized as an authority on Russia. His "The Soviets in World Affairs" is

the standard reference for all students of Russian activities.

and bonds issued by the State of Michigan or Michigan cities and villages are exempt. Bonds issued by foreign governments, cities, states and foreign bonds are taxable.

Next week: How the tax is computed on stocks.

the
Balenciaga
straw sailor

by Cecile

The Balenciaga-inspired sailor with the briefest of brims . . . in fine straw strategically sparkled by a jewel emblem. Black, white or navy.

16.95

Jacobson's

BIRMINGHAM

Ours alone . . .

The

Dorothy O'Hara

Touch

The monotone diamond print silk crepe, sculptured in the inimitable manner of Dorothy O'Hara . . . punctuated at the bodice and hips to dramatize the feminine figure, and to generate the new narrow line. White with black, white with navy or all-beige.

Sizes 10 to 18.

59.95

DRESS SALON

STREET LEVEL

Jacobson's

BIRMINGHAM

A
B
C

W e
h a
v e
t a
k e n
a
s h i n
e
t o

I. Miller BLACK PATENT LEATHER

SHOE SALON STREET LEVEL

Jacobson's

BIRMINGHAM

