

**Columnist to Talk On Current Plays**

John Mason Brown will speak at Detroit Town Hall, Wednesday morning, Jan. 10, at 11 o'clock in Fisher theater. His subject, named for his weekly column in Saturday Review of Literature, will be "Seeing Things."

Born in Louisville, Brown was educated at Harvard, where he was a member with Thomas Wolfe and Philip Barry, of the famous "47 Workshop. In 1922 he went abroad to spend a year studying the European theater.

Returning to this country, he

joined the staff of Theatre Arts as associate editor, later becoming an executive of Saturday Review of Literature. He is the author of a number of widely read books including "In Morning Faces" and three volumes of his best pieces from his Saturday Review column.

Part of John Mason Brown's talk at Town Hall will be a report on the current Broadway plays.

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**Winter's Role Vital To Miracle of Life**

By Lydia King Frehse  
Special Writer for The Birmingham Eccentric

Now, in early winter, life prepares for its long rest. Earth's colors are muted, many of its voices are hushed and its pulse beats in slower rhythm.

But the cold bareness of a winter landscape is only one of nature's deceptions. Life is yet secure, although much of it is hidden and silent. It is cloaked in its own special garments, snug from the cold and wet of winter, safe against hunger and possible extinction.

Life's first law is to insure itself. To accomplish this it has, through the dim vistas of time, taken great pains to develop a special protective pattern for each species of plant and animal to carry its kind safely through the hazards of winter.

If no such pattern can be found, the species becomes extinct and another better suited to survival takes its place.

Many are these protective devices of structure and habit which carry life through the long winter.

Water, life's earliest protector, still remains a

safe haven for many creatures. Driven from its shallows by layers of ice, they retreat to its warmer depths. The soft mud bottom of pond and stream is populated with hibernating amphibians and reptiles, with worms, mollusks and crustaceans.

Here rest the eggs and larval cases of a myriad of insects which, when mature, may be aquatic or terrestrial.

COUNTLESS others in many phases of development are safely hidden under bark, buried in soft earth, encased in rotten logs or protected by leaf mould.

Moths and some species of butterflies lie quiescent through the winter, encased in cocoon or crystallized. Bees have retreated to the hive. Ants have tunneled underground. Myriads of insects are

killed by frost, but, as is true of wasps and hornets, the female survives, to hibernate in crack or crevice and carry-on safely hidden within her body, the already fertilized egg.

The birds' fleet of wing and hollow of bone, are well adapted for the long migration flights which protect most species over winter. The mammals have developed warm blood, and heavy coats of fur to insure their lives. The lizards, turtles, and snakes, remnants of the great reptilian boards of the past, have learned how to hibernate, cold body coiled and inert.

MANY MAMMALS such as the woodchuck, bear, ground squirrel and bat also make good use of this long sleep during which the body lives on stored-up fat as it lies inert in cave or ground tunnel. Its respiration and heart-beat are all but extinguished.

Plants, too, have developed many techniques for survival. The evergreens have small scale-like leaves or needles which allow little moisture to escape during the winter months while growth is at a standstill. Trees and shrubs have grown woody trunks and limbs which are impervious to frost injuring their continued growth.

Perennials retreat to root stock or bulb where the pattern of the plant is preserved and by which the new growth is fed when it is called forth by another spring-time sun.

SHOULD THE parent plant be killed by frost, the seed preserves every delicate vein of leaf, every subtle shape and hue of petal. Within its protective shell is also



packed a lunch of starches and sugars which will nourish the new embryo until it can establish its own root and leaf system. Thus the encased seed, an efficient bearer of life, conquered for much of our modern flora the killing hazard of winter.

Had primitive life found no obstacles to its single-celled existence, it would have remained forever safely cradled in the warm seas, a mere blob of protoplasm.

It has, though, been beset with one hazard after another in every moment of the millennia which represent its past existence. To surmount these it was forced to achieve the diversity of plant and animal shapes with which it now populates the earth.

This is life's pattern for survival and winter's cold and its attendant rest is a part of it.



**WHAT ABOUT OUR DEER?**

In the wake of our first "any deer" 3-day season a great deal of public sentiment was aroused protesting the apparent slaughter of an excessive number of animals. The reaction was fully anticipated by the Conservation Department which took a terrific verbal whipping from people and press on the heels of the close of the season.

This writer joined the clamor, believing the discretionary powers granted the Conservation Commission had been misdirected, and that the kill had been far too heavy in areas where winter starvation was not an important factor.

Our judgment was swayed heavily by the fact that we were "on the spot" at the time, as you may well have been. We witnessed what looked like carnage in some areas, and came away with the fear that the herd must surely have suffered such heavy damage that some areas would be a long far before the deer population got to a point where they might once again be a common sight to the delighted tourist.

**The Native Viewpoint**

We went with the local populace in the week that followed, and then as the days went by a strange thing happened. A lot of deer began to show in their old haunts in areas where our own eyes had seen the herd "wiped out." Old timers

scratched their chins and wondered if the deer had come out of the ground. Calloused guides "did a double-take" when our fresh snuff-fall produced a myriad of tracks as the animals moved to and fro their feeding grounds. It was a time for reconciliations.

And this writer joined the die-hards who admitted theirs could be worse. There seemed to be a deer left, almost everywhere. They would go into the winter with a better chance of survival, and what may in the way of wealth. And this year's fawn crop should be a lot healthier come next spring.

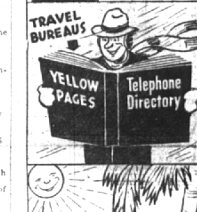
We were guilty of "too hasty judgment" and we had lots of company! Now we've joined the "Wait And See" Club and hope you will, too!

**Total Kill of 143,000 Reported.** Our Conservation Department estimates the kill of all deer—bucks, does and fawn—at 143,000. This is far below the anticipated 200,000 which they tell us could have been killed without damaging the future of our deer herd.

So the picture looks a little brighter. Come next summer we'll probably see plenty of those bobbing white tails bounding across a field, and will turn to say, "Remember last November when we figured all the deer around here had been killed?" That's the way it will look in Michigan Outdoors!

**New Books at the Baldwin Library**

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- RELIGION: TAYLOR—Your Other Vacation; SOCIAL SCIENCES: REINHOLDT—Crime without Punishment; HOLMES—Social Work Education in the U. S.
- SCIENCES: USEFUL ARTS: KIRBY—Giganda, Sex and Personality; MOORE—How Am I Doing?; GARA—Art of Window Display; HANDICRAFT—FINE ARTS—SPORTS; TAUBES—Better Frames for Your EYES—Complete Book of Twentieth Century Photography; VAN-BENSELAER—Complete Book of Party Games.
- LITERATURE: HILLARD—The Suburb by the Sea; HILLARD—Contaminations; MEAD—How to Succeed in Business without Really Trying; BROOKS—Dance on Shakespeare and Other Elizabethans; GORTHE—Permanence Goethe.
- DESCRIPTION—TRAVEL—HISTORY: BIOGRAPHY: WEBER—The American at Home; WEBER—Farewell to European History; SMOUL—Four Tales of Heroin in Africa; MILLER—Books in my Life; SARIYAN—The Bicycle Rider of Beverly Hills; SHAPIRO—Brain Surgery; GIBBEND—Teresa of Avila; WILSON—Woodrow Wilson's Own Story.
- YOUNG MEN'S COLLECTION: SLAM—Teen Age Science Fiction Stories; MANN—Hot White; Bonus Player; JUVENILE NON-FICTION: WHELAN—City of Peace and War; NORLING—First Book of Water; WHELAN—Shanks to Texas; THIBERTS—First Book of Bees; WICKHAM—Child's Book of Hymns; STODDARD—From These Comes Music; HOMER—Odyssey of Homer; JUVENILE FICTION: DRINK—Family Graduated; BROWN—Hi, Gu; the Underella Home; CLEARAY—Henry and Becca; RANSOME—Great Northern; PICTURE AND EASY READER: MOORE—Old Rose; POLJANSKOY—Great Big Wild Animal Book.



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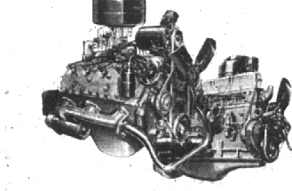
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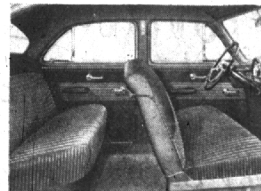
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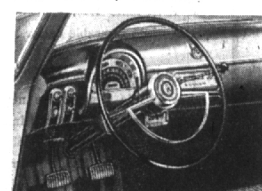
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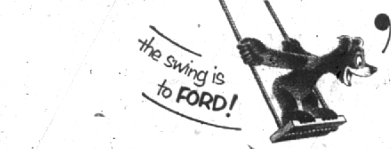
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