

# Newer Resorts Offer Vacation Services Restful to Everyone

By HELEN BRUNSON  
Special Writer for The Birmingham Eccentric

Sometimes mother wonders just who it is that's having a vacation. That's when the family gets in the car, complete with fishing equipment, and drives north until they come to a sign that says, "Cabin for Rent."

The view over the lake is beautiful, but mom soon finds that there's more to a vacation than lovely sunsets and the breeze whispering in the pines.

She cooks on a rickety gasolite stove that scares her to death, and she's miles from a grocery store. She discovers that there's a sharp drop-off near shore, and miles of uncharted woods that enchant her small boy and girl. She worries about the milk-borne TB and undulant fever she's read about, and boils all the drinking water, just to play safe. Plumbing facilities are primitive.

With all this, she's ready to come home after one week instead of two.

SHE DECIDES that next year they'll go to a strictly American-plan resort, scaling their stay down to one week because of the expense.

There another is free from cooking and dish-washing and cabins are modest. But with no swimming facilities at all, family freedom is limited. There's no way to cook breakfast for late sleepers, or a snack for new-found friends dropping in for the evening.

The children are hard to manage in the lodge dining room. Cleaning them up three times a day puts a strain on the laundry supply.

Some resorts have put in a "combination plan." They provide modern cabins with safe, bottled-gas ranges and meals served in the central-lodge—the family wants.

Mother can fix breakfast and lunch for the children—and then take them to the lodge for a good dinner. The cost is less than that of the all American-plan. The owner of a large resort updates signs that families who can afford any kind of a vacation choose this plan.

NATURALLY THE more trimmings, the more the cost, and anyone who wants plush accommodations will have to pay for them.

One real service many places offer is care for the children by a trained supervisor during the day.

Most resorts have cut rates for children up to 12. It may seem out of line to pay adult rates for 13-year-old Danny. But when you consider that he eats three times as much as his mother and twice as much as his dad, you have the answer. Resort men, struggling with heavy investments, taxes and high labor costs, must make their profit in a few short weeks.

CLEANLINESS, good food and fun for the family are the things to look for in a resort. Of course the wise vacationer looks for pasteurized milk whenever he goes. Reservations in advance are almost a must.

State parks offer wonderful vacation facilities and resorts are improving every year. Time goes when mom worked hard on her vacation and her children faced health hazards that didn't exist at home.

But not many more. She now gets the kind of vacation that lets her check her worries by the same way dad checks his desk and his brief-case, and really have a wonderful time.

Some men work merely for the sake of keeping the wolf from the door. Others perform labors of love doing things for the mere sake of achievement. Letting money come as a by-product.

# The Birmingham Eccentric

## Birmingham Background

Local History in Story and Picture

### Local Baseball Interest Dates Back Many Years

"Yer Out!" was a common exclamation in Birmingham 75 years ago and it was fully as decisive a term in baseball vernacular then as it is today.

Baseball fever reached Birmingham as early as 1865 and interest in the new sport took a firm hold upon the boys and young men in the village.

George Mitchell, one of the two founders of The Birmingham Eccentric, in his life story tells of playing ball in the middle of the street which was then Saginaw (now Woodward) in front of the National Hotel at the southeast corner of Hamilton and Woodward.

The boys generally played "scrub" or "old-one-out" or "old-two-out." Once they were playing and a ball went through the window of George Beach's barbershop when the proprietor asked Beach what about to shave the dignified face of Elder Robert Bird of the Methodist church.

The Elder's face was all lathered and Beach was just about to apply the razor when the ball, hit by Kid Mitchell, came crashing through the window, covering the barber and the preacher with shattered glass. No harm was done but all three—the barber, the preacher and Kid Mitchell—had a good fright.

ABOUT 1870, a ball club was formed by boys who were from 11-16 years and this later developed into Birmingham's first baseball team.

With a few back lot sessions, players were sufficiently proficient to out the average assortment of players in the field and match games were played with clubs in surrounding towns.

Birmingham's oldest baseball club was called the "Hungry Nines." There are three versions of this story, dealing with the naming of that first team.

One is that the team was riding into Rochester early one afternoon to take care of a scheduled combat with that village's proud team.

The Hungry Nines all crowded upon a rig behind a single horse, for the trying need for food.

HENCE, WHEN an inquisitive Rochester citizen hailed them and said, "What team is that?" it was the natural for one of the Birmingham boys to reply, "We are the Hungry Nines from Birmingham."

The second version is that of George Mitchell, who was one of the players. "Once when nine boys went to Ulica in a three-seated rig, drawn by a single horse, owned by one of the boy's fathers, we all went sailing along very happy."

"At noontime we went to a grocery store, eating a bite consisting of bologna, crackers and cheese, all noisy and all striving to beat the band."

A curious Ulican asked, "What club is this?" and one of the boys, waving his sausage in the air, cried, "By Gosh! We are the Hungry Nines and don't you forget it!"

Another baseball team was organized in Birmingham under the name of the "Sooners" (they'd sooner play ball than eat). Later, Andrew Wallace, a strict Presbyterian and a good Scotchman, was very opposed to gambling. He contributed his dollar for the ball diamond when he learned that the Hungry Nines had turned down an offer to play a win-or-lose \$25 game with another team. They played "just for fun."

Under the kitchen equipment bid, Rulsander & Sons, Inc., were low with \$18,972. Second low on this contract was Canton China, Inc., with \$14,395.

BIRTHDAYS, anniversaries, guests, births, parties are all news—the society editor about them.

A team called the Birmingham Baseball Club was formed and played their games at (Lieber) Stanley field. The entrance to this ball diamond was a short lane at West Street and what is now Williams street.

Minnie Hunt Salter, an old time Birmingham resident now living in Pontiac, remembers one notable ballgame at this field between the Birmingham club and the Detroit Athletic Club.

THERE WERE 500 paid admissions to this game. The Detroit folks came in two "Tally-ho" wagons. Each Tally-ho had a brass band and two teams of horses. When the Detroit crowd arrived in town, the two bands were playing lustily, but after Birmingham won the game, the bands were silent on their trip home.

Birmingham furnished a number of professional baseball players to the big leagues. One of them was John Rainey who was for several years with a Chicago team and later was shortstop for New York.

William (Daisy) Wright was another professional ball player as was Ed Daniels who pitched for the St. Louis club. Daniels' salary, according to Minnie Hunt Salter, was \$80 a month and expenses.

PLAYERS ON the Birmingham Baseball Club that Minnie Hunt Salter remembered were catcher, Edward King; pitcher, Ed Danziger; short pitcher, Harry German; first base, William Leck; second base, Charlie Toms; left field, Maurice Blais; short stop, George McStay.

One of the substitutes was Will Benedict, and Novell Hawkins played fielder for several months.

### Early Settlers Plagued by Lots Of Mosquitoes

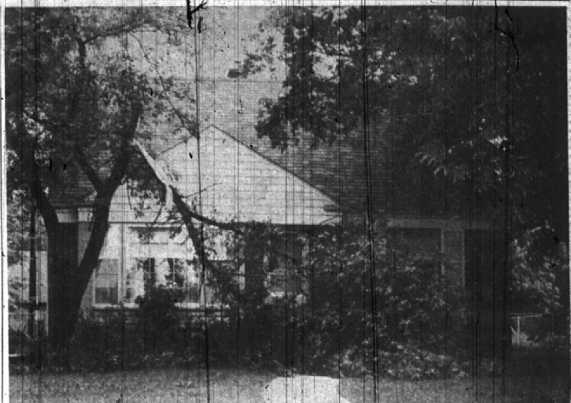
The myriads of mosquitoes were quite a scourge to the early settlers of Michigan because of the numerous swamps. People were frequently beset by the "ague" (malaria) in the early years of settlement being especially bad.

At first the fall came on every second day, but soon the attack became daily and continued for months until the cold weather in the fall checked it somewhat.

Through the winter, the settlers were comparatively exempt from the sickness but the return of hot weather again brought it around.

FOR YEARS the early settlers of Michigan endured privations of Michigan equal to any ever experienced in any part of the continent.

When settlements were prosecuted with the sickness and there were not enough well ones left to half care for the sick. The sick suffered almost as much for the lack of someone to do the necessary household tasks of cooking and washing clothes.



A NEAR MISS was experienced by this home at 850 W. Lincoln during the severe wind and electrical storm which lashed the Birmingham area during the late afternoon on June 25. Although the felled limb did block the front entrance to the home, the building escaped damage. For additional storm pictures see Page 1, Section 1. (Eccentric Staff Photo)

### Eagles, Cards Hold To Leads In Farm System

Continuing their winning streaks, the Eagles and the Cardinals remained undefeated in the Little League's farm system by beating two of their closest rivals.

The Eagles edged out the Lions 7 to 8 while the Cardinals turned back the Colts 7 to 2.

Larry Vachon, who turned in a one-hitter against the Lions the previous week for the Packers, pitched another fine game against the Colts but lost 4-5 in seven innings. Vachon joined the Little League Yankees the next night.

Three teams gained their first victories, the Panthers beating the Texans 6 to 5, the Rams defeating the Bulldogs 6 to 4, and the Wildcats upsetting the Steelers 7 to 1.

The Redskins won over the Rockets and the Bisons beat the Bears. Both scores were 15 to 3.

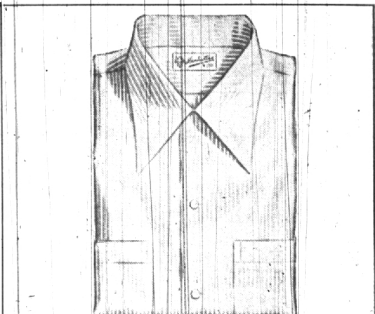
### The Standings

American League	Won	Last
Eagles	3	0
Lions	3	1
Bisons	2	3
Steelers	2	3
Packers	1	2
Bulldogs	1	2
Wildcats	1	3
Rams	1	3

National League	Won	Last
Cardinals	3	0
Redskins	3	1
Bisons	2	1
Colts	2	2
Panthers	1	2
Bears	1	3
Texans	1	3
Rockets	0	2

### Radio Eng. Student

Richard H. Warner, son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Warner, 880 Hixstead, is among the new students enrolling in the department of Radio Engineering at Te-State College, Angola, Ind., for the summer quarter.



It's a "heat-breaker" by Manhattan

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### Bids Opened For Addition To Barnum

The Birmingham board of education Monday night opened bids for the construction of the addition to Barnum Junior high school and referred the quotations to Frederick D. Madison, building architect, for study.

Bids were in excess of the \$240,000 estimate made by the board earlier when plans were drawn for the construction of a cafeteria, shop and two music rooms. Renovation of the old building on a cost-plus basis will hike the construction figure even higher.

Low bid on the architectural work was submitted by the R. D. Madison and Theodore M. Warner, son of M. E. Warner, 1551 Henrietta. Both Dartmouth College students, they have completed two years of ROTC training and are slated for commissions in June, 1954.

RECENTLY ASSIGNED TO THE 6888th Central Postal Directory, U.S. Army, at Ft. Ord, Calif., is **Bill Roberts**, son of Mr. and Mrs. Donald K. Plimstead, 696 S. Glenhurst, is attending the 1953 ROTC Summer Camp at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md. for the six-week training course. Plimstead is a student at Michigan State College.

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