

# Indian Summer's End Tells Winter Is Near

By LYDIA KING FREHSE  
Special Writer for The Birmingham Eccentric

There comes a time in our midwestern autumn when there falls upon the earth a kind of hush, a pause in the sure round of the season's turning.

An American poet called it, "October's bright blue weather," and his English contemporary described it as a "season of mist and mellow fruitfulness."

But it was the Indian who named it. By mid-October he had harvested the wild rice pushing his canoe far into the shallow waters of northern marshes and swamps. His precious store of corn hung in bunches drying in the sun, the husks stripped back from the bur-nished ears. It was time now to round up the game, provision against the deadly throat of win-



## DEATH BY GUNFIRE

Safety experts are predicting that from 20 to 30 people will die violently from gun accidents in Michigan this year—unless past performance has taught us to be more careful.

This reporter has no intention of charging that hunting is a dangerous sport. Insurance analysts and safety experts too, will admit you're probably safer hunting than you would be driving your car. Yet death by gunfire has a way of making headlines and thereby magnifying the hazard.

Automobile accidents may result from so many complications of fate that causes are often most involved. That's why they're hard to prevent. But a hunting accident is relatively simple. Somebody gets hit with the shot because (1) the gun was accidentally discharged, or (2) the trigger was pulled deliberately.

### Simplifying Gun Safety

The latter cause is so easy to erase theoretically. "Always be sure of your target." Yet "snap-shooter" continue to invade the woods. They go hunting with the firm belief that they're going to get a deer, pheasant, grouse, rabbit or other game. Anything that moves is bound to be that target. So they pull the trigger. It's a fixation. Only the awful shock of having struck a fellow hunter can cure such people—or some grim method of sub-

A former Birmingham resident, Mort Neff presents his half-hour show, "Michigan Outdoors" over WWJ-TV, Detroit, each Thursday at 10 p.m.

Some portions of the earth lie fallow; others are already green with the tender shoots of winter wheat. The metallic plumage of the pheasant shines through the tangle of old overgrown fields and meadows with a drumming of the grouse sounds in our northern woodlands.

**Mrs. Frehse** writes grouse sounds in our northern woodlands.

**FIRY VIBURNUMS**, wood-bines and sumacs redden the roadsides and the last of the golden-rod and asters are fading in the meadows. Our broadleaf trees have reached the climax of their color pageant. Soon they will stand stripped and empty, decorated only by squirrels' and birds' nests and a few late clinging vines.

Fruits and vegetables spread their richness over every wayside stand, and the squashes and pumpkins spill over into farmhouse yards.

Ladders are slanted against the heavy orchard boughs while the cider mills are working overtime. Ask any traveler and he will say there is nothing in all the world like our mid-western autumn.

The woods and meadows are fast emptying themselves of summer birds. It is the song birds who migrate early, taking with them not only the sweetness of their music but some of earth's brightest beauty as well.

**THEY ARE** among the cleverest

of birds. They can seemingly distinguish between a man with a cane and a man with a gun. They can be taught to say words. They care for their wounded, play games, plan strategies and gain their ends by sly maneuvers.

A Cornell ornithologist made a recording of the delighted reactions of a pet crow when a see-saw tumbled a playing child to the ground.

**NOW, WHEN YOU** open the

### Bryant Family Settles At Philippine Air Base

**CLARK AFB**—Captain Bryant M. Sharp, son of Mrs. Claude E. Sharp, 144 Fairfax, was recently joined by his wife, Mrs. Barbara J. Sharp, and their children, Susan, 4, and Richard, 2, at his present station with the U.S. Air Force in the Philippines.

During their stay overseas, the Sharps are going to make their home at the military dependents housing area on Clark Air Force Base, 60 miles north of Manila, where the captain is presently performing duties as intelligence language officer for the Thirteenth Air Force Deputy for Intelligence Section.

wild geese go over, their faint honking sounding ominous and far away. It is a sure portent of the winter to come. It signals the end of Indian summer.

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So, when you give, give generously, either at home or at work. Give once for all. Don't let the light go out. Your contribution will help make the torch of the United Foundation shine even more brightly than it ever has before.

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