

Enter Season by Tree-lined Path

By LYDIA KING FREHSE
Special Writer for The Birmingham Eclectic

The little path lies dim and untended under its canopy of great trees. Here and there it is almost erased by the inroads of a single season's insistent growing about our summer home.

But the trees stand in their accustomed places. We pass each with friendly recognition; maple, beech, white pine, black birch, hemlock.

As the path approaches the lake the shrubs, their trunks grown old and mossy lift high their graceful crowns. The yard is a tangle of tall grass and flowers. Forget-me-nots and sweet William, escaped from some neglected garden of long ago, mingle now with wild *oxeye* daisy and tawny hawkweed.

ONCE MORE THE big key on the bright red ribbon turns the old lock. The door opens to the familiar room

a mile of wood smoke old books, dried plant specimens. Here four generations of summer living have left their indelible imprint. But, there is little time now for reminiscing. Park furniture must be moved, shutters removed, windows opened, super coats on the table, suit cases unpacked.

Always there is the debris of winter to be cleared away; litter of waists and nice coats, cubwebs and dust.

IN OUR ABSENCE the little brown hat colony has come to live again between the glass pane and the winter shutter of our bedroom window. Several seasons ago we left them undisturbed to watch their comings and goings through out the summer.

However, this year we make a quick decision to sacrifice our observations to the more obvious good of the neighborhood. Tonight we make short work of our house-keeping chores to stand once more at the water's edge. Cedar, balsam, speckled alder and paper birch stand dark on either hand. The lake is a vari-colored mirror reflecting sky and shore-line.

ALWAYS WHEN we change from city to country living there is an interval of wonderment. How sweet is the air of the deep forest! How hungrily the lungs respond as though they cannot breathe in enough of it!

Eyes long accustomed to the range of objects nearby and crowded, must adjust again to the lift of distant shores and far horizons. Ears, tuned to the distracting noise of the city marts, must listen once more for nature's euphony—soft cadences of thrush and pee wee, lapping of waves on sandy shore, swish of branches bending to the winds, rime of insect voices.

ONCE MORE THE body is freed to the healing touch of earth and air, of sun and water. No longer is the spirit cramped for space to live.

That brief interval of half-light between day and darkness—dusk approaches. Tonight the hour is charmed. One season has ended and another has not yet begun. Body and spirit rest undisturbed. Now with our chairs set out over the water, we listen to gentle lapping. Night reveals a thousand stars glowing in an infinity of time and space. The Big Dipper shines clear overhead, the outer rim of its cup pointing the way to the North Star.

JULY IS THE best month for observing the bright stars of summer. Extend the handle of the Big

Dipper following its own curve for a second length and you will come to Arcturus, a beautiful bright orange star of the first magnitude. It has a diameter of 19 million miles and is 100 times as bright as our sun. It looks small because of its great distance from us.

A beam of light leaving Arcturus at this moment and traveling at the speed of 186,000 miles per second would not reach our earth until the year 1993!

Beaumont Hospital Women's Committee Inquiries Answered

To answer inquiries concerning the projects of the Women's committee of the William Beaumont hospital, Mrs. Lewis G. Erb and Mrs. Edmond C. Lavenworth will be in room 258 of the hospital Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 10 a.m. to Noon. Phone number is Liberty 9-4400.

Workers are especially needed in the central supply room. No previous training is necessary. Classes for training nurses' aids, librarians, and floor secretaries will be resumed in the fall.

During the month of June, volunteers worked 752 hours at the hospital. The services included floor secretaries, sewing, central supply, nurses' aids and librarians.

ON SOME MIDDUMMER night train your eyes on the Milky Way, remembering the white that every star, even the tiniest, is a great blazing sun.

Each of these has its own satellites, (similar perhaps to our small earth), spinning around it. These latter are of course invisible to

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Mrs. Frehse



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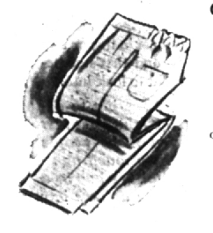
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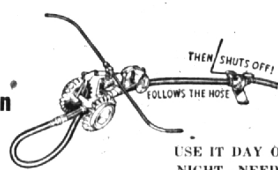
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