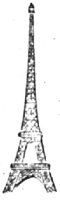


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## LEON'S

117 Pierce MI 4-0700-0J  
Birmingham, Michigan

## Seeing New Kind of Bird Gives Her a Real Thrill

By LOUIS GROPP

Birmingham birds at 259 W. Merrill will miss one of their best friends when Mrs. Floris Thompson moves to her new apartment next month.

Mrs. Thompson, who greets a blue-grey gnatcatcher like most people greet an old friend, has done a lot of traveling during the time her late husband was an electrical engineer. This little lady admits that moving around a lot is sometimes hard on friendships. But there's always nature to enjoy, she adds.

THE THOMPSONS first lived in Birmingham 15 years ago, out on Abbey road where they had flocks of woodthrush, pleasant and quiet for neighbors. It was the discovery of a wood thrush in a new development for a move to Montclair, that brought a renewal of bird interest to Mrs. Thompson.

A member of the National Audubon Society and interested in bird clubs, she began studying where migrating birds stop. While substitute teaching, Mrs. Thompson's interest in birds proved contagious and her students began doing their compositions on bird observations. She edited the compositions for use in the "Verona County Grove Times," Verona, N. J., and soon had a column of her own.

SHE WROTE her columns with a "let-it-be" for birds" in mind, she says, and has piles of clippings, accumulated over three years. However, she's been too busy taking notes on more recent observations, however, to find time to consult her reports on the old ones.

When Mrs. Thompson moved to Montclair, she discovered a "beautiful new bird," the red-bellied woodpecker. She also got acquainted with the screech flycatcher. Returning to Birmingham, the Thompsons moved in to a house nearby across from Shain park. Starlings, house sparrows and robins were waiting to greet them.

"I JUST COULDN'T get along without the nighthawks circling around the trees in the park," she confides.

Mrs. Thompson can watch them from her front porch. Windows are "views" to Mrs. Thompson and she has a favorite on each side of the yard. Breakfast dishes in the kitchen sink don't keep her from shaking them, either.

It was in the blue bush, on view through a side window, that she discovered the black-throated blue warbler.

"It made a nice visit," said Mrs. Thompson. "It didn't hurry away."

IF IT WAS her kitchen "view" that gave her the biggest thrill. One day she caught a warbling vireo, but she didn't know it at the time. It was the first she had ever seen so she got out her bird book and began looking. She had just about decided that it was a vireo when her neighbor came running over to announce the arrival of the first "little warbling vireo."

"That decided that," says Mrs. Thompson with a twinkle. Confessing that she "just loves serenade things," Mrs. Thompson proudly displays the somewhat DPW Radio Funds Increase OK'd

Purchase of \$6,000 worth of radio equipment for the department of public works has been approved by the Birmingham city commission.

Approval was conditioned on matching funds from the federal civil defense department. This money will purchase and install a base station and eight mobile radio units.

which Mrs. Thompson declares is "as good a time to 'bird' as any." She came upon a ruby-crowned kinglet. She stopped to watch it, but it couldn't bow its head so she could make sure it had a ruby crown. She had just about decided to return home to prepare dinner when it flew nearer, dove down, and hovered. Mrs. Thompson says she still is pleased about that.

ALWAYS ANXIOUS to share her pleasure, Mrs. Thompson says if you walk on Wambler during migration it will seem as if you wear warblers in every bush.

She also enjoys visiting her friends in Birmingham who have feeding stations for birds. On a visit to Mrs. F. H. McKinney, she saw starlings, juncos, cardinals, bobo woodpeckers, and the tufted titmouse. She and Mrs. McKinney still are remaining notes on that afternoon's observations.

Mrs. Thompson has voluminous notes and she's planning to send out some more writing now. Her writing won't be out for another couple of weeks, she thinks "hardly."

Mrs. Thompson doesn't like to "think" it's fun for those in between. She's proving that every one's rainy Sunday afternoon, day.

### Peoples Column

#### Old Trees Admired

To the Editor: It's so comforting to walk among our streets with their beautiful old trees, so I am sure new residents on new streets will give their new trees lots of love and care such as water and fertilizer so in a few years their streets will look like

### Have You Met...

Mr. and Mrs. Irvin V. Weil on Berkshire in Bloomfield township? The Weil family, including Susan Jo, 8, and Larry, 5, moved from Toledo, Ohio. Well, an interior decorator with the Triangle Furniture Co., is a sports fan with an interest in art. Both Mr. and Mrs. Weil were active in B'nai B'rith while in Ohio.

The Larson family on Bingham road, in Bingham Farms? Mr. and Mrs. John A. Larson, Lars, 6, Peter, 4, Christine, 3, and Cynthia, 1, moved from Ann Arbor. Larson, of the Larson Clay Pipe Co., is a member of the Veteran Motor Car club.



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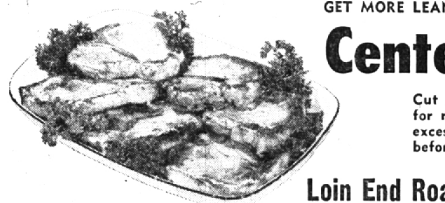
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