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4-B THE BIRMINGHAM (MICH.) ECCENTRIC Aug. 25, 1960

NATURE NOW By Lydia King Freese
Special Writer for The Birmingham Eccentric

Spider Spins Web Throughout World

Spiders and the cobwebs they weave have ever been the bane of the housewife. If she steps outside, her lawn and garden are occupied by dozens of other species. If she walks in the woods or fields, she is surrounded by many more of the interesting creatures.

Some 50,000 species of spiders spread all over the world from the arctic to the tropics. Some are soft, unspined and unmaned. The many distinctive kinds of webs which they weave and the ingenuity with which they are made is one of the wonders of the natural world.

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Inspects Aircraft Carrier

C. Allen Harlan of North Adams road (right) gets an explanation of the operation of instruments in the fire-room of the aircraft carrier USS Hancock during a cruise of the 43,000-ton attack carrier in Hawaiian waters. Vacationing in the islands with members of his family, Harlan was invited to spend a day aboard the Hancock by Captain Marshall T. Martin, a former commanding officer of NAS, Grosses Ile, and presently chief of staff for Naval Air Bases, 14th Naval district. Harlan is a WW II Naval reserve lieutenant. D. K. Dopema, chief boilerman, of Kalamazoo, (left) explains machinery below decks.

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Five Minutes Work Can Buy Quart of Milk

Special to The Eccentric

NEW YORK—Are wage earners in Birmingham, Mich., better off than those elsewhere? How much can they buy, after all the work, in the form of consumer goods?

With both the cost of living and the wage scale moving in the one direction — upward — in recent years, it is hard for a worker to determine how much progress he has been making, if any.

Only the length of the hour has remained constant, and the amount of goods that can be bought with an hour's work the only measure of economic values.

By this standard, the Birmingham bread winner is in much better shape than those in other areas. For his efforts, he can obtain more of the necessities and luxuries of life.

A RECENT report by the National Industrial Conference board, together with studies made by the Department of Labor and by other agencies, throw some factual light on the subject.

They reveal that the average Birmingham worker last year could buy a quart of milk after 5 minutes on the job, a rayon street dress after 2 hours and 55 minutes of work, a pound of rib roast after 13 minutes, a pair of man's leather shoes after 4 hours and 23 minutes and a dozen eggs after working 11 minutes. The figures are based on average local earnings and market prices in 1959.

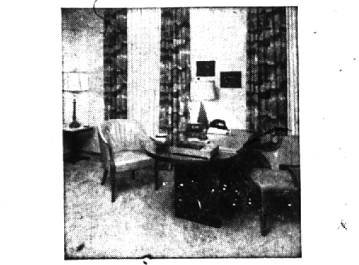
While most consumer items can be bought for less, in terms of working time, than in former years, there are some exceptions.

ONE OF them is the cost in hours of a popular-price car. It has gone up six percent since 1950. Most other increases were in the cost of services, such as a

doctor's visit, a repair job and a decade, the purchasing power of the average family is at least 20 percent greater today.

Nationally, according to one study, despite larger tax loads, local residents were relatively well-off, of the dollar and despite higher living costs generally in the past the level of the United States.

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NEARLY EVERY species has a distinct way of making its web

in shape. All are devices for capturing insect prey. While the spider watches, its victim becomes entangled and is stung with the spider's poisoned fangs. The latter may dine at once, sucking the life of its victim, or it may be emmeshed in the web to be eaten at a later date.

Some species such as the tarantula and the trap door spider do not make webs but construct their nest in incursions ways in the ground. Yet others are hidden in crevices or rock crevices.

Spiders lay as many as 500 eggs. Web-weaving species often suspend these in a silken sac. Some secrete them in bushes; others are hidden within folded leaves or in wood cracks or rock crevices.

The large running spider found under stones drags her egg about with her fastened to her spinnerets. When the young hatch, they climb upon their mother's back and ride there until they are mature.

YESTERDAY WE saw a crab spider lying in wait on a milkweed blossom. He spins no web but hides his time until a pollinating insect arrives which he promptly captures. This little rascal is the only one of his kind who has discovered the advantages of protective coloring.

I have seen him white on a trillium, yellow on golden rod, and yesterday's find was streaked with rose-lavender to match the milkweed flower. His abdomen is crab-shaped and he is as much at home going sideways as forward.

And remains of spiders reach back into the red sandstone of the Devonian period more than 300 million years, thus antedating the insect hordes of the coal age. Interesting spiders along with insects are also perfectly preserved in amber in the later records left in the region of the Baltic Sea.

IN GENERAL, spiders need not be feared. Their bite is usually not as irritating as that of the mosquito. However, two species are dangerous, the tarantula of the southwest and the black widow spider of the south. The latter,

LEGAL NOTICE

Miler, Canfield, Padlock & Stone, Attys., 3456 Pensacot Bldg., Detroit 26 75-97

STATE OF MICHIGAN—The Probate Court for the County of Oakland.

At a session of said Court held at the Probate Office in the City of Pontiac, in said County, on the 2nd day of August A. D. 1960.

Present, Honorable Hiram R. Smith Judge of Probate, Livingston County sitting in the temporary absence of Arthur B. Moore, Judge of Probate of Oakland County.

In the Matter of the Estate of JEAN-NEITTE GEORGE, Deceased.

Bianche George Titus having filed a petition praying that an instrument filed in said Court be admitted to Probate as the last will and testament of said deceased, and that administration of said estate be granted to Bianche George Titus and Jerome William George, the executors named in said Will, or to some other suitable person.

It is Ordered, That the 6th day of September A. D. 1960 at 9 o'clock, in the forenoon, at said Probate Office, in hereby appointed for hearing said petition.

It is Further Ordered, That public notice thereof be given by publication of a copy hereof, once each week, for three successive weeks, previous to said day of hearing, in the Birmingham Eccentric a newspaper printed and circulated in said County, and that present cause a copy of this notice be served personally or by registered mail, return receipt demanded, to each of the known heirs at law, next of kin and devisees at least ten days prior to said day of hearing.

HIRAM R. SMITH
Judge of Probate Livingston County sitting in the temporary absence of Arthur B. Moore, Judge of Probate of Oakland County. 23, 24, 25

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