

**NATURE NOW** By Lydia King Freshes  
Special Writer for The Birmingham Eccentric

# Man Often Disrupts Plant-Animal Balance

Throughout the ages, nature has worked out a relationship between plants and animals which has resulted in a fairly stable balance.

However, man with his aggressive ways either knowingly or unknowingly constantly interferes with "things as they are." Sometimes an import proves successful. One needs only to walk the village lanes of Europe to see that many of our wild flowers come from the Old World. Among birds our ring-necked pheasant is a familiar example of an unwanted introduction in the sense that it is not native to this area. It was introduced in the late 18th century and is now one of the most untidy and undesirable of our affluents. It was in the year 1851 when some 100 of its kind were released on unsuspecting Brooklyn by one Eugene Schiedel in the hope that they would destroy harmful insects. As a result they themselves soon earned a reputation as pests.



Mrs. Freshes

## County

(Continued from Page 1-B)

Telegraph, Pontiac, is having an open house Sunday, May 15 from 1 to 4 p.m. Purpose is to acquaint Oakland residents with facilities for caring for the aged, according to Manager Thomas J. Leonard.

He urged tours will include information regarding admission of a patient, observation of nursing care, the departments of physical and occupational therapy, special diet kitchen and a display of articles made by patients.

## Give the Boys A Job and Camp, Judge Moore Says

Reduce the legal employment age from 18 to 17, and establish work camps for out-of-school and aimless teenage boys, Oakland Probate Judge Arthur E. Moore urged last week in Dearborn.

Speaking at a metropolitan mayors' meeting to officials interested in his "work education" program for school drop-outs, Judge Moore suggested 17-year-olds should be legally employable once schools affirm their "reliability, work habits and maturity."

He urged a program where employers would teach young school drop-outs a trade while paying them a small salary.

The juvenile authority spoke for teaching of more vocational skills in schools and over television.

## Living on Large Lots Costs Too Much, Builder Says

ROYAL OAK—Unless lot sizes are reduced, the federal government will soon be building new homes for most Americans, a prominent builder predicted recently.

Edward W. Pratt, a builder-developer and a former chairman of the Royal Oak plan commission, said the trend toward large lot sizes is sweeping Oakland county as well as the nation.

"Some courts have sustained minimum lot sizes of five acres. Unless a solution is reached, large

with it he is constantly stabling the ground. At this season his coat shows a metallic gleam. His stumpy tail and his zigzag gait, half shuffle and half strut, are unmistakable. Like the English sparrow he drives numerous song birds from their nests and in there he shelters his own brood.

In all fairness we must say that the starling renders a great service in destroying enormous numbers of the Japanese beetle which is so injurious to tree-fruits and many field crops. During the mating season, he often confuses the bird watcher by imitating first one and then another of his fellow-creatures.

And so we could go on enumerating both useful and harmful plants and animals which have come to us or which we have sent abroad. Many of these have tried to find their way into our country in one or more of the many ways hidden in all sorts of unexpected ways. One can safely say that the day of a perfectly balanced "native" flora is long since over and gone.

lot sizes will put housing far beyond the reach of a great number of citizens. When that happens, we will have to turn to Federal housing.

He said the cost of sewers, water lines, paving sidewalks and large lot maintenance is prohibitive for most families.

## Navy Graduate

GREAT LAKES, Ill. — David Lockhart, son of Mrs. Margaret R. Lockhart, 2008 Penbrooke, Birmingham, Mich., has been graduated from recruit training at the Naval Training Center, Great Lakes, Ill.



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