

**NATURE NOW**  
 Special Writer for The Birmingham Excentric  
**Migration of Loon**  
**Now in Progress**

My early adventures in the out-of-doors were linked to the birds of woodland and meadow. It was not until we came to spend long summers in the north woods that I learned to know the waterfowl. Living on a large inland lake, I was startled out of many a fair night's sleep by the wailing and laughing call of one of these. It was the cry of the loon which lived across the lake on the edge of a secluded marsh.

The marsh is wild and tenanted by few enemies, so the little family is comparatively safe in its seclusion. In time of threatened danger the water provides a quick escape. Each bird carries his own weapon in the shape of a long sharp beak which, coupled with his diving ability, assures him of an easy supply of the fish which he relishes.

SO THE LOON summer days drift by while the loon family stays on the perimeter of the marsh. They are oblivious to the noisy flight of the dragonfly, the dizzy housekeeping of the red-winged blackbird and the wary travels of the snake.

On a day when the evenings have lengthened and the water's icy chill lingers on the moon, the loon takes off on his long migration flight. This journey will carry him as far south as northern Africa, where he spends a comfortable winter.

IN MID-SEPTEMBER the autumn migration of the loon follows in progress and the waterfowl the dywags with his fellows as water after water moves silently across the path of the moon.

So quiet will continue until at last the marshes are frozen and empty and winter is at hand!

**STRICTLY FRESH**  
 Most women enjoy nothing more than name dropping — especially maiden names.

Husbands are the heads of their families and husbands have the right-of-way.

Both are safe as long as they try to exercise their rights.

Feeling unimportant is the sensation that comes when one makes a mistake, which no one notices.

**THE COMMON LOON** or "immer" is sometimes called the great northern diver. He is a primitive bird about the size of a goose, with ungainly legs and short wings. Well adapted to his aquatic life, his legs are set so far back on his body that walking is awkward and he is almost helpless on land.

His summer Mrs. Frisbeo coat is a black and white checkered pattern with light underparts. His head is of an iridescent greenish color. His neck is banded with a collar of black and white vertical stripes. In flight, his wing beat is slower and he is more ungainly than a goose. His short neck has a downward slope, his back is humped and his feet stretch out behind him.

**THE LOON** is faster and more agile in the water than a fish. His expert diving habits are his great protection. So swift is he in that moment when he slips into the water that he actually escapes the point some 100 feet distant.

He can remain under water for as long as eight minutes, thus losing himself to his pursuer's eye.

In the marsh he is further protected by his unusual pattern of black and white which blends with the shadows cast by the slender reeds and grasses. Here in a secluded spot at the very edge of the water or on a low hummock the bird builds a nest-shift nest. The female lays two earth-colored and dark-spotted eggs. When after four weeks these hatch, the young are able to swim away at once.

**THE BROODING** period during May and June is followed by a long summer with the lake as a play and training ground for the young.

**Weekly Visit**  
**Teamwork Key to This Management**

By IRMA N. DAVIS Staff Writer  
 "Some fish in the fountain," could well have been the theme song of Birmingham Manor apartments this summer when its surprised managers discovered the miniature residents had been stocked with goldfish.

A little sleuthing and Mr. and Mrs. Clarence R. Jones discovered that their flock of underwater guests had been transferred from nearby Quorton Lake by small-fry residents of the apartments.

"Not only that, some of the youngsters came back with hook and rod already to go fishing again," said Mrs. Jones. "Then they'd stand by the fountains and you'd hear one say, 'that one's mine' and another youngster would say 'no, that's mine.'"

**THE JONESES** have been resident managers of the apartments since early this year. Jones' previous jobs have ranged from production foreman at two Ford divisions to automobile salesman, especially enjoys his present job because he and his wife can be together.

As a salesman he was on the road throughout Michigan a good deal of the time.

He quit his factory job to become a salesman because he was "tired of the monotony of walking through the plant every day," he said.

As an apartment manager, he still does a lot of walking but finds it anything but dull.

**HIS DUTIES** involve showing apartments, supervising repairs and handling the day-to-day details of the myriad details that go into running 120 residences in 15 buildings on nine acres.

**JONES PEARL**  
 Mrs. Jones shares the work, "showing apartments in the afternoon and doing most of the office work," according to her husband.

He takes the morning shift as far as rentals are concerned and "of course, is subject to call most any time."

**ACTUALLY, THEY** get very few complaints from their tenants, "mostly dripping faucets—the plugger and any apartment," Jones observes.

"Except for the time some couples who didn't live here decided to try out the Manor's swimming pool at 2 in the morning. We had to call the police that time—they were quite noisy."

The couple work diligently to keep their tenants happy, even to replacing the swimming pool this fall after it had closed down for the winter.

out of your car and walk up the old road bed of Route 220, find a comfortable place to sit (watch out for copperhead snakes) and call your eyes, hear the abundance of birds, when sprays have not diminished their number.

As you hear the noises of the country, you can imagine the grazing of those wild animals of yesterday, the Indians who shared their land with the white settlers. Open mountains are still there policing the acres. Here you have another one of America's beauty spots.

**THE AREA** is filled with health springs. I bathed at Bolar where the water is 70 degrees and especially good for rheumatism. If you have an ache of any kind, you will revel in bathing at the Old Warm Springs Baths where the water is 98 degrees and in the old, old octagon building you "hange on the ropes" in the water for 10 minutes and enjoy your hydrotherapy treatment.

About 200 miles from Washington and 533 miles from Birmingham, you can be in the George Washington National Forest, the Shenandoah Mountains and climb up to 3000 feet on Duncan's Knob. Among those from Birmingham who have established large farms in this beautiful valley are the A. A. Appleford, Robert Andrews and Cyrus Osborns. Fine beef cattle is a primary interest in this area due to the fertile valley between the mountains. Each household has his own trout pond nestled near their homes. An 18½ inch rainbow trout was caught by Jack Appleford for our last breakfast.

**THERE WERE MANY** lessons in the placing of plant material for an optimum effect. In this area, dogwoods and tulip trees are as abundant as our maples and elms. The ground for the post was covered with ivy. If you duplicate the idea, be sure to select an ivy which has evergreen leaves.

Whether you visit the glory of the Virginia Hot Springs, the mountains of Colorado or the beauty spots of our western seaboard, remember it is all about fighting for it. It is ours "To Have And To Hold."

**DECEMBER 17** is the day when the sun will shine only about 10 hours and 20 minutes by the end of the month, according to Associate Prof. Hazel M. Losh of the University of Michigan Astronomy Department.

As if to enliven the long night ahead, the October moon will be lit by a plenty of moonlight.

Appearing at 4:31 p.m. Oct. 23, the Hunter's Moon, the first full moon following the Harvest Moon, will prevail in the control of these weeks will be shared.

**LAKES ARE AN** asset to your property if the shoreline is kept neat. Be sure and notify your subdivision committee if there is a lake in your development.

Do intensive study of this problem has been a group of men in this area and they have practical information to help your shorelines of being beauty spots.

**BE A WISE** tulip planter and select the early flowering varieties so that at the time will be cut for the aging of the green leaves after the flower petals have fallen.

By ROY W. DALBERG, of 185 Lone Pine Road, Bloomfield Hills, is a testing center for bulbs and some of the early varieties they recommend are Holland's Glory (very large), Paul Richter, Orange (very large), Demeter, Most Miles, Lilac Time, Blizzard, Rosey Wings, Red Matador, Reforma, Mamma's (yellow), White Triumphant, Golden Harvest. The rest of their special selections begin to push the season later.

**"BUFFALOES,** panthers, deer and other wild animals used to come thundering down the road and the Indians lived in the Valley. You couldn't feel the ground for the moss and you couldn't see the sun for the trees, and game was everywhere."

This is a good description of the beautiful mountain area in the early times, around Warm and Hot Springs, Va.

**October to Have Longer Nights, Hunter's Moon**

October has begun with a little less than 12 hours of daylight, and the sun will shine only about 10 hours and 20 minutes by the end of the month, according to Associate Prof. Hazel M. Losh of the University of Michigan Astronomy Department.

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**Friends Helpful to Library**

Everybody needs friends. This makes Baldwin Public Library fortunate. The City of Birmingham's library has a well-organized group of friends who have boosted it with enthusiasm for 11 years.

The Friends of the Baldwin Public Library are a group of people who have a beautiful friendship with the beautiful of books at 351 Martin.

Now they are adding to their numbers and planning new ways to lend their support toward the best possible library service, Birmingham.

Since they organized in 1950, the Friends of the Baldwin Public Library have provided improved lighting for the reading room. They have given a microfilm projector and thousands of dollars' worth of books.

Six bibliophiles contributed heavily to the fund for furnishing the library's new addition.

**SUCH ACTIVITIES** are stacked with volumes of importance, believe Friends of an abstray friend, C. W. McLaughlin, of 617 Glenhurst, Birmingham.

"A primary concern of any real good residential community," says McLaughlin, "is the need for the finest possible library service."

"Most important libraries in the USA have a Friends organization composed of citizens who especially feel this need," adds McLaughlin.

"They devote time, energy and money to make libraries as useful as they can be. This requires more than the financial assistance rendered through governmental provisions."

**BESIDES THEIR** efforts to enrich the resources of the library and help citizens to fully utilize it, Friends of the Library do a yearly lecture series for their members.

They have brought notable such as authors Cleveland Amory and Harriet Aron to Birmingham to speak.

Last week the Friends announced a 1961-62 program leading off at 8:15 p.m. Monday with a demonstration of jet-age reading techniques by the Reading Dynamics Institute, Detroit. The organization's section manager, Mrs. Virginia Sharkey, will discuss the revolutionary technique.

Two students will read for three to five minutes each, then repeat the large amount of material they absorb in a brief time.

**ALSO PLANNED** for this year are lectures on "The Revolution in Education" and on modern drama, plus an "Adventure in Music" with WJB's noted Karl Haas. Along with their programs, the 500 ardent library friends are

launching a membership drive this year.

When the devotees first organized, Birmingham's population was 15,770. Now it has reached 25,225. The library, the group reasons, should have more Friends because it now has more demands for its services.

**THE DEMANDS** come not only from the increased number of Birmingham residents, but also from Beverly Hills, Bloomfield Hills, Bloomfield Township, Birmingham Farms, Troy and Franklinville.

Almost 1,300 families from these rapidly-growing communities use the city library's facilities. They pay \$1.34 annually per family for the service.

Six residents of municipalities outside Birmingham's city limits serve on the board of the Friends of the Baldwin Public Library.

Among them are Mrs. William H. (Alice) Burlingame, of 3891 Oakhills Drive, Birmingham; Mrs. Carl Abbott, of 3233 Bradway, Bloomfield Village.

**"BY JOINING** the Friends," states President McLaughlin, "citizens of every community will help establish a foundation for future library service of the calibre they all want."

"Excellent library services," McLaughlin concludes, "are ideally the very foremost educational consideration of all literate and intelligent citizens of any desirable community."

The pagantry of soldiering was sometimes better than a circus and the Fourth of July" according to a Michigan boy who fought in the Civil War.

James D. Richardson of Washtenaw County, whose 40 letters are the latest Civil War acquisitions to come into The University of Michigan Historical Collections, wrote with enthusiasm of taking part in a great review of troops near Pine Grove, Va., in November 1861.

**"WE HAD SCARCELY** formed in line before Smith's Division could be seen off at our right coming over the hills toward our camp. The fog from the still waters of the Potomac made it look as if they came marching through the air when they wound around the hill tops towering hundreds of feet above the level of the earth," he wrote.

"Gradually the tread of the large body of armed men became more distinct and I heard beautiful strains of music from many different regimental bands become more and more enchanting."

**"ON ASCENDING** Munson's hill what a sight met our gaze! Thousands of arms and all centering toward the same point.

At the appointed time President Lincoln, General McClellan, Seward, the Prince de Joinville, accompanied by the Regiment of Cavalry and a mounted brass band arrived on the field. The booming of cannon with several different regiments of artillery announced the beginning to us all. The cheers which rent the air were enough to awaken the dead who sleep on the bloody plains of Manassas."

**The Day PAYDAY CAME ON TUESDAY**

Tuesday wasn't a real payday. But the money was. It was the first dividend check from an investment program this man started just a few months back.

The man isn't rich. He isn't a stock expert. But he is an investor, one of 12,000,000 who are sharing in the nation's industrial growth through investments.

Most of them are in the \$5,000 to \$10,000 income bracket, and many of them systematically set aside a portion of their regular paychecks to invest in income producing securities. The result: extra paydays ... regularly throughout the year.

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