

# Autumn's Colors Not Jack Frost's

In mid-October Michigan's color tours call out a final invitation to the traveler.

Now "October's bright blue weather" is likely to be at its best and the highways and byways fill up with Sunday sightseers. Others will be bent on closing their cottages and some will be spending a last weekend in the northwoods.

Since our state is blessed with both evergreen and deciduous trees, autumn brings an added color contrast; the green serving as a foil for the bright.

WHEN autumn comes to the deciduous trees their growth at the juncture of leaf and stem a layer of cork cells. These shut off the life-giving sap, the green chlorophyll recedes and growth stops.

Trees like elms, aspen, sycamore and birch turn yellow. Their leaves contain a chemical called carotin which was present throughout the summer but was masked by green. This is the same chemical which colors carrots, butter and egg yolks.

THE AUTUMN crimson of red maple, Virginia creeper, the scarlet of oak, the coral of sassafras and the plum color of ash—all these are caused by a sugar chemical in the sap called anthocyanin. This is a sugar in solution and if the sap is acid it is in red maple, then the leaves turn red; if it is alkaline as in ash, the result is a plum color.

The brown in many leaves is caused by a substance called tannin which is the same as that used to tan hides.

ONE of the most distinctive color effects of autumn is contributed by the American beech. The leaves turn to a dusky light brown streaked with yellow along the veins, from tannin in the cells of the leaf and carotin in the veins. Thus every tree has its own chemical makeup of sap and each tree turns its own distinctive hue. You can often identify the various species in the autumn by their colors.

Leaf fall is nature's device for preserving the life of the deciduous tree throughout the winter. All leaves give off invisible vapor into the air. When the available supply of water in the soil is cut off by winter's frost, the leaves shut off and fall before the vital sap of the tree is dissipated.

CONIFER trees by-pass this waste by having small needles instead of broad faced leaves. These are immune to cold and they give off very little water throughout the winter season.

Trees do not turn color because of frost. However, the brilliance of autumn foliage is enhanced by weather conditions.

The best colors result when the days are clear and bright and the nights frosty for the intensity of light determines the intensity of the sugar chemical which causes the red and purple. The yellow and orange of carotin are not affected by dull overcast weather. On the other hand, the reds and purples of

anthocyanin are muted by cloudy weather.

NATURE displays many other colors besides those found in leaves. The formation of these depends on numerous factors. Some pigments like those in many flowers and fruits are made only in certain stages of growth; others are always present. Many are formed in light while some like the red in beet roots can be made only in darkness.

The red pigments of many fruits must have light, thus the fruit which we see near the ends of branches is usually more highly colored than that found inside the branches. White and pale flowers bloom in shade while the brightest flowers demand full sunlight.

Color adds so much to our enjoyment of the out-of-doors that, as the poet, "I am glad for the color of things."

Three University of Michigan professors have been awarded fellowships at the Center for Advanced Studies at Stanford, Calif.

DOWN TO EARTH  
Your reporter travels in the area picking out home and business locations where the owners have made a definite effort to upgrade the area by using plant material to give their property a definite personality, in good taste. These "salutes" are not solicited.

Today let's put the spotlight on Kuhlman Electric Company, 2565 East Maple. The headquarters for this company was moved here from Bay City because as M. M. Rosenberg, secretary of the company, says, "We felt the need for a location not too far from the metropolitan area with nice surroundings being essential."

THE ARCHITECT created the area by using plant material to give their property a definite personality, in good taste. These "salutes" are not solicited.

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Michigan will be the first state in the nation to pass the halfway mark in construction of its Interstate freeway system. By the end of 1962, two-thirds of the state's 1,080-mile Interstate system will be open to traffic.

## WSU Professor Describes Ghost Towns of Michigan

Boom and bust "ghost towns" as much as a part of Michigan's heritage as are its principal northern woods, abundant waterways and industrial enterprises.

Recent research at Detroit's Wayne State University by Prof. Sidney Glazer, a Michigan historian, indicates that although lumber ghost towns are by far the most numerous, many other kinds of settlements boomed out of Michigan's wilderness, only to be later swallowed by the forests, the unrelenting dunes and by larger communities.

Possibly the most famous, lying between Brighton and Ann Arbor, was Kensington, notorious for a bank scandal which occurred there in 1838. A prosperous trading post in the early Nineteenth Century, this community marked the terminal of canoe navigation on the Huron River. After the bank scandal, Kensington was bypassed by traders, and today only two farmhouses, a cemetery and a filling station remain.

A SMALL clearing in the woods on the lakeshore drive from Bay City to Port Huron is all that marks the site of the Socialist Community of Ora et Labora, where in 1847 a colony of 280 Germans attempted to establish a re-

ligious and socialistic Utopia, basing their program upon "prayer and work." The colony dissolved shortly after the Civil War. Many grandchildren of the original settlers still live in the Thumb area.

At the mouth of the Pigeon River in Ottawa County, lie the ruins of Port Sheldon, born in 1836 of a gigantic scheme to raise a metropolis equal to that of Chicago. All that remains long after the scheme failed are a few decaying maples which once graced the town of Ottawa House, a magnificent hotel erected at the cost of over \$200,000.

In the Upper Peninsula, about 30 miles southwest of Marquette, Delta County, is the site of one of the State's earliest and largest charcoal iron furnace towns, Fayette. It ceased operations in 1890 and has recently been converted into a state park. Tales of buried treasure still circulate in the area.



## First Haircut

A new hairdo is on the way for 10-year-old Candy Rubin who smiled all the way through her very first haircut. A veteran of several movies and a one-time child model, Candy's long, long locks were cut at the Blue Wig Beauty Salon in Bloomfield Township. She is the daughter of Mrs. Barrie Rubin of Charing Cross.

By ALICE WESSELS BURLINGAME  
Special Writer for The Birmingham Eclectic

## Landscaping Lends Site Tranquility

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The employees have an interesting parking lot in the rear which has an abundance of pin oaks, moraine locusts and evergreens. The effect is that you are not aware of the line up of cars but rather a peacefulness and neatness. (I can just imagine the "right selection" of FM music being piped out to the parking lot for the morning arrival and evening departure of the employees.)

The site would make a good field trip for the many men in our area who have a comparable problem. "How can I landscape my office site so that I am proud of it?" Recently, many of us from Birmingham went to the Women's City Club in Detroit to hear M. Bent from Houston, Texas, who is known as a "far-out" arranger of flowers. I will never forget one quote he shared with us: "Taste is the appreciation of beauty."

He gave some of the points he emphasized on the arrangement of flowers:

It is the Americans who developed the geometric idea of balance in flower arrangement. Rhythm is vital to flowers you place in a container—the flow of a melody in music.

In modern design of flower material, there is not a focal point. In his school of interpretative free form, he says to develop your arrangement keeping in mind the color and texture value of the flower and the container design.

BENZ USED common pins to keep his flowers in a straight line when he wished for emphasis. He liked to use aspidistra leaves for a line accent as they dry a good brown color. He applied styrofoam glue, which was diluted with water, with a brush to the center of flowers to keep them from dropping early. Our flower artist had discovered an article by the name of Thomas Ewin in Dauchon whom he felt was a great artist with pottery.

Greenhouse chat: This morning individual fallen leaves form a mosaic on the glass. Begonias, marigolds, lots of geraniums, browellia colous, plus exotics from lawn you speak up and say, "All is well." What joy a greenhouse only six by eight feet can give with 10 minutes of care a day.

Extra Driving Care Urged at Twilight Time

What time of the day do most highway fatalities occur? A study of last year's auto deaths shows that the worst tolls on Michigan highways occur between 5 p.m. and 6 p.m.

According to Michigan State Safety Commission Chairman James M. Hare the time of accidents is closely related to hours of work and to recreational and social activities. These factors increase the volume of traffic during certain hours of the day, days of the week, and seasons of the year.

"THE CHANCES for accidents occurring," Hare said, "are related to such factors as incidence of alcohol, darkness, unexpected wet seasonal factors such as wet pavements, sleet, ice, and other unusual conditions."

Hare pointed out that the time distribution of accidents remains relatively constant from year to year.

Of the 96 fatalities occurring between 5 and 6 p.m. last year, 66 happened in rural areas and 30 in urban areas.

"During the months ahead as early dark and seasonal overcast are with us, we should all be more careful as we drive home at the close of day," Hare reminded. "It is not only fatalities which are a problem at this season but minor accidents as well. Fatigue and poor visibility blend in with wet pavements can make the minor accident rate zoom in late fall and winter."

Due to internal strife in Nicaragua, the U. S. Marines occupied that country from 1927 to 1933.

## Post Office Jobs Open in B'field Hills

Postmaster Herbert J. Dyble has announced the opening of a new Civil Service examination for clerk and carrier positions in the Bloomfield Hills Post Office.

This examination will be open to all residents of Oakland County. To apply you must be at least 17 years of age.

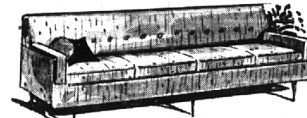
Applications filed by Monday will be tested first and, if they pass, will be entered in rating order on a register for employment. Applicants filing after that date will be tested later and entered on the register rating order as their papers are processed.

THESE POSTAL clerk and carrier positions offer a starting pay of \$216 per hour; automatic annual increases, night pay differentials, liberal vacation and sick leave plans, low cost life and health insurance benefits, generous retirement plan and a uniform allowance.

Complete information and application forms may be obtained from the Bloomfield Hills Post Office; any Post Office in Oakland County; or from the Office of the Executive Secretary, Board of U.S. Civil Service Examiners, Room 128 Federal Building, Detroit 33.

The University of Michigan awarded 1,049 degrees at the end of its 1962 summer session.

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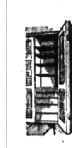
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I 24	1.50	1.75	1.93	2.09	2.25	2.38	2.48
I 28	1.60	1.94	2.09	2.24	2.40	2.49	2.84
G 32	1.92	2.10	2.44	2.77	2.92	2.98	3.29
36	2.26	2.56	2.85	3.16	3.40	3.55	3.76
T 40	3.50	3.60	3.71	3.78	4.04	4.19	4.32

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14x43 1/2—\$6.55	14x59 1/2—\$8.10	18x43 1/2—\$7.05	18x59 1/2—\$8.70
14x47 1/2—\$6.85	14x63 1/2—\$8.45	18x47 1/2—\$7.35	18x63 1/2—\$9.20
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## The Birmingham Eclectic Features

## County Population Up; Township Leads the Way

Oakland County has had a four per cent population growth since April, 1960, census, the Detroit Metropolitan Regional Planning Commission estimates.

Bloomfield Township had the greatest percentage increase, while Northfield enjoyed the largest numerical gain.

Southfield gained 3,969 persons for a 12.6 per cent increase, setting its current population figure at an estimated 35,500. Bloomfield Township had an added 3,470 persons for a 15.4 per cent increase, giving it a population of about 25,000.

BIRMINGHAM HAD a new estimated population of 26,100, a gain of 575; Beverly Hills—9,000, a gain of 367; Bloomfield Hills—5,550, a gain of 172; Lathrup—3,700, a gain of 144.

Detroit lost an estimated 41,144 persons, leaving it with a population of 1,629,000.

The entire five-county area (Oakland, Macomb, Wayne, Monroe and Washtenaw) showed an estimated gain of 86,080 giving the area a population of 4,122,000, while Oakland County gained 29,741 to reach an estimated population of 720,000.

Sweetpeakes winner in the novice class at the Detroit Rose Society show last week was Francis A. Von Koss of 1355 Melton, Birmingham. Koss won six blue ribbons, two second place ribbons, three third and one honorable mention.

The show was held at the Detroit Historical Museum.