

**WAY  
BACK  
WHEN**



# How Do You Spend Your Vacation?

BY VERA MILLER

**T**HE FIRST thing on the agenda erev the vacation is the phone call to the Travel Agency. These wonderful angels of the time table take care of all details for those who wish to divest themselves of the bothersome details of planning a trip away from home. To go anywhere in the world, make the phone call and presto!—a letter of confirmation appears as though Aladdin had rubbed the Magic Lamp.

*Remember those vacations way back when? Ma would consult Pa. A phone call was made and everyone went to the relative who owned a cottage. Then off to Michigan City, Union Pier, Fox Lake or South Haven. Aunt Fan's Cottage was on Washington Street. If you were ever a guest at Weinstein's, Baron's or Fidelman's you'll know that Washington Street was just a few grassy fields away. Some of the cottages were make shift and some were all-year round homes but they all had one thing in common—relatives! From the day school was out the summer safari was on. On Friday night and Saturday mornings, carloads of eager-beaver relatives from Chicago would spew forth from cars carrying bags of rye bread from Rosen's, string-looped salamis skyscraping out of paper bags and always one aromatic package from Silversteins with the*

*warm corned beef (complete with paper twisted cones of mustard.)*

ACCOMMODATIONS were impromptu. Whatever served as sleeping space was. Wherever there wasn't a piece of useful furniture there was a cot. And wherever there was a cot, someone was sleeping on it. During the morning it was the older boys who spent their week-ends sleeping and during the afternoon it was the babies who were napping and at night, if you fit on it you slept on it.

*Vacation plans today always include planned recreation. But back in the days of Bezarks, The Arcade, The bowling alley, Holly's and the Dance Hall and Roller Rink the plans just happened. Evenings spent promenading on Park Avenue and walking past the Michigan Beach Hotel; the fashion show of Detroit vs. St. Louis vs. Chicago at Fidelman's and the talent shows at all the resorts.*

WHAT GREAT comics of today probably got their start as a bare-footed kid singing or telling jokes while standing on one of those long wooden tables in the main dining rooms on the nights when there was Entertainment "For Guests Only"? The social life swung with the pendulum of entertainment at each resort as groups went from one to

(Continued on page 21)

**WAY BACK WHEN**

## Counting Stairs, Checking Mail Boxes Were Summer Activities Of Yesteryear

(Continued from page 18)

the other to look over the place. The funny part about it was that each year everyone (and they probably still do) went back to the same resort and watched the succession of sons take over management and year after year took pride in this.

*After the daily ceremony of going to the public beach via the rickety resort bus and the activity in town, there was the beach party. If you used the stairway that came up next to the wooden store that sold everything from popsicles to razor blades, you'll remember there were 122 wooden steps and then you had to cross the road to get back to Washington Street. That is, unless you walked down the road to see how popular cottagers were by the collection of mail in the Box-On-A Stick mail box.*

AND GOING home. There was always someone from a cottage that wanted a lift back to Chicago. The lap loads lightened as some riders got off at Union Pier confident they would find a lift home later with their precious cargo of fresh lox and bagels. This summer on your vacation if you find yourself wait-

ing in crowded terminals and highways, just be glad you're not in the traffic rush—remember—on Sunday night next to the train tracks at the curve coming through Gary, Indiana?

### Temple Topics For Shabas

On Saturday morning, July 16 Rabbi Moses Mescheloff of Congregation KINS of West Rogers Park, 2800 W. North Shore Ave. will preach on "Israel's Inheritance."

Guest speaker Byron S. Miller, vice president of the Bureau on Jewish Employment Problems will speak on "Jews and Jobs" at Sabbath eve services, July 15 at Niles Township Jewish Congregation, 4500 Dempster st., Skokie.

Mr. Mervin Feinberg will jreach on "Watch Your Weakness" during Sabbath services at 8:15 p.m. on July 15 at South Shore Temple, Jeffery blvd. at 72nd st.

At Sabbath Eve Services of Temple Beth Israel, 4850 N. Bernard st. on Friday, July 15, Rabbi Ernst M. Lorge will speak on: "HOW TO