

# A PLANNED WEEK-END

... BILL SAVER



**"BOY, am I glad this week is over," I thought to myself as I eased my weary bones down in a seat in the "L" that Friday night to head for home. "It has really been a rough one, and for the next two days I'm not doing a thing except relax around home and maybe catch the ball games on TV."**

**As I read my paper during the "L" and bus ride home, the thought of just "doing nothing" intrigued me more and more. And by the time I reached home there was no question in my mind about it, that's what it would be, no matter what!**

**"We've been waiting for you, Daddy," was the excited greeting from Jack, our teen-age son, and Penny, our eight-year-old daughter, as I dragged myself into the house. "We've got a swell week-end all planned for you. Tomorrow we're all going swimming, and Sunday we're going picnicking!"**

**"Now, wait a minute," I protested. "I've some pretty definite plans of my own for this week-end, and that's to just 'do nothing' but rest. I'm really tuckered out."**

**That, apparently was not the right thing to say as evidenced by the reproving look from my wife, Kitty, who was also waiting to greet me, and the disappointment that showed on the kids' faces.**

**"Now, Bill Saver," Kitty said, "before we discuss this any more, why don't you make yourself comfortable while I get the supper on the table. You're hot and tired now, but you'll feel better later, I know."**

**After I had showered, and we had all satisfied our hunger, Kitty again broached the subject of the week-end activities. "Now, Bill," she said, "we are most fortunate to be living in a spot where nature has supplied an abundance of her best. And it's so easy to take advantage of**

these natural resources. Here in Chicago we have beautiful free parks, beaches and forest preserves just waiting to be used. Besides, you know how the children like to enjoy the great outdoors and it's the best medicine in the world for them.

"And, what's more," she continued, "we can do all this over the week-end without costing very much. The kids and I have lined up the places we want to visit and they are all easy to reach by CTA lines. You can do your loafing out in the fresh air for the next two days."

"What about it, Daddy?" the kids piped up in unison. "The vote is three to one and the majority rules, you know."

"Well, it looks like I'm licked," I admitted. "Let's get out that 'See Chicago by CTA' folder and double check your plans. And how about the food?" I continued, turning to Kitty.

"Oh! That's all set," she replied. "It's no fun cooking big meals in this hot weather and our appetites aren't too good anyhow. So we'll have picnic fare for the next two days which will give me a rest, too."

As I strolled down to the bus line the following Monday morning, I couldn't help but reflect what a pleasant time our family had together on Saturday and Sunday at very little outlay of cash. "You know," I said to myself, "that 'tired feeling' from keeping up with today's pace keeps a lot of people from having a good time and they grow 'stale' just from the routine of working all day and staying home evenings and week-ends when all it takes is that 'initial effort' to get out and really enjoy yourself."

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Bill Saver

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