Club Trains Racing Pigeons

"Keep 'em flying," is the motto of a group of Acton youths who are members of the Acton Racing Pigeon Club. Under the leadership of Colin McColl, a lover of all birds himself, the Acton group raises and trains racing pigeons.

At present there are 10 members me well as Mr. McColl and each has his own loft and flock of birds. The club is associated with the Canadian Homer Union which is nationwide and has over 1,000 members.

The Acton club has been organtzed over two years and the boys are fast becoming old hards at raising and training their own birds. The members meet at least twice a week to compare notes and to keep up to date on the latest developments.

\$15 For Bird

Training a pigeon is not all sunshint Anyone taking up this hobby can expect to spend at least \$15 per bird from the time It is hatched until ready for long distance racing. Although loss of birds is not too great, the members do suffer occasional losses from inconsiderate rifle unipers.

The secret of a healthy bird is to feed it generously, supply clean water two or three time a day and clean pens out daily. Feed mainly consists of corn. wheat, barley and peas.

A racing pigeon is at its best around four to five years of age

Young pigeons are not trained with older birds but are started of the boys take a cage of birds in flocks by themselves. At first and drive about a mile out into

Mrs. Lowrie

A captain has been found for the Girl Guide Company. Mrs con. Lowrie took over at the last | meeting and promises the girls! a busy time.

des increased the number by seven. Those earning their wings were Roberta Nessett, Marianne Coles, Valeric Coles, Peggy Wheeler and Debbie Slingerland. Two Brownles who didn't gulte make wings were helped rolong the New Museum Exhibit way to the Guiding World by a pair of magic shoes. They were

missioner. next month.

-Bieff Pholos

B. D. RACHLIN, Acton jeweller, donated an inscribed trophy to the Acton Racing Pigeon Club for competition among members. Left to right are club president Colin McColl, member Ernie Waller and Mr. Rachlin. There are a total of 10 members and each has his own loft with pigeons at home.

with a metal tag on one leg and king distance flying the older destination. Normally this is this remains there until the bird and well trained birds will fly done at night. Pirst thing in the 500 miles or hetter on a flight. | morning, the station master frees the birds at the time indicated

When starting training, a few the country, at a specific time they open the door of the cage air and after getting their hear- allow, the station agent will removed from the bird's leg to ings, head for home base. Members remaining at home take the time each bird arrives in order to assess the value of each pig-

After months of this type of training and distances gradually increased, the pigeons are ready A Recent Ply-Up of the Brown- for a longer flight. After loading several cages with their feathered

UEL Spinning Wheel

A aninning wheel that came to Sharon Gordon and Ellen Wis- this district in 1782 with a United Empire Loyalist family is one Still needed to complete the of the latest acquisitions at the group of guiders is a new com- Halton County Museum. Along with it as gifts came a wool wind-The project on hand is plan- er and a clock and a piece of ning for the annual mother and petit point worked in Philadeldaughter banquet to be held phia before the family came

CARPENTER?

Cupboards

The Acton Free Press, Thursday, March 19th, 1964

New Floors

New Callings

New Kitchen

although training begins when the their flights are only up to a friends, the members take the either phone or wire the members pigeon is quite young. When one mile and this distance is increase cages to the C.N.R. station where to let them know what time the week old, each pigeon is handed ed as experience is gained. For they are shipped to a designated

> by the members on the treight Scan the Skles

pigeons will be freed. Mr. McColl and the hoys keep close tab on the birds and as time lapses (time of flight is estimated roughly! according to previous runs) members begin to scan the skies and walt eagerly at their home lofts. As a bird arrives, Mrs. McColl In the event the weather is takes down the time on the phone and the pigeons soar into the not suitable or time does not after a rubber flight tag has been

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RECIPE OF THE MONTH the Out on Territor Emillion details has County Choice Campet Front

FRUIT RELISH

Serves 8-10. Crisp with cranberry; pleasing with pear

1 large orange cup canned Canadian pears, diced (choice or

standard grade) 2 cups raw cranberries

cup sugar

2 tablespoons lemon juice 3-ounce package lemonflavoured gelatin

Peel orange. Scrape off most of the white membrane. Put peel, pulp and cranberries through a food chopper using medium blade. Combine with pears and sugar. Prepare gelatin according to directions on package. Chill until thick as unbeaten egg white. Fold in cranberry and pear mixture. Pour into 11:

quart mold, Chill until firm.

determine its flight number. Racing Season

Beginning in May the boys expect to be quite busy. This is the start of the racing season for the younger birds and lasts into tate full for the older ones.

Much fun? Ask any of the members! They enjoy it thoroughly and work hard at the sport. Listed on the membership roll are Mr. McColl as president, Kasmier Lewandowski as secretary-treasurer. Bruce Lambert. Dave Pupillon, Mike Miller, Ernie Walter, Hugh Echering, Kurt Eckerick, Jack Pope and Paul Phelan of Acton and Robert Hilton, Rock-

Why does Mr. McColl hother with the boys and pigeons, when supervises curetaking chores at both public schools. tend several hives of bees, mind chickens, pheasants and partridges? He loves to see yoursters enjoy themselves and fund a hubby they can enjoy.

If you are a hunter out in the words, hunting game and you see a flock of pigeons flying overhand, don't take a pot shot at them. Remember they could belong to one of these boys - and they cost money to raise.



RACING PIGEONS produce a fascinating hobby for this group. Pondering over a map and anticipating racing the pigeons early in May are, left to right, Bruce Lambert, David Papillon. Mile Miller, Ernie Waller and Colin McColl. They are members of the Acton Racing Pigeon



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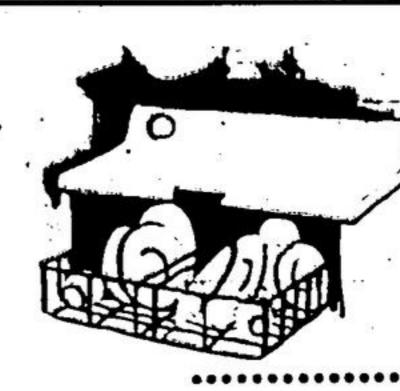
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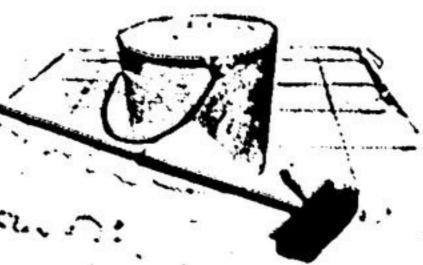
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