



By Wendy Thomson

Last spring, on the bulletin board at the laundromat, in between a slip of paper with a crib for sale and one selling a V-8 something-or-other, was an ad for a pony. It was there so long that I thought that it must be a lemon, and never really bothered about it until our three youngsters pooled their savings and decided that what they needed more than anything else, was a pony. I phoned about this one and found it was a 5 year old gelding, part Welsh and part Shetland, very reasonable (must be a real lemon), but figured it wouldn't hurt to go have a look.

We went, looked, and were lost. He was a round juicy little pony, red (in spite of his name, Earl Grey), with big dark eyes that peered out from a shaggy grey mane. He wasn't that big, but he simply flew when he was taken out in the field, yet was quite docile with the children.

That night, we figured out shares; Beth and Jim each bought two-fifths, and David, since he was just past three had one-fifth. The next day we brought him home, and he's been on the go ever since. Almost everybody that visited us had a run on him, and surprisingly, even though he took off with a grown person on his back, he grew down with children - the smaller they were the easier he went.

Linda-down-the-road was the first casualty, much to her husband's delight once he saw she wasn't hurt. We use no saddle which makes it a little hard to stay on when he's at a fast trot. Linda came across the field at a pretty good clip, but was gradually being jogged off sideways. Earl Grey not only didn't stop when she finally let go and slid off, but stepped on her bottom on the way over.

Jim lost interest in the pony fairly soon, since his favorite past-time is taking things apart, and we drew the line at the pony. David never did develop more than a passing interest, since he had just seen a tiny knock-kneed Mexican Burro and that is still his heart's desire - "a little sparrow to feed hay to, and hug." With Earl Grey, his hugs don't come much above the pony's knees, and I agree that a burro would be far more satisfying.

Every day, I have a small tussle with the pony in the barn when I water my mare, Black Velvet. I have to stand between the two to prevent any fighting over the water, and invariably when I go to get a refill, I'm brought up short to find that he has hold of my coat-tail with his teeth. He will just stand, looking the other way, pretending I'm not there at all and it must be some other pony hanging on.

A few weeks ago, when there was that mild spell after all the

snow, I thought that after being tied in the barn for a month or so the horse and the pony could do with a day in the corral, having a good stretch. I put Velvet in with no trouble, but Earl Grey had other ideas. The open length of driveway was calling and it was too much to resist. Since the snow we were floundering in was well over my knees, it didn't take much of a jerk to pull me off balance and away we went, me flat on my belly at the end of the rope. I kept thinking (hopefully) he'd have to stop if I didn't let go, but when he did it was just to start running around in circles with me spinning (on my stomach, still) in the middle.

About the third time around, I thought "Now, this is ridiculous" and let go. At that the pony gave me a reproachful look for spoiling the fun, then trotted back to the corral where Velvet was watching the whole thing with amazement.

When I got back to the house, I had snow down my boots, and down my back and my front, and up my sleeves, and I was half-frozen. I dumped everything into the bath-tub, climbed into bed, turned the blanket up and stayed there for half-an-hour. Gord, still laughing, brewed up a big bowl of the special soup he makes, to warm me up.

GORD'S TOMATO SOUP

Heat a 28 oz can of tomatoes, 1/2 tsp. baking soda, 1 tsp. salt, few grains pepper, a pinch thin slice garlic, and 1 Tbsp. butter. Add 2 cups milk, and heat just to under a boil. Soup will curdle if it boils.

Something that goes very nicely with it is Cheese Puffs. I sometimes freeze half the dough and Gord brings it up for a snack when I'm not here.

CHEESE PUFFS

Mix 1 cup flour, 1/4 tsp. salt, 1 Tbsp. baking powder, 1/2 cup grated cheese. Cut in 1/2 cup butter with two knives, then add 1/2 cup cold water. Mix well, drop by spoonfuls on a greased cookie sheet. Bake at 425 degrees for 15 minutes. Serve with butter.

Ladies' fair board officers re elected

The regular meeting of the ladies' fair board was held at the home of Mrs. D. Mathews, when 14 ladies were present. The president Mrs. W. Linham was in the chair. Mrs. D. Mathews, secretary, read the minutes of the last meeting and gave the financial statement.

Don Mathews was chairman for the election of officers in the absence of Mrs. Irene Swackhamer. The same officers of last year were re-elected with the exception of auditor who is to be Mrs. S. Morrison. The

secretary is to receive an honorarium of \$10.

Convention delegates are Mrs. W. Linham and Mrs. D. Mathews with alternates Elva Pearen and Mrs. S. Morrison. Euchres were discussed as well as 1969 judges for the ladies' fair division.

The hostess, assisted by Mrs. C. Aitken and Mrs. C. Storey, served a delicious lunch. Mrs. M. Madill was courtesy convener.

The next meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. S. Morrison. Lunch committee included Mrs. R. L. Davidson, Mrs. A. Near and Mrs. M. Madill.

Self-confidence for your children

Does your child lack confidence in himself? If a child feels he is disapproved of by those he wants to please or that he is foolish in their eyes, his self-esteem is damaged. Children need help from their parents in gaining self-confidence.

Here are some suggestions from a federal health department pamphlet, "Building Self-Confidence" on what you can do for your child:

- 1-A child should feel that the love he receives does not depend on "success". It's the attitude toward an activity that counts-not whether a child wins, or is "best" at it.
- 2-Sarcasm and ridicule destroy self-respect. Give support and sympathy. Help him to understand and accept the fact that, in some things, others are more competent than he.
- 3-When he is very discouraged help him see things in a better light, reminding him of his own special achievements.
- 4-Provide plenty of opportunities for success.

Personals

Mrs. Kathleen Dodds is a patient in hospital in Galt.

Miss Marjorie Hall, president of Acton W.I., returned home from hospital in Toronto on Tuesday.

The Rev. A. H. McKenzie has returned after taking a refresher course for ministers at Montreal College.

Mr. George Holloway is a patient in Guelph General Hospital.

At a recent graduation ceremony in Bristol, England, Herbert Saravanamuttoo received his Ph.D. He is the son-in-law of Dr. and Mrs. Robert D. Buckner, formerly of Acton, and presently in Kingston, Jamaica. Mr. and Mrs. Saravanamuttoo have three young sons. She is the former Helen Buckner.



LOIS KIRKWOOD and Paul Henderson were married December 28. Attendants were the bride's sisters Marilyn, Thelma, Linda and Ruth Kirkwood; groomsmen Dave Miller, ushers Don Phair, Bill Shelton and Bill Coxie. Color scheme for the Christmas wedding was white and red.

Free Press Women's Page

Donation to Sunnybrook used to entertain vets

The Ladies' Auxiliary of the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 197, with 33 members present held their regular monthly meeting with newly-elected president Comrade Lois Gordon in the chair.

Due to illness at last month's meeting first vice-president Comrade Yateman was installed by past president Comrade Kay James. She was also re-elected sports officer for the year.

There is bowling in Oakville Feb. 15 so all ladies who would like to bowl are asked to get in touch with Comrade Yateman as soon as possible, also for the euchre in Brampton Feb. 19 at 8 p.m. The bus will be leaving from the Legion at 7 p.m.

A cheque for \$150, was sent to the Bursary fund of the provincial Command.

The ladies were very happy to hear that their donation to Sunnybrook Hospital last year was responsible for some of the veterans being able to see the Ice Capades, British Music Shows, Harlem Globetrotters, Warriors Day Parade; and the 50th anniversary re-union at Fort York and Moss Park Armouries. Nine buses were chartered for these affairs.

The remainder of the money

International meal at I.O.D.E.

The varied and delicious menu of an international pot luck supper was enjoyed before the meeting of Lakeside chapter of the I.O.D.E. on Tuesday of last week.

A special service has been begun by the I.O.D.E. to assist with emotionally and mentally disturbed children. The name given is MEND. Co-ordinating chairman of this regional centre is Dr. L. M. Stewart of Milton. Mrs. E. Marks read the letter from headquarters describing the service and Mrs. Velma West will report further at the next meeting.

Full reports were given during the chapter's annual meeting which was chaired by Mrs. C. Nelles.

The euchre and penny sale was arranged for Feb. 14.

For historical research Miss Simmons gave some interesting readings on historical happenings.

A vote of thanks was given to the lunch committee Mrs. Wilderspin, Mrs. J. Wilds and Mrs. Allen.

The Lord's Prayer and Grace closed the meeting.

Power steering

Do you have power steering? Wonderful, isn't it! But don't forget that if the drive belt breaks, or the engine stalls, the car suddenly steers like a truck with flat tires; or so it seems.

The Ontario Safety League suggests you learn what to expect by switching off the ignition while turning at a slow speed in a deserted parking lot. You can handle the car safely if the power steering "dies" BUT it needs extra effort, and both mental and physical adjustment. Get yourself accustomed to the feel of manual steering; it could prevent a moment of panic one day.

Henderson-Kirkwood vows in Christmas ceremony

Candelabra and baskets of tall white gladioli, red carnations and white chrysanthemums decorated Trinity United Church, Acton, for the candlelight evening ceremony Dec. 28, uniting in marriage Lois Margaret Kirkwood, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harvey C. Kirkwood of Acton, and Paul Grant Henderson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Len Henderson of Brampton.

Rev. Gordon B. Turner performed the ceremony and Dr. George Elliott presided at the organ.

Entering the church on the arm of her father, the bride was radiant in a floor length, 'A' line gown of white satin. The satin brocade bodice, featured a scalloped neckline and elbow length sleeves. The detachable train also of white satin brocade fell from the empire waist, accented by a satin bow.

The four tiered, alabaster veil was held in place by a cluster of satin brocade roses and she carried a cascade bouquet of white carnations and red rosebuds.

Miss Ann Shortill, a friend of the bride, sang God Gave Me You when the bride joined the groom at the altar and O Perfect Love during the signing of the register.

The bride was attended by her four sisters, Miss Marilyn Kirkwood as maid of honor and Thelma, Linda and Ruth as bridesmaids.

The bridal attendants' gowns of Christmas red silk velvet were similarly styled to the bride's dress. They wore tiny red velvet rosebuds in their hair and carried white fur muffs accented by orchid corsages. Their heart-shaped rhinestone earrings with matching necklaces were the gifts of the bride.

The bride and her attendants wore white fur stoles to and from the church.

Dave Miller of Brampton was best man. Ushering were Don Phair and Bill Shelton of Brampton and Bill Coke of Guelph.

The bride and groom's young brothers, John Kirkwood and Allan Henderson, escorted their mothers to their places.

At the reception the bride's mother received her guests wearing a two-piece jacket dress and hat of peacock blue satin brocade with silver accessories and a corsage of pink rosebuds. The groom's mother, assisted from flood Drive-In, Miss Mary Lou Brown and Miss Linda Einlam held a cup and saucer shower for 4-11 friends of the bride.

For the honeymoon to the Four Seasons Holiday Inn at Victoria Harbor, the bride wore a red wool 'A' line dress, black coat, black hat and a corsage of white gardenias. She also wore a pendant watch, a gift of the groom. The bride made her wedding dress and going away dress.

Special guests were the bride's grandparents Mr. and Mrs. John Kirkwood of Erin and the groom's grandparents Mrs. C. L. Grant of Tillsonburg and Mr. and Mrs. Alf Browning of Toronto.

Guests attended from Windsor, Tillsonburg, Toronto, Brampton, Brantford, Georgetown, Ottawa, Caledon, Hillsburg, Erin, Milton and Woodbridge, as well as Acton and district.

Prior to their marriage, the bride and groom were feted at several presentations and showers.

Miss Helen Galt entertained classmates and friends of the bride at a shower in New Toronto. Miss Eva Rhoades and Mrs. Isabel James of Brampton had a shower for relatives and friends.

Mrs. Joyce Sprowl and daughter, Diane of Acton entertained neighbors and former co-workers of the bride from flood Drive-In. Miss Mary Lou Brown and Miss Linda Einlam held a cup and saucer shower for 4-11 friends of the bride.

Presentations were made by the bride's classmates of Form 8 in Lakeshore Teachers' College; by the groom's co-workers at Peel Gazette in Brampton and by the Dublin Community.

The bride and groom are residing at 106 Denison Street in Brampton.

U.C.W. unit meeting

United Church U.C.W. group 2 met in the church parlor with Mrs. Eaton opening with a poem, "Out of this Life," and all repeating the purpose. Mrs. J. Lambert as devotional leader, announced the hymn and Mrs. Rolston read some verses, "Life is a mixture of Sunshine and Rain." This was followed by Scripture lesson, prayer, and a poem, "If you love one another," closing with another hymn.

Mrs. Eaton recommended reading the book "Anna and the Indians" and explained a portion of it.

The Minutes and treasurer's report were read and adopted and roll call answered with 36 house calls and 15 hospital calls. Some new ladies were welcomed. Mrs. Shoemaker gave her Cheer and Shut-in's report and Miss Dorothy Simmons her card report.

They were reminded of the World Day of Prayer on March 7 at 2:30 in Trinity United Church. Everyone was asked to save their used stamps. A box for them will be in the church. No more bottles are needed at present.

Mrs. Lambert and her group served a dainty lunch.

"I'm looking for adventure, excitement, beautiful women," cried the young man to his father as he prepared to leave home. "Don't try to stop me, I'm on my way."

"Who's trying to stop you?" shouted his father. "I'll go with you."

Cupid missed meeting ladies do running

The monthly meeting of the Anglican Church Women was held Wednesday evening, Feb. 5, in the parish hall. Twenty-four members were present, and president Penny Bristow chaired the meeting. Each one brought a layette article for the sale, and Beryl Newton collected these for forwarding to the Central Depot in Hamilton.

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