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Free Press Women's Page

By Wendy Thomson

Once people move to the country, it seems that all sorts of farming instincts come to the surface, and they dig and plant and bury vigorously in all directions. We did a little bit of digging and such, but mostly we acquire. Somebody always knows of someone else who has something they don't want, that is just what we need. And we get it. When it's animals, I don't really mind, though.

The first lot was a box of 10 chicks, refugees from some other family's Easter. They had started to grow into their pin feathers and out of the youngsters' affection, and it was decided that the country was the only place for them. They enjoyed the outdoor life for two days, then a low-lying fog and two low-crawling dogs both closed in on them at the same time. And that was the end of the chickens. Gord arrived at the pen just in time to see the dogs disappearing over the hill.

Our next venture was three pigs. I forgot just how they got out but I remember Gord chasing them up and down our little hills. He was faster than they were on the stretch, but on the turns, they left him flat on his face. Up till now, I figured that the less I had to do with the animals, the better it would be for all concerned (judging by the results of my efforts to help build the house). But then I made the mistake of removing the doorstop, causing Gord to fall out and break his ankle, and I became chief pig-feeder and water-carrier. Every now and then Gord would decide to have a look, and until he could walk, he'd want a ride. He'd fold his six foot two into the wheelbarrow, haul in his cast and say "Okay, Sam, to the market at a gallop!" If he had the pail of water in there with him, it made things quite interesting on the way down. I don't think he's ever been the same since. The pigs did well, though.

The next year we got six, including a spotted pig I picked out of the litter, mainly because I'd never seen a spotted pig before. For some reason or other, he could get out under the fence while the rest couldn't, and he'd come up to the house every few days to call on Sue, our hound. The two would go trotting around together in quite a friendly way, although Sue couldn't quite see what the attraction was for Spotty-pig, in mud puddles.

Each year it seems we acquire more and more of this and that, but have finally decided that whatever we do get, it won't be chickens any more. We seem to be running a self-serve counter for hawks and wild animals. We lost a lot, the year before last, and while Gord was building the barn, he kept the shotgun close. One day he looked up to see the ugliest bird he had ever laid eyes on swooping over him, over the pen, and out of sight in the trees. That night, we looked through our bird books looking for something that might fit his description—about six foot wing span, blackish, with a longish neck and a bare, ugly, red head.

I had thought he was exaggerating a little and quite surprised when we found it, the Turkey vulture or Turkey buzzard that has been moving north from the States. It's supposed to be a carrion-eater, but it was making definite passes over our chickens. Much to Gord's disappointment, he couldn't sit down and wait for it.

Describes help available emotional problems students

The Association for Children with Learning Disabilities held its monthly meeting in the library of the George Kennedy public school in Georgetown. Acting president Doug Creswick introduced the guest speaker Dr. Joan E. Bowers, provincial supervisor, special education.

Dr. Bowers made the following comments: "The Department of Education provides to school boards which have developed programs for disturbed children special financial grants if particular requirements are met. These requirements are:

1. Children must be diagnosed by a minimum of three professions: if possible psychiatry, psychology and education should be represented.
2. The teacher must hold a certificate in education of emotionally disturbed children.
3. The classroom equipment must be suited to the needs of the children.
4. A Board of Admissions, consisting of a minimum of three members, must approve

in earnest, as the thing is protected by the government.

For all the trouble that thing caused me last summer, I was quite ready to thumb my nose at

Conservation, and try and shoot it myself. Every time I saw it and its mate out cycling, I'd have to stop whatever I was doing and be ready to run out if they got too low. Then a hawk joined in the game. He sat in a tree down by the creek where I could see him from the kitchen window, and I'm sure he stuck out his tongue every time I looked his way. One day, I'd had about enough, and I thought I'd try and fix him in the tail feathers. I got Gord's gun, loaded it, and was down at the pen before it registered that I'd loaded with a slug rather than bird-shot and I'd forgotten how to unload. That hawk seemed to know of my predicament and just sat and stared at me till I got so mad I let fly with the slug and almost knocked myself flat with the recoil. The hawk flew off, and I'm sure he sat in the trees and just about killed himself laughing. Now there's a thought.

For all the work we put into those chickens, there weren't too many made it to the freezer, but what did get there we enjoyed. My favorite company dish is Parmesan-crusted chicken. I make up the crumbs ahead of time and sometimes roll leftover mashed potato in them to reheat. Chicken Curry is from one of the 4-11 projects, and is very nice for left-over chicken.

PARMESAN CRUSTED CHICKEN

Mix 2 cups dry bread crumbs (I buy the packaged kind for this), 3/4 cup Parmesan cheese, 1/2 cup dried parsley, 1/8 tsp garlic powder, 2 tsp salt, 1/8 tsp pepper. Dip 5 or 6 pounds of cut up chicken in 1 cup melted butter, roll in crumbs, arrange in a shallow roasting pan, pour butter over. Bake at 350 degrees for 1 hour.

CHICKEN CURRY

Fan fry 1 small chopped onion and 1 small chopped apple in 2 Tbsp butter until soft. Stir in 1 can cream of chicken soup, 1 or 2 tsp curry powder, and 1/2 tsp salt. Heat slowly until smooth. Add 2 to size pieces. Heat thoroughly. Serve on hot boiled rice. Makes 4 servings.

Canvassers

In last week's list of canvassers for the C. N. I. B., several names were omitted. Also helping with the successful campaign were Mrs. Chester Anderson, Misses Gay and Bobbie Nesset, Mrs. H. F. Holmes, Mrs. J. M. Steele and Mrs. Clark Armstrong.

New offices

The original front lobby of the Robert Little school is no longer in use. It's now a guidance centre and office for vice principal Doug Copeland.



NEWLY-INDUCTED members of Acton Y's Menettes are Shirley Broostad, Lynne Robertson, Carol Bomans, Kate Elliott, Donna Bateman and Louise Clark. The induction ceremony followed the regular meeting of the Y's Men last Thursday. Members of the inducting team were Mary McKenzie, Dorothy Rogwakton, Lisa Dubois, Margaret Wilson and Vivian Smith. (Staff Photo)

Mission Circle meeting

The main theme of the Baptist Mission Circle meeting held Monday evening in the church was an enjoyable study of the World Day of Prayer with the Miss Ellen Anderson room on Monday, March 3.

Mrs. Tom Watson presiding, asked Mrs. Wm. Toth, in the absence of the secretary Mrs. Brian Moore, to read the minutes and the roll call. Twelve members answered the roll call by naming their favorite hymn or sacred song.

Plans were completed for the World Day of Prayer service on Sunday March 9 at Knox Church with Mrs. Forbes Thomson as guest speaker. After a discussion on moving the nursery to the basement and furnishing it, the committee in charge is to bring prices to our next meeting.

Mrs. Jack Pink introduced Miss Debbie Bousfield who entertained the group with two lovely piano solos. Mrs. Harold Swallow and her group opened the devotional period with the hymn, "Lord we thank Thee for our Brothers."

Presbyterial plans Synodical

The Brampton, Presbyterian of the Presbyterian Church in Canada held their meeting on Feb. 26 in St. Andrew's Church, Brampton. 13 churches answered the roll call.

The president read a letter from Synodical President Mrs. John McFarlane.

The morning was spent making plans for the Toronto-Kingston synodical meeting in Brampton on April 22, 23, 24.

Daughters of Knox plan World Day of Prayer

Singing "Living for Jesus" in unison and repeating the mottoes opened the meeting of the Daughters of Knox held in the Miss Ellen Anderson room on Monday, March 3.

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Arrange banquets Knox Ladies Aid

The monthly meeting of Knox Ladies Aid was held Tuesday afternoon with Mrs. William McIntyre in the chair. Arrangements were made for two banquets, one March 8 and another March 13.

Devotions were taken by Mrs. MacPherson and Mrs. McIntyre. Mrs. McCutcheon gave two short readings.

The meeting closed with Hymn 552 and the Lord's Prayer, after which a social time was enjoyed over a cup of tea.

Dance, fashion show plans made by L'Arche Auxiliary

Mrs. L. Dupuis kindly allowed the L'Arche Auxiliary to meet at her home on Feb. 26 and one new member was welcomed, Mrs. Pat Garton. It is hoped that future meetings on the fourth Wednesday of each month will be held at the library. The next meeting will be March 26, and any new faces will be welcome.

The dance arrangements are going well, according to Mrs. J. Price, but there are still a few tickets not sold and any one wishing to buy one should contact Mrs. Price 853-1467. The dances will be held on March 7 at the Legion. Chip and dip men and Proddex have been obtained from A.R.C. Industries (HOPE workshop's new name). These will be used as prizes as everyone admired them at the last dance.

The Fashion Show is also proceeding well and tickets for this are now on sale. Beardmore Company kindly donated a

lovely sheepskin rug to be used as a door prize for the lucky ticket. Mrs. Joan Givens donated a beautiful pearl earring and necklace set of Sarah Coventry jewellery for a draw and Mrs. Beerman made a lace crocheted centre piece also to be used in the draw. Other prizes are still being received.

Mrs. Jenny Kuitken said the workshop still needed material and if any one had any of the following would they please contact her at 853 1175. (Fabric for clowns, upholstery

and drapery fabric for stools and clean nylon.)

Easter gifts and cards are again being sent to the local retarded children resident at Orillia.

It was reported that the Ladies of the Christian Reform Church held their annual Valentine Bake sale at Simpson Sears order office. They kindly donated \$56 to our cause. We would like to thank the ladies of the church and Simpson Sears.

The meeting was adjourned and coffee and cake served by Mrs. L. Dupuis.

Free Press Personal

Mrs. Edith Heller has returned from a trip to Bahadaw and Antigua.

Mr. and Mrs. Al Hammel of London visited last week in town.

Robert Little school teacher Mr. D. Harkin is a patient in Guelph General Hospital.

The Lions club had a successful dance Saturday evening in the Music Centre.

Mrs. Vivian Shaw, R. R. 3, Acton, has returned home from Guelph General Hospital and is recovering from an operation.

Visiting with Mr. and Mrs. C. Landborough on the weekend were Major and Mrs. M. Sinclair, Gina and Jan of Kingston, and Mr. and Mrs. Art Syer of Santa.

Hydro Commission chairman Wilf McEachern, commissioner J. R. MacArthur and Superintendent Daug Mason are attending the annual convention of the A.M.E.U. in Toronto at the Royal York Hotel in Toronto.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed. Owen, Roseford Terrace, flew to Montreal for the weekend and attended Saturday night's St. Louis Blues-Montreal Canadiens N.H.L. game. After the game they had the opportunity to talk to several of the players from both teams.

Seek books for Library

More books for the new resource centre in the Robert Little school are being sought.

The library consultant for this region suggested to librarian Mrs. Kavanagh that students and parents might have some suitable books at home that would be very useful to the students.

She would like picture books for the primary students, any books suitable for a school library, ages 6 to 16 years; paperback books if they are suitable for elementary students; reference books or used periodicals.

(The M. Z. Bennett school hasn't made any similar appeal. They have no room for more books until they're moved into the new addition.)

We once knew a successful tree surgeon who had several branch offices.

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