

the painted box

By Wendy Thomson

David, our youngest, has just been enrolled in Kindergarten for the fall, and already I feel a great uplifting of spirit.

Numerous friends have said things along the line of "When the time comes, you'll hate to let him go. The last is always the hardest to part with," etc. etc., but I've a sneaking suspicion that I'll be pushing him out the door and waving him off with ill-concealed glee.

I've already started thinking of what I'll do with those two or three free days every week. The and sleep until 10:30 or 11. Or maybe pack a lunch for myself when I make the youngsters' wait till the mail comes at 11:30, THEN go back to bed with lunchpal and letters, till 2 or so. There's all sorts of interesting possibilities involving extra sleep.

The next free day, I might walk the half mile to Linda-down-the-road. I've almost forgotten how to walk a brisk clip. Usually by the time David and I get there, it's time to start for home again. I realize that this is considered a marvelous time to Get To Know Your Child, but I'm beginning to find my enthusiasm grows a little thin after the 10th butterfly, and there is a limit to the number of dandelions my hair can hold.

Right about now, someone will exclaim that these are some of the joys of motherhood, but I've always thought that I'm a rotten mother and can't think of anything I've done lately to deserve myself.

The next free day, I'll throw the saddle on my mare and trot down to Alice-over-on-the-needle's (the waded goodbye to her youngest last year), and see how much territory the two of us can cover on our horses. Then I'll start all over again.

I suppose that, in reality, the days will be quite different, but they say that half the fun of anything is in the anticipation, and I intend to anticipate all sorts of marvelous days, so even if they don't happen, I'll have had half the fun! Then I'll go out and shoot myself.

Really, though, I'm glad that the kindergarten has been started here, because David is lonely with no one to play with. He patters around all day on his own, and when Beth and Jim (12 and 10) come home, he drops what he's doing and greets them with loud cries of joy and such. And they in that sweet, friendly way of older brothers and sisters, growl "Wodyawant", stalk past him, and all but kick sand in his face.

It's small wonder that David has acquired two amiable but invisible friends, boys by the unmasculine names of Debbie and Lorna.

Beth and Jim had "Berber" who lived behind the bedroom door, and who usually was on the scene when something was broken. He didn't stay around too long at the time, although he's made a few recent appearances (non-appearances?) to pick a fight with Debbie and Lorna. I vaguely remember hysterical outbursts when one of the family "cat" on him by mistake, but at least I don't have the problems a friend of ours caused when she was small. When the family went on an outing, Clara's mother not only had to lift Clara onto the street car, but had to hoist her "friend" up as well!

We have had a few discussions with David now and then, about Debbie and Lorna, that leave me wondering just what really goes on in that little bean of his. One day he came to me with a great air of discovery and said "You know, Mom, Debbie and I used to play with pretender (his word) toys before, and now we don't!" There was a long, thoughtful pause, and then he went on, "We just ride our tricycles."

The most thought provoking conversation happened just last week. David wanted to know "Could your hands go right through Berber?" I answered, "I guess so."

"Why?"

"Because he's just pretend." David persisted. "Well, my hands don't go right through Debbie and Lorna."

I didn't answer, as it was getting past my depth. There was this long pause again, and he continued "But their hands go right through me!"

David, my son, the teacher will love all three of you.

For special days (like starting school), I like to have something a little more than peanut butter sandwiches, apples, and oatmeal cookies in the lunch boxes, and

Facts about water interest Acton Institute members

"Safety first" was the theme of Acton Women's Institute meeting last Wednesday, with Miss Nora Kenney as convener. The guest speaker was Don Loughlin of Culligan soft water products who presented a film. The human body is 70 per cent water, he told the interested members. Rain, in falling, collects dust and dirt. It has been found in laboratory tests that people using soft water in their homes use less soap. Acton has a very high percentage of hardness in the water. He demonstrated many uses for the homemaker for his products.

Miss Dorothy Simmons presided over the May meeting in the library, opening it with the thought for the day, a poem Mother's Apron and prayer.

The Institute Ode and the Mary Stewart Collect were repeated by 14 members attending. The secretary and treasurer's reports were adopted and correspondence was dealt with.

A book of Halton County Women's Institute branches was compiled and it was decided to order 15 copies for Acton members.

Mrs. Lindsay and Mrs. Wilderson are to present a two-minute skit, at the District Annual held in Bolton church on May 21. Delegates were named to attend as well as other members.

The roll call was "Something we Keep in our medicine chest."

Miss Marjorie Hall attended the Musical Festival held in Stewartstown and presented the shield to the second place winner of the boys' changed voices, the honor going to Robert Little School with Glenn Banks as music director. Miss Hall gave a detailed report of attending a public relations meeting held in the Agriculture Room, Milton.

Miss Dorothy Simmons and Miss Marjorie Hall attended the Decoration Day meeting in the library to plan for the annual decoration day service on June 1. It was decided to purchase an

evergreen tree and a flowering crab tree to be planted in honor of local W.I. members who passed on.

The bus trip is to be held June 9, leaving the old post office at 9 a.m. They are planning to tour museums, Kodak company, Dominion Centre, plus a shopping expedition. Plans are not completed for the evening entertainment. Members are hoping for excellent weather.

A delicious pot luck supper was enjoyed by the ladies, consisting of salads, cold meats, pickles, homemade rolls, dessert and tea. The Lord's Prayer closed the meeting.

Baptisms at Knox on Sunday

The following children were baptized in Knox Presbyterian Church, Acton, by the Rev. Andrew H. McKenzie on Mother's Day during Christian Family worship:

George Edward Findlay, son of Mr. and Mrs. Glen I. Findlay, R. R. 4, Acton; Nelson Duncan Farquhar Hannah, son of Mr. and Mrs. David H. Hannah, 8 Water Street, Georgetown, Ontario; Lisa Michelle Lanthier, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Lanthier, 145 Elmora Drive; Scott William Leithard, son of Mr. and Mrs. William I. Leithard, 824 Gordon Street, Guelph, Ontario; Richard Bryan Macpherson, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Bruce Macpherson, R. R. 3, Acton.

Books, rummage ladies' territory

Y's Menettes made plans to assist at the Y's Men's auction sale, when they met Monday evening at the home of Mrs. Bill Wilson. They will be in charge of the rummage sale and books. The sale is Friday, May 23.

Members enjoyed seeing slides of former Y's Men's conventions and recognizing many familiar faces.

At the next meeting the Y's Menettes will finish making the distinctive berets for the Y's Men.

Winner of the regular lucky draw this month was Mrs. C. L. Rogvaldson; her prize was a rose bowl.

though I don't end up with that much variation in the sandwiches, the varieties of cookies are endless, of course. One square which goes over well is Walnut Slices. The main trouble with this sort of thing is that it disappears so fast.

WALNUT SLICES

Mix: 1 cup flour, 1/2 cup butter, 2 Tbsp. brown sugar. Press into an 8" pan. Bake 10 minutes at 350 degrees. Cool. Mix: 2 eggs, 1/2 cups brown sugar, 2 Tbsp. flour, 1 tsp. vanilla, 1/2 tsp. salt, 1 cup chopped walnuts. Spread over mixture in pan. Bake at 350 degrees for 25 to 30 minutes.

W.I. were welcome guests.

Mrs. Joan Rollings from the Information Office, Credit Valley Conservation Authority, was guest speaker and showed slides taken in the area of the Credit River watershed.

She gave a comprehensive commentary on the work progressing at several points, and also on future plans for the watershed.

A plant sale brought in needed cash, and a social cup of tea and sandwiches brought the May meeting to a close.

Martindales describe Austria to I.O.D.E. chapter

Both Mr. and Mrs. Paul Martindale presented the program at last week's meeting of Lakeside chapter of the I.O.D.E. From their travels they chose Austria for their subject, showing both slides and movies. Mrs. Martindale aptly sang two selections from Sound of Music, accompanied by Ted Hansen.

One of the high school students who went with them on their trip to Europe last year, Bob Bonnette, came along wearing the Austrian native costume he had purchased, complete with walking stick studded with crystals. He spoke briefly as well and answered questions.

Mrs. Hazel Orr introduced the two teachers to the members. Reports were heard on decoration day, the music festival and the fall bazaar.

Mrs. E. Marks told of the increased postage for sending used pocket books to servicemen in Germany. The last shipment had cost \$2.25 for 40 books. However, the members decided to continue the service.

Regent Mrs. H. H. Hinton presided.

Conservation projects explained to Institute

Mrs. E. Campbell was hostess and convener for the May meeting of Silverwood W.I. on Thursday evening, May 8.

The meeting opened with singing the "Ode" and a verse of "Old McDonald had a farm," roll call, minutes and collection of pennies for friendship.

Delegates for the district annual were chosen. The meeting to plan the year's program was set for May 19 at Mrs. G. Smith's. Fall fair committee was chosen. Limehouse W.I. and Ballinfad

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Personals

Miss Robena C. Clark is a patient in Wellesley hospital, Toronto, this week.

Mr. and Mrs. M. I. MacDonald, Grosse Pointe, Michigan; Mrs. W. I. A. Bell of Toronto, Mr. and Mrs. J. N. Small of Niagara Falls, and daughter Mrs. J. I. Holmes of St. Catharines visited with their mother, Mrs. R. M. MacDonald, here for the Mother's Day weekend.

Attending the Y's Men's regional conference in Owen Sound last weekend from the Acton club were Mr. and Mrs. Ed. Leatherland, Mr. and Mrs. Stu Robertson, Mr. and Mrs. Al Clark, Miss Linda Brada and Mr. Rick Coe.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Terry of Owen Sound spent the weekend with Mr. and Mrs. Cam Leshman, and on Sunday attended the reception for Mrs. Bertha Lantz at Knox church. On Sunday, Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Robertson of Ingleton were also guests of the Leshmans.

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Bell Canada people are turning up everywhere these days—in Spain, Turkey, Greece, the Philippines, the Bahamas, the Barbados, Nigeria, Kenya, Uganda, and the United States. And they aren't on vacation. It's all part of our rapidly growing consulting services program. Under this program, Bell Canada specialists in various fields provide advice and training on a paid consulting basis to foreign telephone companies.

Negotiations for our most recent contract with the Spanish Telephone Company began in 1967 when Spanish telephone authorities were in Canada and gained first-hand information about this country's telecommunications. Last month, 10 Bell Canada men flew to Madrid where they will be stationed for about six months. They are responsible for recommending long range plans for the Spanish long distance network, the Madrid metropolitan network and for future methods of charging for customer dialed long distance and international calls.

While it's a fact that Bell Canada people are turning up all over the world, it's also true that people from all over the world are turning up at Bell Canada visiting our Panorama of Progress in Telecommunications.

After just one year of operation, the Panorama has received more than 34,000 visitors hailing from Canada and the United States, and from such distant points as Australia, Kuwait, Russia, Great Britain, France, India, South Africa.

Particularly popular with students they constituted some 40 per cent of last year's visitors. The Panorama puts sound, light, demonstration and narration to dramatic use in telling the story of man and his communications through past ages, in modern times and into the future. A Bell Canada guide escorts each group of visitors along a fascinating journey through time. Each tour takes about an hour and a half and the narrations are given in either English or French.

Even though the Panorama has only been open for a year, it is becoming well known as one of the principal tourist attractions in the city of Montreal. If your holiday plans include a trip to Montreal, we hope you'll drop in to see our Panorama. It's open Monday through Friday and, since the Panorama is so popular, we would suggest you phone or write to us first to make a reservation. That way you'll avoid any delay between your arrival and the time the tour gets under way. The phone number is 514-870-8895 in Montreal or write: Bell Canada, Panorama of Progress in Telecommunications, 601 LaSalle Street, W., Montreal 128, Quebec.

Lloyd Newby

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