

the painted box

By Wendy Thomson

Today is the kind of day that is so nice that it is hard to do anything but sit and enjoy it, and I'm outside on the lawn chair in the sun, with a mug of tea. It's one of those absolutely beautiful 70 degree days where the sun is hot enough to warm you through, but the wind is cool enough to keep you comfortable, and strong enough to keep the bugs (most of them) away.

I can hear the lawn-mower next door, a bull-dozer across the road and down a bit, and a tractor up the road. Someone is busy with a hammer somewhere, and it makes lying here all the more enjoyable because it's me here and someone else working. I keep sliding lower and lower on the lounge, and it's taken me about 15 minutes to write this much. I keep getting caught up in watching barn swallows and their activities.

Last night, a pair of them started building a nest up under the eaves of the house, right outside our bedroom window. By tying back the curtain and lying end for end on the bed, I could watch them working at it. With their little feet holding on where no holds existed, they leaned back against their tails which were spread out and braced against the beam, and packed the mud together busily. Unfortunately, the underside of our overhang is lined-oiled, and the gunk kept falling off.

Finally I couldn't stand it any longer—I was getting more frustrated than the birds! Poor Gord was routed out of bed to drive the truck up across the lawn and under the overhang. He climbed onto the hood and put three nails into the beam, with dried mud showering into his hair and eyes with every blow of the hammer. (There are times I KNOW that Gord is wishing he'd thought a little longer before marrying me. He gets a very resigned "I don't know how I got into this, but I guess I'm stuck with it" look.)

For awhile, last night, I thought we'd chased the swallows off, but just before I went to sleep, I saw them faintly silhouetted against the sky going their building site the once over. They must have decided that the nails were placed correctly, for today, construction is going strong. Methodically, the female brings mud, and the male carries the "re-inforcing rod". Tansy-cat is playing the part of building inspector, watching each flight so intently, she must be dizzy. She lies either just inside our window, watching with slitty eyes, or under the birch tree, making wistful "myrow" noises. The swallows ignore her completely until she comes out into the open, then from out of the blue, six or eight appear and start dive-bombing her.

Tansy is a little put out, anyhow, these days. Little cat had another litter last week (even though she had her last batch only 12 weeks ago). Tansy, one big fluffy ball of mother-instinct, has been trying desperately to feed them herself, even to the point of catching a mouse, bringing it into our room, then fetching a day old kit to "eat-it". Little-cat, quite the indignant matron, came rushing in to claim her offspring and carry it back to safety.

Maybe I'm not that industrious, a farmer when compared to some I see in the country around us, but I DO have interesting and regular "crops" of all kinds, all through the year.

The weather is nice enough now that I feel we can have salads two or three times a week

Donna Shortill, Paul Metcalfe married in Ballinacfad church

In Ballinacfad United Church on Saturday, June 14, Rev. Kelvin Johnston united in holy matrimony Donna Marie Shortill, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Shortill, and Paul James Metcalfe, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Metcalfe, R. R. 5, Georgetown, and grandson of Mrs. Metcalfe, Erin.

Pink and white flowers decorated the church. Miss Kathryn Sinclair played the very lovely musical interludes and the wedding marches.

Miss Anne Shortill sang, very

beautifully "Till", during the ceremony and also "I Love You Truly", while the register was being signed.

The happy young bride looked very beautiful as she came up the aisle on her father's arm. Her wedding gown was of chintilly lace over white tulle, featuring a princess panel at front with a soft cowl neckline, long pointed lace sleeves, an enclosed train of lace and tulle flowing from the shoulders. A tulle of hand-cut crystal held the four-tiered shoulder-length veil which had scalloped pearl-pointed edges.

She carried a cascade bouquet of pink and white carnations and wore the traditional, "Something old, something new, something borrowed, something blue."

Preceding the bride up the aisle were her three sisters, little Penny, then Arlene and then Bonnie as her bridesmaids.

Then came Mrs. Bernard Freuler, as matron of honor. The attendants were all gowned alike in hazy pink long gown of chiffon over tulle, long gathered chiffon sleeves, peau-de-soie sashes with bow at back, rose buds embroidered high neck and band down the front.

Matching headdresses and cascade bouquets completed their costumes.

The groomsmen, Russell Murray, ushers Morley Shortill, Bernard Freuler and the groom all wore tuxedos.

The reception was held at the church chancel for about 85

Engagement announced



Mrs. G. Johnston hostess to I.O.D.E.

The Duke of Devonshire Chapter I.O.D.E. held a pleasant meeting at the home of Mrs. Gordon Johnstone on June 3.

The Regent Mrs. Lidkea reported on the planting of an evergreen tree at the cemetery for decoration day. She also thanked members for attending and helping decorate graves of service men.

It was reported that two books on Japan were purchased for the new resource centres at the public schools.

Mrs. Young attended the Provincial annual meeting in Hamilton held in April. She gave an account of the general meeting.

It was decided to purchase a table flag for use at the meetings when the standard bearer is not able to attend.

For the roll call at the September meeting each member will bring a gift for an Eskimo child.

without apology. (Before, a salad on the table meant that I'd spent too much time out with the horses, and didn't have time to cook anything). The following are two side dishes to sort of "fill out" a simple salad meal.

SHORE LONE BEAN SALAD
In a large bowl, combine 3 tbs. prepared mustard, 1/2 cup salad oil, 1/2 cup vinegar, 2 tbs. water, 1 1/2 tsp. Italian herb seasoning, 1 1/2 tsp. Salt, 1 1/2 tsp. Paprika, 1/2 cup sugar, 1/2 cup finely sliced celery, 3 medium onions, thinly sliced, and 1 (20 oz) can each of kidney beans, yellow beans, and green beans. Cover bowl tightly and let set overnight. Note: much to my dismay, I can't remember from last year, whether I drained the beans or not before adding them to the mustard mixture. So drain them, and save the liquid to add if it looks as if it needs it. It should fill an 8 cup bowl to the brim.

PICKLED BEETS
Drain 2 cans sliced beets, saving 1 cup juice. Mix juice with 1 cup vinegar, 1/2 cup sugar, 1/2 tsp. salt. Place beets, 1 medium onion sliced, 1 medium bay leaf, 2 tsp. whole cloves into a 4 cup bowl. Pour in juice mixture, cover tightly, let set overnight.

Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Parker announce the forthcoming marriage of their daughter, Denise Angela to Mr. Michael Sargeant, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Sargeant.

The wedding will take place July 12, 1969, at the Church of St. Alban the Martyr, Acton.



MR. AND MRS. ED HUBBELL were married in Trinity United church, Acton, on April 10. The bride and groom are now residing in Kingston. The bride, the former Mary Lou Perry, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Perry, Acton and the groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hubbell, Acton.—Adams Photography, Georgetown)

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ACTON FABRIC CENTRE

guests. Receiving were the parents of both bride and groom. The bride's mother wore a street length dress of embroidered shantung with matching flower hat while Mrs. Metcalfe wore a beige coat dress of linen with beige headpiece. A tasty salad tupper was served in the church dining hall, catered by ladies of the U.C.W. Pink and white hearts and bells, candles, tiered wedding cake as well as table bouquets designed by Mrs. Margaret Jamieson gave the setting the desired festive air.

Rev. K. Johnston, as master of ceremonies, called on the groomsmen, ushers, fathers, groom for speeches and toasts. Uncle Dick Shortill in a few well chosen words welcomed Paul to the "Shortill" family and Uncle Russell Somerville recalled some interesting humorous incidents and also wished the couple the very best.

Guests were present from Guelph, Toronto, Acton, Erin and Georgetown. Both grandparents of the bride were present, Mr. and Mrs. A. Spear and Mr. and Mrs. Richard

Shortill, also the groom's grandmother Mrs. Metcalfe of Erin.

The wedding cake was made by Mrs. Ernie McEnery and the bride's mother and was decorated by Saunders' bakery in Rockwood.

A party was held following in the Community Centre with the Debonnaires playing.

The bride's travelling outfit was a long coat and dress of coral crimplene with white rolled brim hat.

They will spend their honeymoon at Paul's aunt's cottage at Port Carling. Returning they will move into their new apartment at Stewarttown.

The bride will take up teaching at Georgetown High School and the groom works at plumbing in Acton.

Showers were held at Mrs. Ernie McEnery's on May 21, given by Mrs. Lloyd McLean, Mrs. Ross McLean, Carolyn Freuler and the hostess; on May 23, aunt and cousin of the groom, Susan and Louise McDonald; May 31, Mrs. Lila Somerville; and on June 4 by Mrs. Dorothy Allan.

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