

the painted box

By Wendy Thomson

It was just over 12 years ago that we brought our first little bundle of joy (7) home. Jim appeared 18 months later, David 5 years after that, and there have been times when I wish that I'd left them all on the nearest doorstep.

I'd just about got to the end of my rope and be looking for a tree to hang myself from, when a small arm would twine around my knee and a soft voice would impart a long-thought-out observation. "I know Daddy's a man because he has whiskers, and hair under his shoulders." Now what mother could do herself in before passing that on to her husband? Perhaps mothers write down all these little odds and ends just to refer to in times of desperation (when the 3 year old cuts the 2 year old's hair and inks his nose) as evidence that there ARE good days.

Both started talking early, and what she didn't know, she just talked around. When she was four, her favorite game was hide and seek, but since she could never remember the "Come and find me", she improvised "Mama can't where-is-me!" A person would be invited to "Sit be-all side we" and if I remember rightly, I didn't get too cross with her the day there was a loud bang in the living room and she came running into the kitchen to lean against me and say "No. Either not. Mm-eh, no-no. I didn't. I didn't bite Jim's balloon."

Both was very good with Jim, talking to him constantly and feeding him little bits of information she thought he might need. "Poor Daddy has no pyjamas and just has to sleep with his tummy". "If you lie in the grass, the dandy-flowers will tickle you," and "I'll teach you to sing God Save our Oval Queen".

Jim listened, but never had too much to say. He was (and is) more of a "doer", and went around looking at things, taking them apart, seeing what they were made of, how they worked, and how he could make one too. "You can kill a bear and cut the legs off and put patches over the holes and make a rug." Gord asked "Why cut the legs off?" "If you left them on it would be a coat."

If anything was ever broken, it wasn't long before it was back in one piece, once Jim discovered the power of glue. At first, the parts were fastened together in no particular order, and he considered it a success as long as there were no pieces left over. But the older he grew, the more adept he became at putting them where they should be.

One night when Jim was nine, he became so engrossed in "Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea" that I had to turn off his bedroom light three times before he went to sleep. The following night, although the light was off, I could still hear pages being turned and looked in to see what was going on. During the day, Jim had dug out an old battery, wire, tape, and a small light bulb from somewhere, and was back at his book by the glow of his homemade flashlight.

David is altogether different from the other two. While the others cried incessantly while babies, he never let out a peep. Now while they are fairly quiet, he never stops talking. Although half the conversation is made up of questions, I must admit that they are different. A few of them are the usual "why does" but most of them are ones that throw me. "If a ghost hits his toe, would it swell up?" "Do whales have eyelashes?" "If a bird is extinct, can you cook

Beef, pork on menu

On Saturday, Nov. 1 the Dublin Meatie Maids held their fourth and fifth meeting. The meeting was commenced with the 4-H Pledge. The minutes of the last meeting were read and adopted.

Roll call, The Way I Cook a Family Roast and One Way My Family Likes Pork, was answered by all. The treasurer took up the collection.

The girls decided to hold their sixth and seventh meetings together on Sat. Nov. 8 at the home of the leader, Mrs. Lasby. Mrs. Lasby and Mrs. Douglas read notes on Buying and Home Care of Meat and Pork and Cookery, followed by a discussion on preparing gravy.

Cathy Hinton and Bonnie Armstrong prepared beef stew while Cathy Lasby and Gail Douglas cooked pork hocks with cabbage.

Mrs. Douglas served tea and biscuits to accompany the lunch. Each of the girls and leaders agreed that it was a delightful meal.

Next on the menu is meat loaf and braised liver with vegetables.

Price-Patten wedding in Holy Trinity, Hamilton



LEAVING HOLY Trinity church, Hamilton, after their marriage are Jean Lillian Patten and William Lindsay Price.

In a double-ring ceremony in Holy Trinity Anglican Church, Hamilton, Jean Lillian Patten and William Lindsay Price were united in marriage. The Rev. D. H. West officiated at the ceremony at 5.30 on September 20. Geoffrey Bullivant played the organ and the soloist was Oliver Holland.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Patten, Mohawk Road E., Hamilton and the groom is the son of Mrs. Hattie Price, R.R. 1 Campbellville, and the late Earl Price.

The bride wore an Empire waisted gown, trimmed with heavy lace on the three-quarter length sleeves and around the standaway collar. A chapel length train was held in place by tiny bows at the shoulders. She carried a bouquet of yellow roses and white stephanotis.

The matron of honor, Mrs. Lyle Gawley, and the bridesmaid, Miss Diane Calder, and the flower girl, Miss Christine Gawley wore identical gowns of yellow organza over taffeta with an Empire waist of appliques of yellow roses. From their shoulders fell a matching chiffon cape.

They carried cascades of bronze and yellow chrysanthemums. The best man and the ushers were Lyle Gawley, Blackheath; Don Moffat, Guelph; and Master Billy Cunningham, Campbellville. The ring-bearer was Master Paul Gawley, Blackheath.

After a reception at the Plainman Dining Rooms the couple left for a trip to northern Ontario and Ottawa. They are living at R.R. 1, Campbellville.

Free Press Personals

Mr. and Mrs. David Syer of Wyoming visited Mr. and Mrs. C. Landsborough on the weekend.

Two carloads of Trinity U.C.W. members enjoyed the Wig and Hat show in Rockwood Monday evening, sponsored by the U.C.W. there.

Mr. and Mrs. Norman Small, of Niagara Falls, were recent visitors to the latter's mother, Mrs. R. M. MacDonald.

Mrs. Jean Sproston, Mr. and Mrs. Brian Sproston, David and Jeanie Sproston of Toronto visited with Acton friends on the weekend.

The Rev. Gordon Turner is back again after taking a course for clergymen at Princeton University, New Jersey, for two weeks.

Last week Mr. and Mrs. James Ralston visited Mrs. Herb Prentiss in Arthur, also Irene Ralston in Mount Forest and her two daughters, Joan and Doris.

Chuck Wagons study meat

On Saturday, Oct. 25, the Ballinafad Southern Chuck Wagons met for the fourth time in the United Church. Last week's minutes were read by Beryl McEnery.

Further business was discussed, led by the president. This week's discussion was centred on choosing meat. Such factors as price, season, quantity and number of people affect one's choice.

In this meeting's group work, Carol Buchanan and Rose Sojka prepared picnic shoulder.

About 18 members of Walker Lodge attended the official opening of the new Masonic Hall in Georgetown on Saturday. There were 350 at the ceremonies, which included a dinner.

Mr. and Mrs. Murray Smith, Mrs. A. J. Murray and Mrs. R. Hansen visited recently with Mr. and Mrs. Frank Cooper and Trevor in St. Catharines.

Mrs. Wyman Little is in Guelph Hospital and her many friends hope for an improvement in health soon for her. She was taken ill in Florida when on a trip with her husband.

Friends of Mr. W. J. McLeod regret that he is seriously ill in Guelph General Hospital. His daughter, Mrs. Mervin Vabley of Ottawa, was here for a few days with her parents.

About 18 members of the session of Trinity United church attended a retreat Sunday at the new Hillcrest United Church at Homby, conducted by the Rev. Gordon Turner. Dinner was served by the ladies of the church.

it? "Does a caterpillar KNOW that he's a caterpillar?" "Would buffaloes worry about their feet?" "If a mouse has little socks for his little feet, would Santa Claus put something in them?"

Some days when the queries are coming thicker and faster than usual, I find myself saying (to myself) "How just hang on—the school bus picks him up at 12.30."

Miss Gilbert, Kindergarten teacher, wherever you are, would you please tell David what would happen if a ghost stubbed his toes? My imagination is bogging this week!

For the ladies I was talking to at the Fair Board Tea a few weeks ago, who expressed interest in my Vinegar Pie recipe, here it is. Now, mine turned out a little on the soupy side, so perhaps more thickening should be used. I'll leave it up to you.

VIRGINIA OLD-FASHIONED VINEGAR PIE

Mix together 1/4 cup flour (or more) and 1/4 cup white sugar in top of a double boiler. Add 1 cup hot water gradually and cook over hot water until thickened, stirring constantly. In a bowl, combine 3 beaten egg yolks, 1/2 cup sugar, and 1/8 tsp. salt. Beat until sugar is dissolved. Add a bit of the hot sauce to egg yolk mixture, mix well, then pour back into top of double boiler. Mix vigorously. Cook over hot water for 3 more minutes or until thick and smooth. Add 1 Tbsp. butter, 1/4 tsp. lemon extract, 3 Tbsp. of vinegar. Blend well and cool. Pour into 9" baked pie shell, top with meringue made from the 3 egg whites and 6 Tbsp. sugar. Bake at 325 degrees for 15 minutes. Serve hot, and don't tell anybody what it is till they've eaten it.

Trip described to Ladies' Aid

A splendid attendance of members of Knox Ladies' Aid attended the meeting last Wednesday in the Sunday school room of the church.

Mrs. W. J. McIntyre, the president, opened the program with a timely poem. Following the singing of the hymn Breathe on me, Breath of God, a two-minute period of silence was observed in loving memory of Mrs. George Lantz who had passed on the previous week. Mrs. Lantz had been a member of the organization for many years, and still retained her interest in all its activities even after moving to Milton.

Mrs. G. S. Matthews read the secretary's report and the correspondence. A quilting bee had been held the previous week, the president reported. It was completed and delivered to the owner.

Final preparations were made regarding the luncheon being held the latter part of November. Tickets were given out to the members by the secretary.

The devotional period was taken by Mrs. D. S. Morrison reading the Scripture and Mrs. A. M. Macpherson leading in prayer.

The ladies were taken on an imaginary trip to California when Mrs. Alex Near and Mrs. J. C. Dennis shared their experiences of a pleasant three-week holiday trip recently to the west coast by bus.

A pleasant social time was enjoyed over the tea-cups when Mrs. W. J. McIntyre and Mrs. H. Murray served a delicious lunch.

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Free Press Women's Page

16 leaders learn to quilt at Institute training school

By Mrs. D. Bannister Home Economist
Sixteen Halton County Women's Institute members met in Milton recently for a training school in quilt making. The two-day course was sponsored by the Ontario Department of Agriculture and Food. The women are now qualified to teach "quilt" to groups of interested persons in their own communities. They will conduct five or six meetings over the next few months. A summary day is planned for March 18 at which the results of the project will be displayed.

Florence I. Smith, a Crafts Specialist from the Home Economics Branch, Toronto, was the instructor. She pointed out that many people are obtaining satisfaction from creating something with their own hands in this machine age. Quilting is a new found area of expression for younger people. This craft can be used on various small articles, in addition to spreads for beds. She discussed planning the color, design and materials for quilts, making templates, assembling a pieced block, and finishing corners and edges.

Under the guidance of Mrs. Smith, each leader made one quilt block in the pattern "Algonquin Trail" or one of its variations. Their samples can be finished as a chair pad or cushion top. The leaders who attended were: Auhgrove W.I., Mrs. M. Bird, Mrs. F. Ruddle; Ballinafad W.I., Mrs. W. McLean, Mrs. L. Jamieson; Homby W.I., Mrs. C. Patterson, Mrs. A. Merry; Mountain Union W.I., Mrs. A. Clements, Mrs. V. Norris; Nelson W.I., Mrs. Glen Campbell, Mrs. D. Sherwood; Norval W.I., Mrs. D. Murray, Mrs. H. Cluiter; Scotch Block W.I., Mrs. C. Rowney, Mrs. G. Service; Silverwood W.I., Mrs. G. Henderson, Mrs. E. Williamson.

Day of Prayer program at Mission Circle meeting

Mrs. Lillian Wagner acted as hostess for the November meeting of the Marion Rudd Mission Circle held on Monday evening. A fine group of members participated in the program of the Baptist Women's World Day of Prayer, the theme being Let us Rise Up and Build. Ada Davidson and Frances Feltham gave the readings with Mrs. Harrop, Norma Baillie, Harriet Helwig and Marj-Landborough conducting the prayer session. Familiar hymns were sung which added to the inspiration of the program.

The president Marg Baillie opened the meeting and conducted the business. A letter was read by the secretary Eileen Lott from Mrs. Walter Johnson in the Congo thanking the circle for the food parcel sent recently. Plans were made for the December meeting to be held at the home of Mrs. Harold Page in the form of a Christmas party. At the close of the meeting a dainty lunch was served by the social committee. Jessie Coles thanked the hostess and those arranging the program.

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A.C.W. bazaar, tea draws crowd on Saturday afternoon

Pumpkins decorated the entrance to St. Alban's parish hall for the bazaar and tea of the A.C.W. last Saturday afternoon. The women of the combined church groups worked together to make their annual event a success despite the rainy day. Pouring tea at an attractively decorated central table during the afternoon were Mrs. Robbins, Mrs. John Creasey Sr. and Mrs. Harold Denny.

Mrs. D. Hunter was in charge of the white elephant table, Mrs. Bayliss in charge of crafts and sewing, and Mrs. Fountain and Mrs. Bill Denny in charge of the baking, assisted by other members of the A.C.W. In charge of the delicious tea were Mrs. V. Bristow, Mrs. H. Dawson, Mrs. E. Pratt and Mrs. R. Anderson. Mrs. Cam Winn sold tea and door prize tickets.

When the draw for a quilt was made at the end of the afternoon Kathleen Dill's ticket was drawn. She was pleased and delightedly came back to the parish hall in the rain with a big plastic garbage bag to carry her prize in.

Daughters of Knox plan mincemeat sale, birthday

The monthly meeting of the Daughters of Knox was held in the Miss Ellen Anderson room on Monday, Nov. 3. The president Mrs. Tom Watson opened the meeting with all singing Living For Jesus and repeating the motto. Mrs. Brian Moore read the minutes and the roll call was answered by the number of calendars each member had sold. During the business, plans were made for a birthday party of the Daughters of Knox. Committees for making the mincemeat next week were named.

Mrs. Harold Swallow and her group led in the devotion and study book, opening with hymn Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life. Mrs. A. McKenzie gave a reading Friendship and Service, followed by a discussion led by Mrs. Tom Watson and Mrs. Cliff Ashley about Clannishness Toward Open Community. Hymn Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling and the Mirzah Benediction closed the meeting. The group in charge served lunch and a social time was spent.

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