

News and views

By LORRAINE

During an enjoyable "drop in for coffee" recently, a friend and I were interrupted at her home by a young and excited female bursting into the room to enquire if we'd seen him and did his hand look any worse than before. Not knowing who "him" was and never having seen "her" before I was intrigued to hear that conversation could be continued coherently with such little identification. But after "she" was hurriedly informed by my friend that "he" was not there but that should "he" arrive she would inform him that "she" would be at the doctor's office awaiting his arrival, "she" left before any opportunity for introductions, whereupon my good friend proceeded to relate the following bizarre story.

It seemed that neighbors Mary and Harry were two tender newweds who had owned a cat which, were the truth really told, had only been idolized by Mary, who apparently loved all feline creatures, and particularly the one Felix. Now Felix had, in truly male cat manner been enamored by another cat of the opposite sex with the natural complications arising and the promise of parenthood in the offing.

However, during the period of expectancy, poor Felix had been overtaken by a moving van, and, early one morning, was found in a rather defunct condition on a nearby highway, much to the obvious grief of the heartbroken bride.

A friend of Mary's concerned about her tragic loss, delivered to her door, two adorable black kittens supposedly to fill the horrible gap of absolute loneliness. Now it must be remembered that Harry never had been a true lover of any pet of the feline species and, although he had learned to tolerate old Felix, he found it difficult to work up any delight for these two new rollicking creatures whose scratching, chewing and demolishing antics were causing pure havoc all about the honeymoon cottage.

It was during such a session of animal mischievousness that poor Harry snapped and the ultimatum had to be made. Something must be done about cats before Harry became Harry and little Mary must go catless until Felix's bride had produced, for surely even his kitten offspring would be more easily handled than these two. And so it was decided. Mary could wait, Mrs. Felix would produce, and black cats "A" and "B" must go.

The die was cast! In the dark of that night, Harry made a surreptitious trip to a distant field, whilst awkwardly adjusting a brown burlap sack which, to any onlooker contained some very overactive potatoes.

But, sometime during the period of the couple's decision to await the arrival of Felix's offspring, get rid of the cats, and Harry's walk in the night with animated potatoes, Harry had contrived a vicious looking scratch which, according to the local doctor, "must have been caused by a rabid animal because what else would attack a nice young man so viciously." The inexperienced cat murderer, rather than admit his accomplished villainous deed, had, upon visiting the doctor for repairs, explained his wound as a simple cat scratch and had been treated with a mere dash of antiseptic.

The next morning however, the dastardly event had taken on inordinate repercussions when, according to Harry's bride, his hand was swelling rapidly and the unswelling related story was becoming more involved. The friendly doctor, again contacted by the hysterical young wife, had made verbal consultations by assurances that, if rabies were rampant they would not be dangerous for at least 48 hours but anti-tetanus shots were advisable and would be administered later that evening after his return from a dinner party at which time it would also be advisable to exhume the mortal remains of the scratching culprits for anatomical inspection.

It was into this tear-jerking soap opera situation which we had dropped for coffee during which time the frantic young bride had burst into the room after searching the neighborhood for friend husband and wounded spouse who should be on hand awaiting the return of the celebrating physician.

The culminated result of the macabre affair was that of a small group of people including one harassed wife, one exhilarated physician, one husband with a painfully swollen hand, and one sheepish donor of two little black cats digging unceremoniously in the darkness of nightfall for the corpus delicti under the blaze of a lonely flashlight, thus ending the plight of an unidentified cat murderer who, fortunately for him, recuperated from the affair free from every painful aftereffect but one. He is now being harassed by yet another little black cat whose very strong resemblance to Felix original assures him of complete safety from the murderous fate of his predecessor.

Foster child to benefit

The final pre-Christmas bazaar meeting of the Catholic Women's League took place Wednesday, November 12, when the Rockwood and Oustic ladies gathered at the rectory for opening exercises directed by president Mrs. R. Halliburton.

Secretary Mrs. R. Bacon read the minutes, followed by Mrs. Holman's treasurer's report. Various booth conveners then gave reports on the bazaar and members were asked to return all draw tickets.

Mrs. Halliburton reviewed the success of the Van der Kroft Auction sale endeavour for

which several ladies had catered with food services. As further business it was decided the December meeting would take place as an invitational Christmas event with husbands being invited as guests. However, instead of presents for worthy spouses, envelopes addressed to Isobel Cardoune, the little foster child from Teuchelatan, Central America, adopted some years ago by the Parish C.W.L., would contain the amount previously decided upon for the usual gift giving.

Father F. C. Elliott, director for the League, was also present



FLANKED BY REV. Don Sinclair of Rockwood Presbyterian Church and Rev. Peter Yucker of the United Church with St. John's church warden George Ingle in front, the new Anglican rector, Ken Cardwell, found Rockwood people very hospitable at a reception in his honor Friday. — (Photo by Lorraine)



REV. AND MRS. KEN CARDWELL were guests of honor at an evening at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Clark, Friday evening. Mr. Cardwell is the new rector of St. John's parish, Rockwood and the Anglican parish in Erin. — (Photo by Lorraine)

at the meeting and he congratulated the ladies for their efficiency in listing the regular list of church members responsible for lending their services for cleaning in place of regular janitorial services. He

mentioned he had lived in large cities where such organization had never been established. Mrs. Walker of Orton won the draw prize presented during the enjoyable repast convened by Mrs. M. Gillilan.



HAPPENINGS OF ROCKWOOD CENTENNIAL SCHOOL

The Rockwood Centennial School soccer team had a rather slack schedule last week. Out of three games, only one was played and that against Erasmus. The boys' team tied 2-2 and the girls won 2-1. Next week we are to play Brisbane School.

During the week we took

advantage of the snow. On Friday afternoon we made snow sculptures such as Snoopy, a camel, Apollo 12, etc. In all there were about 10.

There has been a grade seven and eight Sadie Hawkins dance planned. This has not been cleared through the office.

— Alan Nightingale

SILENT MESSENGER

It comes so soundless that none can hear, It comes when times are cold and barren with secret fears and anguish. This messenger comes on great wings of gold shining in their splendour, brilliant and fascinating. It makes a sweet smile to form upon some face, wrinkled from sad times and the knowledge that better times are not ahead.

A face moistened by a thousand tears of failure and bitter sorrow This new-formed smile is but a second long.

But the silent messenger is now content, knowing he has fulfilled his rightful duty.

He makes his exit as swiftly and silently as his entrance, going on to make some other heavy heart lighter and gay than before.

This silent messenger has no name, But in the souls of enlightened people, He is, and always shall be known as:

Happiness

Dale Hamilton

ACTON Municipal Council ACTIVITIES

At their regular meeting last week Acton council dealt with various items of business, some of them on recommendation from No. 1 or No. 2 committee.

* The town agreed to accept the costs of engineering for the revised plans for the industrial park, which will include allowances for a proposed railway siding. The consulting engineer E. Hyde will be in town Nov. 19 to discuss the new concept with the development commission.

* During his term of office as Acton's appointee to the Credit Valley Conservation Authority, R. R. Parker became the provincial appointee. So Acton is entitled to another representative, and Dr. Oakes suggested councillors should be considering names.

* Two town employees, Doug Garrett and L. Danny, were authorized to attend a basic sewage works operators course for four days in December. This course is the first of a series of three leading to a certificate of qualification.

* Representatives were sought to attend a Central Ontario Regional Development Commission all day workshop on regional government Saturday, Nov. 22 at Richmond Hill. Paul Nielsen is hoping to attend from Acton with Mayor Dudy and councillor Coats indicated he will also try to attend.

* All councillors but one indicated they could attend the final urban board meeting — dinner on Friday, Nov. 21. And the one who can't go, councillor Greer, assured the others he has nothing against the board but he'll be taking stock that day.

* Existing lighting at the Mill St. North crosswalk will be increased by the installation of a mercury vapour unit. The clerk will advise the Chamber of Commerce.

CHURCHILL

Presentation, auction parade in district news

By Mrs. Fred MacArthur Mr. and Mrs. Chester Allan had a very successful auction sale last Saturday. The Greenock Women's Institute booth was very well patronized.

Mrs. J. H. Wardlaw of Malton spent Sunday with her daughter Mrs. W. J. McDonald.

David and Julian Turner went to Toronto last weekend to see the Santa Claus parade. They and their parents Mr. and Mrs. Norman Turner were guests over Friday night of Mr. and Mrs. George G. Julian, whose home is just a few blocks from the parade route.

Mrs. Enid Mountjoy and

daughters Diane and Margo of Oshawa spent last Tuesday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Bob Kerr and baby Jeffery.

A very pleasant evening was spent when friends and neighbors gathered last Friday evening in Ballinfad community hall to honor a recent bride and groom, Mr. and Mrs. Ed. Hillier (nee Brenda Spear). After a program of local talent, a mixed orchestra played for dancing. The happy couple were presented with a cookie jar containing a bond and cash with all good wishes. Ed and Brenda thanked everyone for their gift and the lovely evening. After dancing the ladies served a lovely lunch.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Brown, Velda and Marion of Riverfield, Quebec, and Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Lindsay, Marla and Glyn of Orangeville were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Wilbert Brown and family last Sunday.

A ROCKWOOD SWING-A-DING

will be held on

FRIDAY NIGHT NOV. 28TH

at 8 p.m.

in the

Rockwood Centennial School

from 8 to 9.15 p.m. enjoy

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At 9.15 p.m.

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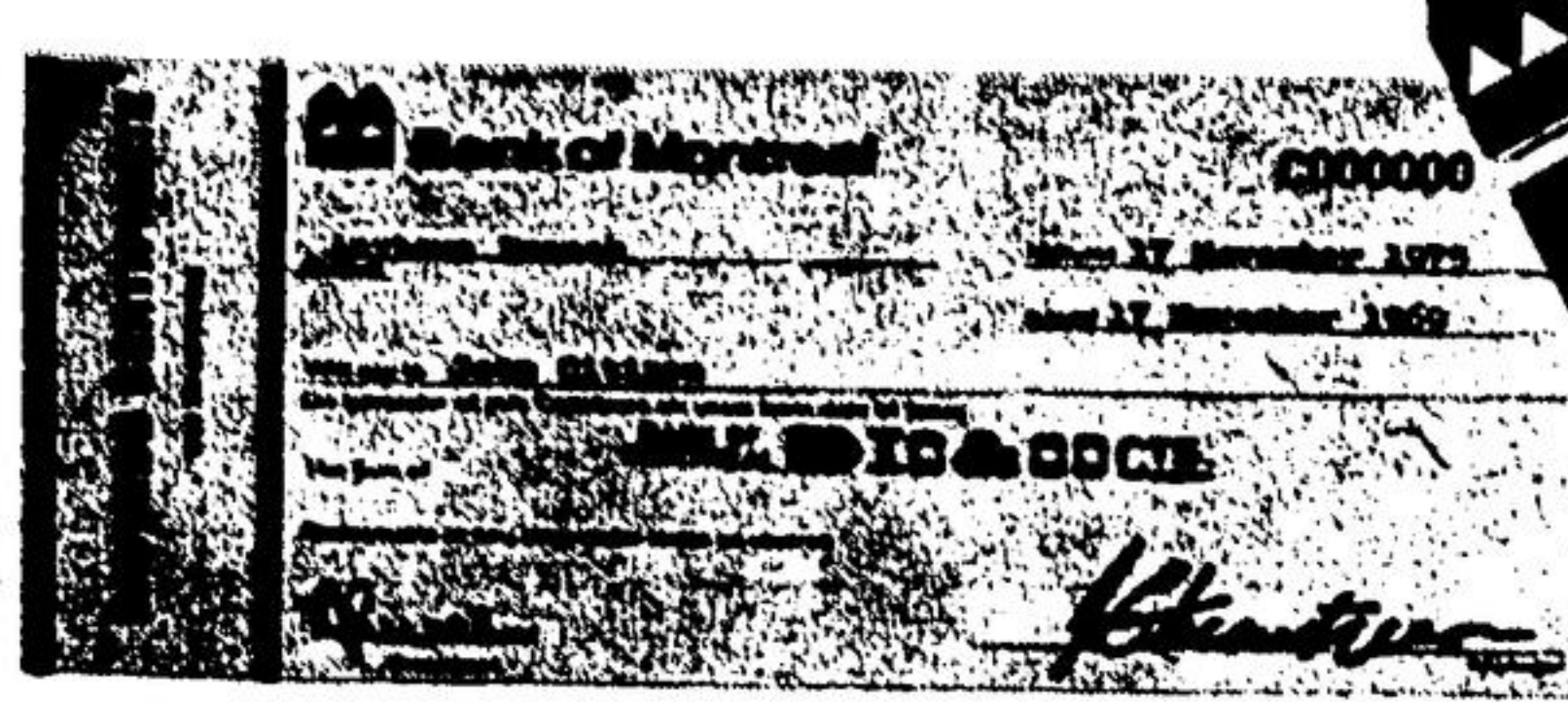
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