

the painted box

By Wendy Thomason

Still on the horoscope bit, the one for this week said I'd meet an old friend. And I met two. One of the waiters on the train and the passenger agent were the same as last year and we had a couple of small re-unions.

We made a few more friends, of course, and were quite surprised to find that everybody thought that Gord and I were on our honeymoon! All except one porter—there was no fooling him.

As he left at Winnipeg he said, in his deep gravelly voice, that he hoped we'd be back on the train next year and that we'd REALLY be on our honeymoon! Gord and I will just have to stop re-ning around together.

No wild life
We saw no wild life at all in Ontario except for a most odd-looking animal with long green hair swimming in a pond. It took a minute to realize it was a muskrat taking home a load of turf. Not seeing a moose was made up for in watching a herd of 20 antelope in Alberta, and two little gophers playing tag beside the train when it stopped for a freight.

Gord insists he saw one wave at him in Saskatchewan—while the gopher's friend just shaded his eyes with his paw and watched.

We had a nice, restful trip, thinking small unimportant things like how odd it was to find a farm in the middle of miles of bush, all posted with "No trespassing" signs.

One funny incident was, after watching so many tourists from the States taking pictures out of the train windows, seeing a car with Massachusetts plates taking a picture of the train, at Marathon.

CP Oversell

One other thing that was rather amusing, was to find that the CP did a bit of over-selling, and one night they tried to put Gord in an upper berth already occupied by another man. Both objected vigorously before it was straightened out.

This same man had another problem, come morning. One of the straps in the complicated rigging of his artificial arm had become twisted during the night and he couldn't get it back on. I watched for quite a few minutes before offering to help.

I had it straight in no time and he was nonplussed, insisting that I explain how I knew what to do. I just laughed it off, not wanting to tell him that it was the same kind of twist women get in their bras all the time.

However, here we are in Calgary for a day (July 9) before going on to Banff. Maybe we'll see a bit of the Stampede today. We've seen some of the costumes already and they are something!

Uncle Ben

Oh, — and I mustn't forget. A woman was telling me last night of how her uncle was always promising to phone her from Ontario. She didn't believe him and was flabbergasted to find that he did call one day while she was out. So she asked me to return the greetings to her uncle, Ben Rachlin.

Special acclaim for Acton lady

Mrs. Laura Dittich, Acton's "Hi Neighbor" Welcome Service Hostess, took a leading role in discussions at the recent "Hi Neighbor" Conference of branch managers held at the Royal York Hotel in Toronto, where she and Acton were accorded special acclaim for work with newcomer families.

The formation of "Hi Neighbor's" new Stirling Club was announced at the banquet luncheon and symbolic long-service awards presented to charter members by Director Roy Bennett whose broad experience in public-relations is well known internationally. A wire and letters from a senior provincial judge and mayors of several centres were read expressing their appreciation of the fine work of the group which is Canada's only all-Canadian welcome service serving communities from coast to coast.

"It's a great thing to work with newcomers individually; to help them settle in to their new homes and communities" said Mr. Bennett whose home town is Campbellford. He is well acquainted with the friendly atmosphere of Acton which he says is a good example to other centres striving to bring back the face-to-face friendliness so necessary in this computer age.

Mrs. Dittich (Phone 853-0805) is always glad to discuss Acton's "Hi Neighbor" program with all who inquire.

Sidewalk interviewer: "Madam, what is your opinion on Red China?"

Maisie: "It's all right with me as long as it doesn't clash with the tablecloth."

Dublin Institute plans for autumn

The Dublin Women's Institute held their July meeting at the home of Mrs. R. McDougall in Morrison. All gathered on the lawn and had a delicious pot luck picnic supper after which games and contests were played.

Winners of the cakes old and new contest was Mrs. Barbara King and Mrs. Bonnie Smith won a contest entitled My Flower Garden.

Game winners were Miss Teresa McCarron, Mrs. M. Nellis, Mrs. Haskill and Mrs. Pylack.

Two dozen

There were 24 ladies in attendance including eight of Mrs. McDougall's neighbors from Morrison. Before dark all moved in doors where a short meeting was held, starting with the Institute Ode and Mary Stewart Collect and The Lord's Prayer.

U.C.W. unit picnics at Mrs. Long's home

Unit 2 of the U.C.W. of Trinity United Church journeyed to the lovely and spacious home of Mr. and Mrs. Alf Long on 24 Highway for their annual picnic get together with Mrs. Long.

Mrs. Lidkea opened a short meeting with a poem Clouds. All repeated the U.C.W. purpose and the Lord's prayer. The treasurer's report was given and collections taken.

Mrs. Shoemaker gave her usual report for the church—visits for the month, 54 homes and 90 at hospitals and nursing homes. The meeting ended with Mizpah benediction and Mrs. Lidkea turned the program over

Roll call, a good joke was answered by many with a few laughs.

Fall plans

Minutes were read by secretary Mrs. M. Hunter and the correspondence was dealt with. The 4-H theme for fall is entitled Focus on Fitness and training school will be held in September.

A discussion took place on the fall fairs and committees were set up to get started on these projects.

Two awards

Mrs. A. Near presented Mrs. M. Nellis with the Federation Institute pin in appreciation of her work in winning two awards for her cushion and anniversary cake at the district annual.

Mrs. C. Thomson gave the courtesies and thanked everyone for making the evening such a success.

to Mrs. Wilderspin's group. Mrs. Earl Lambert, Miss Dorothy Simmons and Mrs. Helen Little were the committee for games. Winners were as follows, pegs in bottle Mrs. Dills with 4, contest on candy, Mrs. Pickett, soap contest, Mrs. Shoemaker, articles on tray, Mrs. Little, kindergarten drawing (with eyes closed) Mrs. Buckland.

All repeated to the basement where a bountiful meal was set out for each one to help themselves. A hearty vote of thanks was given Mrs. Long for her hospitality. About 30 attended in all.

Free Press Women's Page

Second showing for paper picnic cups

Summer time... picnic time. Do you hate to throw away those pretty paper cups and cutlery? Here's an idea.

Toy Soldier or Guard
Materials: plastic cups and cutlery; plastic cement; buttons, trim, etc.; plastic model paint.

Glue two plastic cups together with open ends facing to make the body. Glue another cup to one end, this time gluing the bottoms of the cups together to make the guard's head. Glue an inverted cup to top for a hat. Before applying the glue, cut the edges for a fringe brim or glue on a cut-out crescent for a peak. Cut this from the side of another cup. For arms, cut off the handles of plastic spoons or forks and glue to the sides of the middle cup. Now give the doll a personality by gluing buttons, bows or whatever trim you desire for uniform braid braid, coat buttons or whatever.

Paint on facial expression and hair with colored or black plastic model paint.

This doll can be made into a handy bank by making a money slot in the back of the middle cup with the point of a very hot knife blade. If nearly red hot it will melt through the plastic.

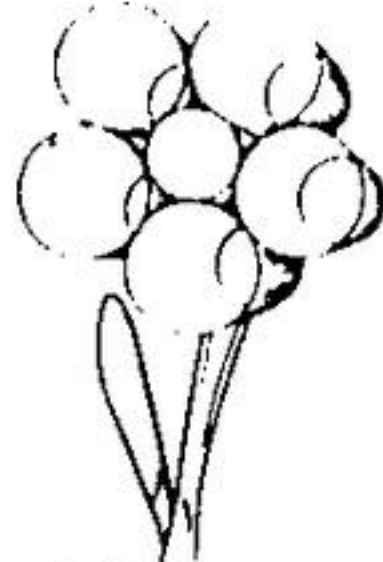


Super Posy

Materials required for each flower: six plastic cups, five in one color and one in a contrasting color; avocado green plastic knives, plastic cement; small

picture hanger to glue on back. Place cup of contrasting color on table with bottom up, (for

centre of flower). Arrange the five other cups around the centre with open ends up. Cement the cups together. Glue together two or three knives to form the stem and leaves. Attach to back of the flower. Glue on the small picture hanger. These super-posies are great to decorate a dark corner in a cottage or playroom.



Librarian resigns Silver anniversary party for Watsons

Following six years of service, librarian Mrs. Jo Johnson of Milton Public Library, has resigned.

"I plan on just being a housewife for a change," she said. "I have a lovely home in the country but am never home to enjoy it." Mrs. Johnson plans leaving her job as soon as a replacement is named. She is a resident of the Acton area.

A small wedding in Acton 25 years ago was followed last Saturday by an anniversary party attended by about 50, when Mr. and Mrs. Tom Watson were the honored couple. Their six children planned the party and presented their parents with their first wedding cake—a beautifully iced and decorated three tier one. There hadn't been a traditional wedding cake after their wedding in Knox manse in 1946, just after the war.

They met during the war when both were in the services and among the guests were some overseas friends of Tom's who hadn't had a reunion together since then.

Special guests

Among the guests were Rene Watson's mother Mrs. Lewis Fulton, Dartmouth, N.S.; her sister, Mr. and Mrs. Byron Laling, Liscombe, N.S.; Tom's mother Mrs. Isabel Watson of Acton; R.C.A.F. friends Mr. and Mrs. Roy McKee, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Morden and Mr. and Mrs. Jack Kelman, all from Toronto; Mr. and Mrs. Joe Watson, Toronto; Mr. and Mrs. Paul Slipper, Toronto; Mr. and Mrs. Norris Sinclair, Erin, and many from town.

Relatives Mr. and Mrs. Norman Todd, Detroit, Michigan, called the day before.

There were phone calls and telegrams from others in Calgary, White Plains New York, and Sydney, N. S.

Oldest son Bob Watson made the toast to the couple. The other secretive planners were son David, daughters Ann, Jane and Mary, and youngest son John.

Bean bake for cottage

Cottage Bean Bake
1 cup minced onion
1 cup diced cooked ham, plus slices for garnish
1 tablespoon butter or margarine
2 cans (19 oz.) baked beans
2 teaspoons prepared mustard
2 teaspoons brown sugar
1/4 cup catsup

Cook onion in butter or margarine in saucepan until transparent. Stir in remaining ingredients. Pour into 2 quart casserole. Garnish top with small slices ham. Bake 40-50 minutes in 350 degree oven until heated through. Makes 4-6 servings.

When the weather proved a little too chilly for the large group to eat in the Watson's Church St. garden, they all went over to Watson's restaurant, which had been closed for the day due to the family's preparations. Here a buffet table was set up and guests sat in the restaurant booths.

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