



TRAIL RIDERS ford the Pipestone River in the Rockies where one of the gals lost her hat which guide Mike Crawley retrieved. The water was ice cold, fed from glaciers in the mountains.—(Wendy Thomson Photo)

## the painted box



By Wendy Thomson

Way up in the mountains, with quite a bit of spare time, on our hands, it became a popular pastime to watch the summer romances develop. The stories I could write!

From talking to some of the others in our group, I found that they all felt the same way I do,—the first trail ride I was on, I was fascinated by the scenery and overwhelmed with the newness of all the experiences of camping out in the Rockies.

**More noticeable**

The second ride (this July) I began to notice more about the people around me and by the third ride (a few weeks ago) the patterns of courtships were quite plain. (By the way, I am talking about this from a spectator's viewpoint, not a participant's.)

Some of us had got to know the guides well enough that from the first day of a ride, we'd speculate and bet on the girls each would choose to be Girl of the Week. I'm

becoming fairly good at picking them right. But then, I was in a fairly good position. As M.C. (Master of ceremonies, camp director, shepherd, complaint department etc.) I had the chance to get to know everybody right off. I also provided an amused but sympathetic ear when girls wanted to talk about the guides.

As I said, the tales I could tell! Anyhow, us calloused veterans of more than one ride would sit

back to watch the dramas unfold. I should make it plain here, that most of the guides are hard-working, strong, silent types,—the kind that kiss their horse goodnight at the end of the day. But others find the chin whiskers a little prickly and would rather find something a little more soft and sweet-smelling, I guess.

**Rundown courtship**

The first tentative step in the courtship is a complete rundown on the area's attractions,—the mountains, glaciers, river, valley, wild-life, flowers, etc. right down to "This is a tree. That is a toad." When all that has run out, any old nonsense will do. "This is a petrified tree."

After a day or two of this, a guide will come up with a seemingly spontaneous suggestion. "Hey, let's have a party tonight!" Now the decision is up to the girl. When the crowd arrives, she can either have a large supply of wood in the tent to keep the fire going late into the night, or she can retire into her sleeping bag, pull it up over her head, and leave her tentmate to entertain the guests as best she can.

And so it went. We applauded when two nice people got together, and we cheered when one guide who seemed just a little too sure of himself missed the boat.

I'm sure the head guide, Mike Crawley, wouldn't mind my telling you of a dashing tale of gallantry and self-sacrifice he featured in. I just wish I'd had my camera handy, so I could provide pictures, too. It all started when his girl was bending over the river to get a drink of water and her beautiful brand new white hat fell in.

As it sailed on down the river, Mike followed, trying to catch it as it caught on snags. Unfortunately, it swept around a bend and out of reach.

**Hat trick**

Undaunted, Mike leapt onto the nearest horse, urged it into the water and raced down to where the hat was snagged again. Stopping beside it, he reached down, lower and lower, but the hat was lower still. He slid a bit further off, till all we could see was one leg hooked over the saddle horn and one arm looped around the horse's neck. Then to

all our shouts of glee, Mike alid right around under the horse's neck and hung there over a foot of water.

Something had to give. His hat fell with a splash and Mike wearily unwound from the mad embrace and lowered both boots into the waiting river, grabbed both hats, swung back up onto the patient horse, and dripped his way back to the cheering crowd. True gallantry, that.

### GLASS WILL EXPLODE

Avoid unnecessary eye accidents this summer. Start by storing glass containers at moderate temperatures and keep jugged and bottled goods either on a lower shelf, in a cool room, or in a refrigerator. Exploding glass, resulting from exposure to excessive heat, causes many eye accidents. Eye care is your care and the concern of The Canadian National Institute for The Blind.

Despite the old saying, the fact is that it is never too cold to snow.

### Free Press

### Personals

Miss Ethel Gilmer of Brantford spent a few days with Mr. and Mrs. L. O. Johnston.

Mrs. Charles LaHue, daughter Anita and son Gordon of Vancouver visited with Mrs. Darwin Cripps the past week.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Dowding and Terri have returned from visiting Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Ustick and family in Springfield, Ohio.

Miss Margaret Zimmerman of Neepawa, Manitoba returned home after a recent visit with relatives and friends in this vicinity.

Mrs. C. MacDonald of Hamilton is holidaying with Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Johnston.

Friends are sorry to hear C. K. Browne is a patient in Guelph General Hospital.

Denis Gibbons returned Saturday night from a two week holiday in British Columbia and Alberta. While in B. C. he visited with Mr. and Mrs. Brian McCristall and Dr. and Mrs. Harry Brewster and family in Chilliwack. Brian, former sports editor of the Milton Canadian Champion is now editor of the Chilliwack Progress. Mrs. Brewster is the former Eileen Melsaac of Acton. On Vancouver Island, Denis visited with cousins Mr. and Mrs. Bob Rogers, Paul, Jimmy and Kim Rogers and Peter Gibbons. Mrs. Rogers is the former Delaine Gibbons of town. During a two day stay in Calgary, he renewed acquaintances with former Actonian Dave Peel, who has a managerial position there.

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Graham have returned from a holiday in British Columbia. While there they visited with Dr. and Mrs. Harry Brewster and family of Chilliwack. They also met Mr. and Mrs. Brian McCristall and Denis Gibbons, who was staying with the McCristalls.

After a two year stint with Ice Capades, Peter Gibbons has accepted a position as a figure skating instructor in Kelowna, B.C. He recently completed instructors' tests in Esquimalt B.C. on Vancouver Island. Peter is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Gibbons, Churchill Road, South.

Friends are sorry to hear Mrs. Jean Leishman is a patient in hospital.

Mrs. Charles Watson spent the weekend with daughter Mrs. H. Wallis and family at their cottage on Georgian Bay.

Friends will be sorry to hear Mrs. George Simpson, is a patient in General Hospital Guelph for the past week.

Jeanne and Kelly Gaulton of Grimsby spent a pleasant holiday in Acton with their grandparents, Warden and Mrs. Frank Oakes. A friend, Debbie Sindery of Grimsby came with the girls for their visit here.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Kentner, Jr. and sons have returned from an enjoyable week in New York City.

### WEAR SEAT BELTS

As you rush away to the cottage this weekend, remember to wear your seat belt. If your car stops suddenly, it will keep you from being thrown forward against the mirror, windshield, or dashboard, causing unnecessary eye injury. "Your eyes are your most precious possession," says The Canadian National Institute for The Blind. "You can't never replace them."

### 2,000,000 EXPECTED

As many as 2 million people line the Toronto waterfront to watch the Canadian International Air Show, scheduled this year at 1.30 p.m., September 3, 4, 5 and 6.

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Plays anywhere on six "D" batteries—A.C. adaptable too! Two-speed turntable. On/off switch on tone-arm rest—tone control—solid state operation—Plastic case in flame red/Bright Orange. Size 4" x 15" x 8".

### Phillips Multiband Portable Radio

Constructed of high impact plastic, it has 4 bands AM/FM/SW and marine band—operates off 4 "D" cells or plugged into 110 volts AC on its line cord. Automatic frequency on FM prevents signal drift. Big 5" full range speaker for clear, natural sound. Marine Band for monitoring ship-to-shore broadcasts plus keeping in touch with weather reports.

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### Lloyds Portable Stereo Cassette Recorder

Portable Stereo Cassette Recorder plus Multiplex AM/FM radio operates on batteries, household current or through your car cigarette lighter. Distinctive AM/FM radio offers high quality performance for total listening pleasure. Monitor switch enables you to direct record from radio to cassette. Delivers 12 watts of peak music power. Also available in Stereo, 8 track with AM/FM radio.

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12" Portable black and white T.V. that is ideal for personalized viewing. Two-toned plastic cabinet. . . has VHF/UHF channels. Features 12" deep focus picture tube—12,000 volt chassis—earphones and 15' cord. Ask for demonstration.

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Completely portable, battery or AC operated unit lets you enjoy prerecorded cassette tape or record your own music—is an invaluable assistant to students—Complete with carrying case, earphone, microphone and patch cord, AC cord and blank cassette tape cartridge.

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