

# the painted box

By Wendy Thomson

I should have known there was an ulterior motive to Gord's offer to buy a living room rug for my Christmas present. I thought he was just being thoughtful, but then I'm a very trusting soul.

All went well for the first little while after the rug had arrived, was arranged, and re-arranged. The dogs each found a spot on it that seemed to suit them. David spent hours using the ovals as race-tracks for his cars, the older two sat on it while playing Monopoly, and the cats hid under it, if it somehow got pulled up into a fold.

I stopped worrying about spots and spills, after both a dog and cat, when feeling queasy, made sudden dashes just to be sick on it. From then on, it was well and truly broken in, and I didn't agonize every time someone walked across it with shoes on.

"Hajime!"  
Last week, the "breaking-in" process continued. A quiet evening would be shattered by the shout "Hajime!", and a brief scuffling noise was often followed by a crash. If I looked in, there would be two bodies on the rug, all twisted up in an impossible position.

If one of them wasn't David, he'd still be right there, running in circles, yelling "I'll help you, Dad!", then usually flopping on top and messing everybody's judo technique up.

At first, Gord had the grace to look a little sheepish and mutter something about, "Just walking along and somebody grabbed me." Now, it's taken as a matter of course. Every night, there's a free-for-all on the living room rug, — MY living room rug!

I'd been able to stay out of it, refusing firmly to "Come see the new Hold-down we learned!" but last night I was caught off guard.

Number-one son, Jim, and I had been comparing judo warm-up exercises and yoga, and I ended up on the rug in the Pose of Tranquility. Jim shattered it completely when he relaxed from a shoulder stand by (still staying up on his shoulders) dropping his knees to beside his ears, and talking to me between them. Talk about ridiculous poses!

The result was that, when Gord came to see what all the hooting was about, I was a sitting duck in the middle of the rug. With a great "Hajime!" he launched himself at me, and for the next five minutes I was rolled, twisted, sat on and knelt on.

I'm afraid my defence was not according to the best precepts of judo. I went absolutely limp until my one chance came—and I bit him in the ribs.

So that is why, when David opened the front door and ushered in two gentlemen last night, I was crawling (all ruffled and rumbled, with my hair all over my head) out of the living room, and Gord (equally ruffled) was examining under his shirt for teethmarks.

I hope, now that it's explained, they'll understand.

## New officers of Presbyterial

The sixth annual meeting of Brampton Presbyterial W.M.S. was held on January 26th in Norval Presbyterial Church with a goodly turnout despite the intense cold.

## Auction sale at W.I.

Due to the weather conditions the regular monthly meeting of Dublin W.I. had to be postponed. It was held one week later at the farm home of Mrs. Wallace Lasby.

Roll call was answered by 20 members with "A Humorous Event of School Days". Minutes of the last meeting were read and the correspondence was dealt with.

The next 4-H Training School is entitled "Being Well Dressed & Well Groomed" and will be held at Ligny School on Feb. 8 and 9.

Report on the short course "A Dollar's Worth of Meat" was given by Mrs. E. Norton and Mrs. C. Armstrong. The cookbook was passed around for the members to look at.

Five members will be attending the 75th anniversary luncheon of the Women's Institute of Ontario held on Feb. 12 in the Canadian Room at the Royal York Hotel.

Auction sale  
Next on the agenda was the "Auction Sale". All the members had brought "goodies" they had baked as well as home grown vegetables, pickles, jams, eggs, etc. Mrs. M. Hunter acted as auctioneer.

The meeting was closed and the social committee consisting of Mrs. D. Moffat, Mrs. F. Kirton and Mrs. J. Van Fleet served a beautiful lunch.

Courtesies were given by Mrs. H. Besley.

The Children's Aid Society, Brampton, made an appeal for used flannelette sheets and blankets.

Music of bells  
An enjoyable highlight of the afternoon was the Music of the Bells by Mrs. R. C. Moffat, Guelph. She related the history of her numerous bells which were displayed on a hand woven coverlet, a family heirloom 150 years old, showing the design of the Sun, Moon and Stars. Her choice of compositions with the chapel bells ranged from The Bells of St. Mary's, Winter Wonderland, through several well known hymns and finishing with How Great Thou Art.

Dr. George Elliott is a patient in Guelph General Hospital but expects to be back with the University of Guelph, band and church organ before long.

A fall last week resulted in a broken leg for Mrs. Bill Toth. She fell on ice in the parking lot at the curling club.

Acton minor hockey head coach Jim James is now home after having tests at Guelph General Hospital.

Jim was taken to the hospital following Thursday night's Acton-Elmira midget game and was in the intensive care unit for awhile. Friends and players wish him a speedy recovery.

Mrs. Lillian Eaton of Acton attended the 50th wedding anniversary of her brother and sister-in-law Mr. and Mrs. William McArthur at Cayuga. The McArthurs were recently from near Orton. The reception was in Cayuga at the home of their daughter Wilda (Billie) and her husband Ken Best, Agricultural Representative for Haldimand. Friends from Orton, Kilbride, Milton, Fredonia N.Y., and other places were present.

On the way the Eaton's attended a church service in Hagersville where their friends Rev. Martin Rude and wife are enjoying a successful pastorate.

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## 30th year for club

A January 20 meeting at the home of Mrs. Beatty, 98 Church Street, Acton, began the 30th year of the Arts and Crafts of Georgetown.

The organization came into being through the efforts of Mrs. M. H. Mover, who now operates Kirk Kraft Studio at Norval, and has been instrumental in developing many interesting crafts among district residents.

Retiring president Mrs. Tom Beer gave a brief summary of activities during her term of office and Mrs. Beatty reported on courses which had been given. These included lessons in tapestry weaving, dried flower arrangements, gold wire jewellery, handcrafted silver and the making of bubble glass.

Mrs. Agg reviewed programs, mentioning the group's trip to the Knox Albright Gallery in Buffalo as one of the highlights.

Mrs. Agg is the new president, and Mrs. Beatty is in charge of crafts courses.

Friends are sorry that Colin Price is a patient in Guelph General Hospital.

Mrs. Henry Cripps is a patient in Guelph General Hospital. Best wishes for her speedy recovery.

Acton Y.M.C.A.'s "Y Week Whirl" dance at the music centre Saturday night was well attended and very enjoyable.

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## Free Press Family page

### Fieldman guest speaker at Greenock W.I. meeting

Mrs. J. McCulloch, Acton, was the hostess for the Greenock Women's Institute Jan. 18.

In the absence of the president, Mrs. J. McCulloch conducted the meeting. The opening ode was sung and Mary Stewart Collect repeated by all. Mrs. G. Johnston gave the meditation. Roll call was to name a noxious weed and how to eradicate it.

After a short business meeting, Mrs. G. Wallace introduced Wesley Harris who gave two

selections on his violin, accompanied by his mother, Mrs. G. Harris. Wesley plans to make music his career.

Mrs. G. Wallace in the absence of Federation of Agriculture convener Mrs. A. Winter, introduced the guest speaker, Ken Graham, who is the fieldman for the Federation of Agriculture for Wellington County and seven other counties. Mr. Graham showed several slides of local interest and of federation of

agriculture dealing with farm interests. He gave a short talk on the part the Federation plays in the work of farmers when they get into difficulties. A question and answer period followed, which was interesting and informative.

The husbands of members were guests at this meeting. Mrs. H. McKeown was the courtesy convener and thanked Wesley and his mother for their musical selections, and the guest speaker for making the evening so worth while. Each one was presented with a gift.

Lunch was served by the hostess and conveners Miss Elva Pearen and Mrs. G. Johnston.

### Knox Heather Club names officers

A delicious pot luck supper was enjoyed when the Heather Club of Knox church held their January meeting at the home of Alice Waldie with nine members present.

During the business their annual rummage and bake sale was discussed and it was decided to hold it the last week in April. Gladys Davidson and Alice Waldie were delegated to go with the Ladies' Aid to look at samples for new floor covering for the Sunday School room.

An election of officers followed the meeting: Gladys Davidson

Study Circle now meeting

On the third Wednesday of January the Study Circle, the former U.C.W. evening unit, met at the home of Mrs. T. Hoy. The next meeting is to be held at the home of Mrs. Jan McGillivray, 186 Tyler.

honorary president; Helen Mason president; Irene Terry, first vice-president; Meryl Kirkness secretary; Mary Mann treasurer; Alice Waldie membership; Jean Leishman social convener.

There was a fair crowd for the Eskimo films at the library Friday.

The previous week the Czech string quartet had played a concert in the library.

This week, in the library door where posters had advertised these events, there's a poster that declares simply LOVE. The South Central Regional Library board supplied the poster with no details. "Probably for Valentine's Day," the staff reasons.

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# Plan centennial for St. Alban's

A wide variety of special events is being planned to mark the centennial year of the Church of St. Alban the Martyr.

The specially-formed centennial committee held their second meeting January 20 at the home of chairman Penny Bristow.

Committee members are the rector Rev. Harry Dawson, Bill Denny, Dorothy Cunningham, Pearl Rol, David Hunter, John Last and Jim Frizzell.

The 100th anniversary celebration will be June 25, and a strawberry social is in the planning for that date.

The oldest living former rector, the Rev. Philip Sawyer, will be a guest at the centennial service. He is retired now. Another guest will be taking the service. The

committee is considering costumes for the choir for centennial Sunday itself.

Arrangements are being made for all the former rectors to return at different times during the year-long observances.

Parish supper  
In October a parish supper is being planned when it's hoped Bishop Bothwell will be a guest.

## W.I. discusses laws that need changes

The Nassugaweya Women's Institute held the first meeting of the new year at the home of Mrs. W. Freeman, Jan. 26. The chair was occupied by Mrs. G. Pearce vice-president who opened the meeting with the Ode and Mary Stewart Collect.

A good representation of members answered the roll call by stating a law they would like to see passed or better enforced. A variety of suggestions were made concerning the size of lots sold for building purposes, the speed limit law, passing at intersections and many others.

Business consisted of the appointment of Mrs. Louise Jensen as secretary treasurer to fill out the term of Mrs. Betsy Woytowich, whom members regret to lose as valued member and good friend.

Plans were finalized for a

The next event coming up is the Folk Mass February 13 with the Rev. Laurie Duby returning to his home church for the special event.

Arrangements are being made for a parish register with pictures of parishioners, and John Last is compiling the history of the church.

Valentine Euchre to be held in Brookville Hall and tickets were handed out to be sold on a quilt which the group had made. The convener Mrs. B. Young, conducted the program which concerned the making of resolutions. Several were suggested and two were decided on and drawn up in proper form.

## New show at gallery

Andrews Drenters is represented in the new loan show of twentieth century art at the Peel Museum and Art gallery. The new show opens February 2. Most controversial piece in the show will be Andy Warhol's felt tapestry on the Campbell's Soup Can Theme. There are also many fine Canadian pieces.

### The Thrift Shop

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