



By Wendy Thomson

I'm often asked "When do you find time to write?" It's gratifying to know that I'm thought of as such a busy person, that there's any question of "when". Or maybe it appears that I put far more work into this than I actually do.

Actually, the time I find is usually two hours before it's due in at the office, but this morning I "felt a story in me" and went back to bed with a mug of tea, and pad of paper, and two pencils.

Purrin' Cat

It soon became obvious that changes had to be made. Cock-eyed cat, seemingly asleep down the bottom of the bed, decided to show her delight at having company by purring.

We finally got her quietened down (by putting a pillow over her). Then Tansy-cat rushed in. She'd been outside for half the night, (like 15 minutes) and needed (a) the heat of the blanket, and (b) assurance that everybody was still alive and well and fond of her.

Once that was settled and I got her off my notebook, she decided to help—by tackling the eraser. This wouldn't have been too bad, but it was on the end of my pencil! I compromised by giving her the second pencil which she proceeded to eat.

Now any eating noises invariably bring Sue, the hound-pup. (Yes,—still a pup at two years!) Her head appeared in the doorway, nose twitching, brown eyebrows questioning in the

black face. She soon ascertained that the crunching was lot of anything interesting, but while she was here, the face said, she might as well visit. I caught her before she had shifted more than one paw to the bed. "NO!" The long ears lifted slightly and the extraordinarily innocent eyes looked surprised. "No Sue!" The paw dropped to the floor (Clank!) and she started to walk dejectedly out, head hanging, ears dragging on the floor. (Really!)

It wasn't till the cats both became alert and started peering over the end of the bed that I realized that somewhere along the line, Sue had snagged my dressing-gown cord and was dragging it carefully out of sight. My next "No, Sue!" stopped her at the door, and again came that surprised "But I was just taking it for a stroll!" look. She dropped it but Tansy-cat's dive at the quivering coils carried it out into the hall and away.

So that's the tale of why my story (what-ever it was) didn't get written. Now, I'd better get up and see whether my dressing gown cord still lives, or whether it is now lying quite dead and half-buried down the hall.



FIVE GENERATIONS have been attained in a local family with the birth of young Jason Oekenden, now three months old. Pictured with fifth generation Jason are his mother Linda (Lawson) Oekenden (right), his grandfather Harry Lawson (left) and his great-great-grandmother Mrs. Lillian Lawson (Centre). Mrs. Lawson is 88 years of age.—(Staff Photo)

Guest speaker Daughters of Knox plan for dedication

Mrs. Robert Paul, the president, led in the call to worship, to open the meeting of the Daughters of Knox, held Monday evening in the church.

The minutes were read in unison. The minutes were read by Mrs. Harold Swallow and 17 members and four visitors were present. Arrangements were made for the refreshments to be served following the opening and dedication of the new church addition on Sunday afternoon, February 27.

The Erin United Church Choir and Orchestra have been invited by the group to present the Johnny Cash musical trip to the Holy Land on Sunday evening, March 19.

Following a short discussion, it was decided to purchase the new desk for the minister's study in the new addition.

There were several souvenirs including a woven basket, colorful necklaces and bracelets, made of fine beads, embroidery work and crocheting to see during the question and answering period.

Study on Africa. Mrs. William Toth and her group took charge of the worship and study on Africa. Mrs. Toth

introduced the guest speaker, Miss Kathrin Cowbrough, who has spent two years with CUSO (Canadian University Service Overseas) in Zambia, Africa. She taught Home Economics at a girls' boarding school, the same as our high school level. It was very interesting listening to her experiences and seeing her pictures.

Jewel presented past president

By Mrs. Elsie Reed Davidson, Mrs. Warne.

A record attendance of Golden Agers took advantage of the mild weather to have a merry get-together in the Luxton Hall on Tuesday afternoon of last week. Eight tables of euchre and three tables of crokinole were played. Winners: euchre - ladies Mrs. Near, Mrs. Milne; gents - Mrs. Lambert, Mrs. J. Creasey. Crokinole: ladies, Mrs. Spear, Mrs. Warne; gents - Mr.

Jewel presented Robert Warne was presented with his past president's jewel for his work last year, by Ivan Harris, on behalf of the club. The secretary was instructed to write the Acton Centennial Committee suggesting a Senior Citizens Centre for Acton, as a worthy project for Acton's Centennial.

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Recommend home care all Halton municipalities

If a home nursing care program is adopted by county council February 16 it will cover Acton, Esquimes, Nassagaweya, Georgetown, Oakville and Milton but Burlington will be exempted since the town already has a home care program functioning. Under the program—fully subsidized by the provincial government—persons are discharged from hospitals when ready and continue to receive treatment in their homes. It is estimated the home care program will save between \$40 and \$50 a day for each patient. Home care costs amount to \$8 to \$10 a day while hospital costs run from \$50 to \$100.

community services committee chairman David Coons of Burlington. Representatives of the VON at Wednesday's meeting of the board of health said they would be glad to administer the county's program as well, a measure Mr. Coons agreed to investigate, although the medical officer of health said the committee must administer the program. Acton deputy reeve G.W. McKenzie listened to a report from Dr. J.M. Chamberlain, county medical officer of health, regarding the program, and asked where they were going to get nurses to run it since there were not adequate numbers to put public health nurses in North Halton now. Dr. Chamberlain said he intended to switch his staff so there would be one nurse for Oakville and another for Georgetown, Milton and Acton areas. "The role of the nurse is not what you would expect it to be," he reassured members of the committee.

would be wise to get all they could. Later in the meeting the committee recommended that high school nurses in the county be incorporated into the system. The nurses, all RN's, presently work for the board of education, which has asked the community services committee to incorporate them into their system although in 1968 the county board of health's request to do this was turned down by the board of education.

VON wonderful. The Victorian Order of Nurses has been running the Burlington program and been "doing a wonderful job," according to

Bake sale for Activity Group

The Activity Group of the Acton branch of the Cancer Society held a fairly successful bake sale during the stormy weather last Friday. The fund-raising project was held in Acton Home Furnishings store.

No half measures. Esquimes reeve Tom Hill was tentatively put off. I read the Acton Free Press last week, he said, "and I don't want to be criticized for half measures." He suggested that since the government was paying 100 per cent of the cost it

Public opinion. Acton's deputy reeve wanted to know how long public opinion would allow large elementary schools like Centennial in Georgetown to be without a nurse while small high schools such as in Acton had them.

Dr. Chamberlain suggested the high school nurse could spread herself to close-by public schools if they were under the same system, which drew a reply from McKenzie forecasting 14 nurses would be 30 a year from now.

The committee agreed, however, the program would be practical, if financial arrangements could be worked out with the board of education which according to Reeve Tom Hill "has the money while we've got the time."

Ballinafad Scouts skin Georgetown

Ballinafad scouts hockey team "skinned" Georgetown scouts in Georgetown arena last Saturday, under the direction of scout leader Paul Wilson and assistant leader Paul Medcalf. The boys played three sessions, with the scores, all in the Fad's favor, 10-0, 7-2 and 5-2.

Eight Ballinafad boys comprised their teams, Ryan Wilson, Randy Wilson, Eric Gaggie, Peter Snow, Martin Truman, Mike Sotka, Greg Snow and Raymond Ekhardt.

The boys are looking forward to their Father and Son banquet in the United church Feb. 25. There will also be a church parade on Feb. 20 to launch Scout and Guide week. Scouts, cubs and Brownies will take part.

A potato masher is handy for removing ears of corn from cooking pot. Cradle the ears.

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Free Press Family page



ACCOMMODATION FOR PEOPLE may be limited in Acton but Peter Looser supplies plenty of it for birds at his shop on Main St. where ornate bird houses and feeders attract feathered flocks.—(Staff Photo)

Free Press Personals

Former residents of town Mr. and Mrs. H. Dolphin of Weston spent the weekend here with Mr. and Mrs. Stan Norton.

Vern Denny has been accepted by the Ontario Provincial Police and will begin training in Toronto in a couple of weeks.

Mr. and Mrs. Dave Syer, Angela and Stephanie, of Sarnia visited Mr. and Mrs. Charles Landsborough over the weekend.

Friends were very sorry to learn Mrs. R. Algie is in Guelph General Hospital with a broken hip. She didn't fall on the treacherous ice, either — the accident unfortunately happened right in her home on Bower Ave.

A new branch of the Royal Bank has opened in Milton plaza, and Heather McGeachie has transferred there as one of the tellers. Heather worked for two years at the King and Spadina branch in Toronto. She's formerly of Acton, daughter of former clerk and Mrs. Jack McGeachie. Mr. McGeachie is Milton clerk now.

Mrs. John Root, wife of the Provincial Member for Wellington-Dufferin, is convalescing at the home of Reverend and Mrs. David

Ketchen, at Innerkip, Ontario. Mrs. Ketchen is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Root. Mrs. Root has been released from the Guelph General Hospital where she underwent successful eye surgery. Mrs. Root hopes to be back in her home in the Orton-Hillsburgh area in the near future.

Road Runners basketball team attended the Toronto-Philadelphia N.H.L. game at Maple Leaf Gardens Saturday night. The boys thoroughly enjoyed the excursion. Some of them had never been to Toronto before, as well as the game, new experiences included a subway ride and escalators.

The Hi Neighbour Welcome Service has called on several new families in town recently. Mr. and Mrs. G. Luisetto and four-year-old youngster have moved from Toronto to Churchill Rd. S.

More newcomers to Churchill S. are Mr. and Mrs. G. Leslie, formerly of Toronto. Mr. and Mrs. R. McEnery have retired from farming and moved in from Ballinafad to 12 Wilbur St.

Mr. and Mrs. E. Jamieson and four children, formerly of Georgetown, are now settled on Mill St. E.

Large advertisement for 'The Family Store' featuring a 'CLEARANCE' sale. It lists 'HOUSE DRESSES and MATERNITY WEAR' for \$1.50 (less than cost) and 'Boys'—Striped—Sizes 8-18 BELL BOTTOMS' for \$4.99 pair. The store is located at 29 Mill St. E. Acton.