

the painted box

Wendy Thomson

I've been staring at this sheet of paper, trying to think of something bright, fresh, and original to say, but my thoughts just plod, plod, around in circles.

A small glimmering might appear in the back of my head, but my mind veers away and heads off in another direction—like back to bed.

It started last weekend. Gord and I went to a neighbor's for a few hands of euchre, Friday night. Shortly after we returned home, another couple dropped in for another few hands of euchre.

That was followed by sitting in front of the fire, roasting chestnuts and listening to Lily Tomlin and Bill Cosby records.

Saturday, I pulled myself out of bed to take pictures of the Georgetown Judo Club in the morning, Roy Inson's llama at noon, and Lister's horse show in the afternoon.

Back at home, I made supper, and crawled into bed for a nap before people started arriving for a short visit before all going to the Rockwoods Trail Riders' Anniversary Dance.

Start again
I slid into bed shortly after 3 a.m., got up around 8.30, and started all over again, this time trying to sneak up on a Bouvier des Flanders and her vegetable marrow. (Try to figure THAT one out.)

Anyhow, three days and very little sleep later, I'm going to leave of my own volition and rely on somebody else's. The first in a joke in the Reader's Digest that I enjoy each time I re-read it.

"Nobody likes me at school," said the son. "The teachers don't and the kids don't. The superintendent wants to transfer me, the bus drivers hate me, and the custodians have it in for me. I don't want to go."

"You have to go," insisted the mother. "You're healthy. You have a lot to learn. You've got something to offer others. You are a leader. Besides, you are 49 years old. You're the principal and you have to go to school!"

Poem
Next, I have a poem from a book written by quite a remarkable old man who lived in the Rockies. He died last year well on in his 90's. The book was given to me by Pat Weir of Guelph, who travelled west with us this summer, to go on the Trail Rider. Ray Bagley's "Those Other Days" is something I'd often thought of buying but

never got around to it. I've been reading it slowly, a few pages at a time. The poems are marvelous tales of Alberta as Ray Bagley saw it in 1922 "Wide open country, no fences, no roads, only the trail from Calgary to Edmonton."

Sweet Annabelle
In a crowded bar room
At a table by the wall
Sat a man with grizzled beard

In faded overall,
He drank his beer apart,
alone
His thoughts his company
And wondered if among them
There was another such as he.

For he had sailed the seven seas
Had tramped the world around
To weigh the anchor once again
In his old home town—
'Twas here he'd spent his boyhood days

The school, the cold, the snow
And Annabelle, Sweet Annabelle
It seemed a thousand years ago.

Annabelle was so straight laced
Yet lovely, so divine
"Lips that touch the liquor
Shall not touch lips of mine."

She's likely now the parson's wife
And teaching Sunday School.
Annabelle, oh Annabelle
I was such a fool.

Who is that neath yonder light
Blowing smoke rings through
her hair
Annabelle!—not Annabelle
With hips that fill the chair!
Environment changes all of us
On the table dropped a tear
And he held his finger up
For another beer.
Ray Bagley.



YOGA CLASS at night school is popular this year. pants are pictured in a variety of poses. Instructor is Mrs. M. Bray. Some of the participants are pictured in a variety of poses. (Photo by D. Gibbons)

Bid Mrs. Ball farewell

The November meeting of St. Alban's A.C.W. was held in the lower parish hall on Wednesday evening, November 7. First vice-president June Hunter chaired the meeting in the absence of president Lois Turkoz. Scripture was read by Marie Hargrave, followed by two minutes' silence in recognition of Remembrance Day. Mrs. Doris Cooke read McCrae's Immortal. In Flanders Fields and roll call was appropriately answered by A Thought For World Peace.

The nominating committee was obtained. Louise Lindsay and Mae Fountain will obtain the state of officers for the election next meeting. The chairlady thanked all those who helped at the bazaar and reported a most successful day.

Funds
It was decided to disperse funds on hand, and the annual gift to Rev. Douglas Dittlich was approved. Doreen Lindsay reported a total of 18 cartons were shipped to Hamilton for distribution for the missionary sales.

With the imminent departure of Rev. and Mrs. Ball, an appropriate farewell card was presented to Evelyn Ball, who related some humorous anecdotes from her days as a young minister's wife. She will be missed by everyone.

Lunch was served by the November committee, Marie Hargrave, Doris Cooke and Marg Creasey.

Get well wishes to Mrs. Rhona Thornhill, who's in Guelph General hospital.

The girls of the C.G.I.T. are beginning to prepare for their annual Christmas vesper service. It will likely be held Sunday evening, Dec. 23.

Mrs. Eileen Pratt, 128 Longfield Road, wishes to let neighbors and friends know that her son, Private Mark Pratt, 17 years old, has successfully completed the recruit training course in Cornwallis, Nova Scotia. He is now in Halifax doing further training as he has joined for five years in the sea forces.

Hampers
The Rotary club and Lakeside chapter of the I.O.D.E. will again this year be co-operating in providing Christmas hampers for needy families.

Mrs. Wilfred Duval Sr and Mrs. Archie Papillon spent four days in Kitchener with Mrs. Lillian Duval and Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Olinski and family.

Friends and relatives wish Jack Scriven a speedy recovery. He is a patient in Guelph General Hospital.

Mrs. B. Phillips of Powassan spent the week with her sister Mrs. Ralston and Mrs. C. W. Hume of Parry Sound also spent the weekend with her mother.

Mr. and Mrs. Kuno Braide celebrated their 25th anniversary with a Caribbean cruise. They returned Saturday from the wonderful trip that took them to Nassau, San Juan, Puerto Rico, St. Thomas, Virgin Islands, Trinidad, Barbados, Grenada, Caracas, Venezuela, Curacao and Port O' Prince, Haiti.

Tiny 12-day-old Stacy Marie Hunter slept through a baby shower held for her Monday evening by Cathy Hunter, Cathi Weldon and Kathy Tarr. Friends and neighbors attended the shower at the Hunter Home.

Walker Lodge members and wives, and widows of former members enjoyed dinner and the evening's racing program at Mohawk raceway Tuesday evening.

Mrs. T. Veldhuis enjoyed a week's holiday with Mr. and Mrs. Harry Burns of Alliston.

Free Press Family Page

Allen - Hess wedding in Kitchener church

On Saturday, November 10, at St. Francis church, Kitchener, Nancy Anne Hess and Larry Charles Allen were married. The double-ring ceremony was conducted by the Rev. Wm. Burns.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert A. Hess, Kitchener, and the groom the son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Allen, 38 Mowbray Place, Acton. He is accountant at the Toronto-Dominion bank in Chatham and they are living there.

Murray Kroetsch played the organ and also sang The Wedding Song.

The bride wore a white ligoda gown accented with ribbon and lace, with a chapel train draped from a large bow at the back. A Juliet cap of lace and pearls held her layered silk illusion veil.

Attendants were matron of honor Mrs. R. Yarrow, and

Mississauga, junior bridesmaid JoAnne Allen, Acton, sister of the groom, and flowergirl Leigh Ann Fisher, Kitchener. They wore mint green with hunter green velvet ribbon trim.

Mr. Hess gave his daughter in marriage. Doug Lockerbie was groomsmen and the ushers were brothers Danny and David Allen, Acton.

The evening reception and dinner were at Woolner's lodge, St. Jacobs.

Mrs. C. Schnauber of Kitchener baked the wedding cake. Guests attended from Acton, Georgetown, Brantford, Orillia, Detroit and Boyne City, Michigan, Niagara Falls and Toronto.

The couple took a wedding trip to New York state and Michigan. There were several showers for the bride-to-be.

On Oct. 24 a miscellaneous shower was held by Mrs. G. Heimpel and Mrs. C. Bolduc. On Oct. 30 a bathroom shower was held by Mrs. D. Fisher. A kitchen shower was given Nov. 1 by Mrs. A. Hess and Mrs. P. Passin. A miscellaneous shower Nov. 3 was arranged by Mrs. C. Allen, Miss Susan Somerville and JoAnne Allen.

Director at course
Mrs. Win Isham, director of ARC workshops, Hornby, recently completed a course at York University in reality therapy. This was conducted by Dr. William Glasser, a noted exponent from California of the principles of therapy which developed and practised under the name of reality therapy.

About 40 people attended a general meeting at the ARC workshop and listened to a tape of Dr. Glasser.

Present books
Three books on retardation will be presented to the Acton Public Library in Memorium of Mrs. Janie Robbins on Wednesday, Nov. 28 at 7:30 p.m. This will be prior to the L'Arche Auxiliary meeting at Mrs. Pat Garton's.

Due to an error in last month's report it was stated that \$25 was donated by Mike Kinnal to the Tinkerbell Nursery. This should have read donated to L'Arche Auxiliary, Acton.

Ladies prepare advance lists
Lady directors of the Acton Agricultural Society met at the home of Mrs. S. Matthews on Thursday evening, Nov. 8, with 11 members answering the roll call. President Bert Hinton met with the ladies to discuss the advance prize lists for the coming year.

After a rather lengthy business period the lunch committee served lunch while the delegates who had attended the area convention in Collingwood on Oct. 27 gave some of the highlights of the convention.

The next meeting will be the Christmas pot luck supper to be held at the home of Mrs. Win Thompson, on Monday evening, Dec. 3, with the usual gift exchange. Miss Elva Pearson was courtesy convener.

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Free Press Personals

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Goodwin and Mr. Tom Dawkins had an enjoyable trip south.

A two month stay in California beckoned Mr. and Mrs. John Wood of The Breezes last week and they will visit with their daughter Lura and son-in-law, Bob Maurs and their little granddaughter Tammy Lee 4, at Canoga Park for a long-awaited holiday.

Mrs. Wilfred Duval Sr and Mrs. Archie Papillon spent four days in Kitchener with Mrs. Lillian Duval and Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Olinski and family.

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NOTICE
OFFICIAL OPENING
HALTON COUNTY WORKS GARAGE

The Warden of the County and the Chairman of the Road Committee extend a cordial invitation to citizens of the County to attend the official opening of the County of Halton Works Garage on

Saturday, November 17th, 1973
at 11:00 a.m.

The official opening will be followed by an open house and the public is invited to come and tour this new facility.

The new garage is located just east of the Town of Milton at the junction of Steeles Avenue and Highway 401.