

# the painted box

By Wendy Thomson

A few nights ago, friends stopped by to see a few of the films that Gord and I took out west. Those, along with all the messages trickling in from across Canada and the States from our trail riding friends, started us on a reminiscing spree in front of the fire that night. And that brought to mind this poem, not only for the folks we've ridden with, but also for the friends we never got around to seeing in '73. We hope to do better this year.

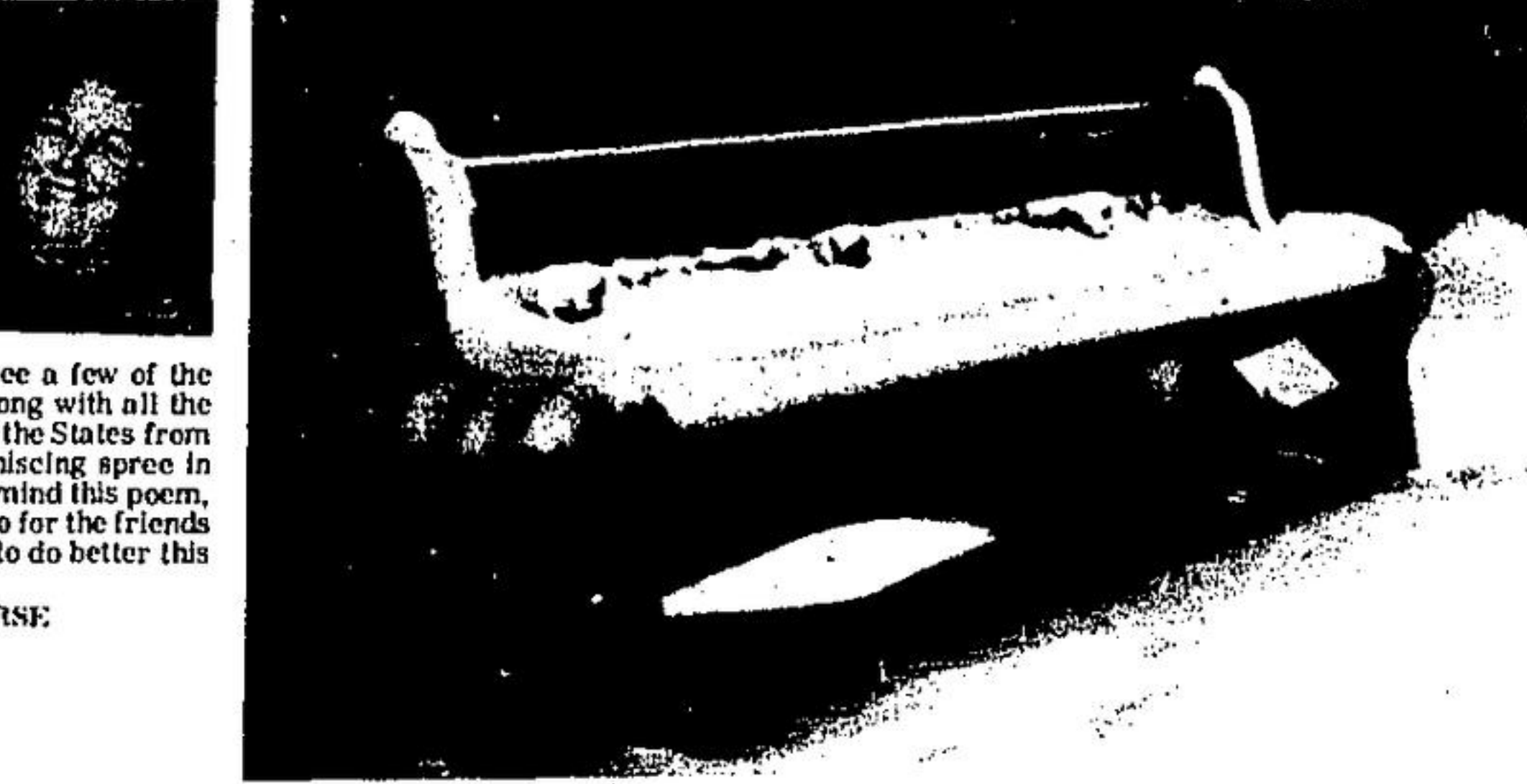
## MEMORY RIDES A QUIET HORSE

Cold is the wind that comes through the pass  
The setting sun is red  
Aspens shake their stark bare limbs  
The grass is brown and dead  
Zebra-streaked the mountain sides  
Streaked with the snow and the gray  
Mountain peaks rive the scudding clouds  
Winter is on the way.

Winter must come to the mountains  
That nature may rest and sleep  
Whilst I by my cosy hearthstone fire  
My lonely vigil keep.  
Staring into the changing flames  
The red, the gold, the blue,  
And out along those far-flung trails  
I ride again with you.

How many trails, how many miles  
In fair and stormy weather  
How many camps at journey's end  
Have we made together.  
I wonder where you are tonight  
If, in your campfire's glow  
You see again the same old trails  
We rode so long ago.

High on the pass I see the trail  
Where the campion flower grows,



HERE'S THE bench and there's the sun, but nobody's sitting. Four benches have just been placed by development commission with the hope senior citizens will enjoy them, sitting in the sunshine. There were no lakers New Year's Day.

Cuddled deep in its mossy bed  
Like little pink baby toes,  
The hurrying streams, glacier fed,  
That succeed the life of trade;  
Up where the snowdrifts tarry,  
There are the trails we made.

Memory rides a quiet horse  
With a gentle hand on the rein  
May the star of hope shine on you  
Until we meet again.  
May you never lose faith in the future,  
May you never feel shame for the past,  
May the flower of friendship flourish  
As long as our lives shall last.

From "These Other Days"  
by Ray Bagley.

## Trains late blame GO

Trains have been running late in recent weeks, due to construction work on the new GO facilities from Toronto to Georgetown. Normal operations are expected to resume Jan. 15.

CNR vice-president W. D. Piggott, has expressed an apology to local passengers for problems they experienced. He called the construction program "sizeable" with new track and facilities. Commuter bases from Guelph through Acton to

Georgetown will meet the trains, three in the morning and three in the afternoon.

## Also open

Attention has been drawn to the fact that the Free Press stated last week Jim's in N. Out variety was the only store open Christmas Day. In fact, the taxi stand and bus station were also open. Other grocery outlets were open on New Year's Day.

## Presentation, carols at meeting

The December meeting of the Greenock Women's Institute was held at the home of Mrs. Gordon Johnston with 15 members and three visitors present. Mrs. J. McCulloch, president, opened

the meeting by all singing a carol.

Roll call was a Christmas verse. Mrs. A. Gates composed a poem for her roll call. Mrs. C. Altken gave a

Christmas story often told but forever new. A reading selection from the Christmas book Ideals. Arrangements were made to send cards and fruit to the shut-ins.

**Presentation**  
A presentation of an electric coffee percolator was made to Mrs. Donna Curston of Port Credit, daughter of W.I. member Mrs. R. McKeown, by Mrs. J. McCulloch. Mrs. Curston thanked the members for the wedding gift.

Carols were sung and a gift exchange followed with Mrs.

E. Patterson acting as Santa Claus. Mrs. A. Gates read a story. The History of Santa Claus taken from the Readers Digest.

Mrs. R. McKeown showed movies of fashions of the early 1900s and of Lake Louise and Jasper districts. Mrs. McKeown also displayed a variety of Christmas candles.

Lunch was served by conveners Mrs. A. Gates, Mrs. K. Echerich and Mrs. G. Leslie. Mrs. C. Storey, courtesy convener, thanked everyone who helped.

## Night school courses offer large variety

Courses in everything from antiques to winemaking, auto servicing to yoga are being offered at Halton Board of Education's second session of night school classes in the North Halton area.

Registration for the second session takes place next Tuesday evening, Jan. 8 at the high schools in Acton, Georgetown and Milton, between 7:30 and 9:30 p.m. The first session's 10-week courses ended in mid-December. Next classes start the week of Feb. 11.

Fees range from \$10 to \$30 but most of the courses are 10 weeks in length and cost only \$10. Some courses such as interior design and decoration or brush up your typing are offered at all three schools; some are being offered at two of the three schools; and some are offered at one school only.

Courses offered include photography, bookkeeping, cooking, chair caning,

maintenance, painting, drama, fitness, folk guitar, furniture refinishing, plumbing, hostess, knitting and crocheting, landscaping, weaving, pottery, selling and merchandising, rug hooking, snowmobile maintenance and woodworking.

Brochures were distributed to local homes this week and they contain a pre-registration form that can be mailed to night school classes headquarters.

## Closed

The Cameo Boutique has closed its doors, leaving the Mill-Willow corner bleak.

New Year's resolutions are somewhat like sweeping the dust under the rug with too many people attempting to start fresh, without first cleaning up the particles of the year before.

## Yule supper tables groan

By Mrs. D. G. Robertson

The annual Christmas potluck supper was held at Lutton hall, attended by 57 members. Rev. Ewing, his wife and mother-in-law were special guests.

Tables were set in a semi-circle with a gaily lit Christmas tree in the centre of the hall. The serving table groaned with an abundance of tasty dishes to please all tastes. Following grace by Rev. Ewing, all did justice to a fine meal.

played, courtesy of Bert Davidson.

Program  
Tables were cleared and a very fine impromptu program followed, with each member contributing a number.

Santa Claus arrived minus a red suit to hand out gifts assisted by Ivan Harris.

A change was noted for the next meeting. Due to New Years, it is slated for the afternoon of Jan. 8.

Singing of Auld Lang Syne concluded a happy evening.

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