

the painted box

By Wendy Thomson
Electric appliances are marvellous things but very frustrating to work with if their unpredictability outweighs their usefulness. And the ones who try to outdo themselves by going non-stop aren't much better.

I've thrown out a can-opener that started grinding away ceaselessly and have a stove burner that insists on heating on "High" no matter what it's set at. The blender that suddenly started all on its own and filled the kitchen with smoke followed the can-opener.

Numerous electric kettles have succumbed to various ailments, the last going kaput at the plug, sending a four inch flame up the wall. Our present one refuses to boil water in less than 20 minutes, unless kept scrupulously de-limed. I wouldn't be surprised to learn it was underwritten by the Kettle Klean people.

A storm and one bolt of lightning finished off one electric clock and its replacement is held together by scotch tape after being knocked to the floor so many times by Gord fumbling around in the dark.

Some things are only half wrong—a toaster that won't pop, an iron that stopped steaming after three generations of kittens swinging on the cord brought it to the floor once too often. And I shouldn't forget the time the phone only half-worked after a dog chewed halfway through the cord.

Some things Gord is able to fix—or at least make bearable,—like the dryer that stopped heating one month and stopped revolving another. And the oven that quit when company was coming or the frig defroster timer that started to whir around at high gear, shrieking all the while. Rather than pay \$29 for a new timer, Gord just disconnected the whole affair.

Some days I get so fed up with all the fiddly things that must be done in order for things to work,—dials to be turned clockwise, switches to be pushed quickly twice, plugs to be plugged into one particular socket, etc., etc., that when something new that WORKS properly comes into the house, I guess I'm just like a kid with a new toy.

Last Christmas it was the built-in vacuum cleaner and

the stereo. This year it was a hand mixer and a blender. Gord went hunting for the latter the day before Christmas and all he could find was a fourteen speed one with buttons that ranged, according to him, from "mess" to "mutilate". He didn't buy it.

So my Osterizer didn't arrive till late and I've been going thru' as many recipes as possible. The first day I made Lemonade Bananog for breakfast, Welsh Rarebit for lunch, and Pots de Creme for supper.

Right now, there's a pot roast sitting in a wine marinade for company tomorrow. I'll maybe include it next week.

But now, here's blender recipes.

Lemonade Bananog
1 cup cold milk
1 egg
1 banana
2 tsp. frozen lemonade concentrate or lemonade flavor crystals.
Cut banana in pieces. Place all ingredients in blender and blend till smooth.

Welsh Rarebit
1 1/2 cups milk
1 egg
1 tsp. worcestershire sauce
1 tsp. salt
1/4 tsp. dry mustard
1/2 tsp. paprika
2 tsp. cornstarch
1/2 pound sharp cheddar cheese, diced.
Heat milk. Put rest of ingredients in container in order given. Add hot milk gradually and blend thoroughly.

Heat in double boiler over hot water until thickened, about 5 minutes. Serve with toast. Serves 4 or 6.

Pots De Creme
1 cup semi-sweet chocolate chips
1 1/2 cups light cream, scalded
2 egg yolks
3 tsp. brandy (optional)
Put all ingredients into blender container, cover and process at blend until smooth. Pour into 6 dessert dishes, cover, and chill at least three hours. (Note: cream must be hot).



BASS CLARINET PLAYER David Morris has been chosen to participate in the Youth Band of Ontario. The son of Mr. and Mrs. Vic Morris of Elizabeth Street is an enthusiastic member of the Acton Citizens' Band. He received a letter informing him of the honor recently and is seen enjoying a family music session and practice with his mother on the clarinet and his younger brother, 4-year-old Stevie, playing his Christmas Key-monica.



A SIX MONTH CHORE, Albino DiPede constructed a replica of a Spanish galleon using toothpicks, some hand crafted wood and patches of cotton for sails. A recent immigrant from Italy, Albino lives at 50 Main St. N., in Acton and works at Cathea Concrete in Milton.

His Spanish galleon is made of toothpicks

Albino DiPede, an employee of Cathea Concrete in Milton and a resident of 50 Main St., Acton, has constructed a miniature Spanish galleon without using any plans or models.

Aside from cotton sails, made by hand; handcrafted wooden objects and a brass anchor purchased in St. Petersburg, Fla., the ship is made entirely of toothpicks secured with glue.

Why toothpicks? "It was different", says DiPede.

DiPede, who came to Acton from Italy last September,

estimates he used eight boxes of toothpicks and 10 cans of glue in his project. Total cost of the six months work, says DiPede, was about \$10.

Studyship
A member of the Acton Public Library, the hobbyist borrowed books on ships to study the ship plan before he attempted to build it. DiPede said he had become bored with television and wanted to build something in his spare time.

The ship measures 38 inches from stem to stern and stands 36 inches high. The

ship has a hinged rudder and figurehead carved from wood in the shape of a horse's head. The sails, rigged with string, are moveable. Wheel and cannons are carved from wood.

File's Page
This was the first project of this type undertaken by the new Canadian. Loyal to his national heritage the ship flies the red, white and green flag of his native Italy from the main mast. He named the vessel "Italia".

DiPede is planning to build a ship of more modern design in the near future.

Mrs. B. Moore heads daughters

The regular meeting of the Daughters of Knox was held in the Mary Ellen Anderson room of the Presbyterian church, on Monday evening, President Mrs. Tom Watson presided, and the various annual reports were read. Mrs. A. H. McKenzie conducted the installation of officers for the coming year, who are as follows:
President, Mrs. Brian Moore; vice-president, Mrs. William Spielvogel, recording-secretary, Mrs. Max Sprowl, corresponding-secretary, Mrs. William Spielvogel; treasurer—Mrs. Jack Plink; ass't treasurer—Mrs. William Nelles.

Glads Tidings and Literary—Mrs. William Nelles, Press—Mrs. George Flinder, welcome and welfare—Mrs. Harry Phelan, Mrs. Herbert Price; card convener—Mrs. Bernard Van Fleet; music committee—Mrs. Tom Watson; kitchen committee—Mrs. Robert Paul, Mrs. James McKnight. **Group leaders**—Mrs. Clifford Ashley Mrs. Harold Swallow, Mrs. Tom Watson.

Mrs. Clifford Ashley and her group took over for the devotional period.

The meeting was closed with the Mizpah Benediction and lunch was served.

Group plans spring recital

The 17th meeting of Georgetown Trinity Teachers Association was held Jan. 6, at the home of honorary president Mrs. D.R. Scull. It was decided that during the next months the association will concentrate on a study of Beethoven.

The spring recital will be held in April. Anne Melcombe was appointed as Recital Chairman. Additional plans were discussed concerning the recital.

A delightful tea was served at the completion of the meeting.

Free Press Personals

Celebrating the New Year with Mr. and Mrs. D. F. Wilds were Mr. G. Mochrie, Timmins; Mr. and Mrs. J. Bruce, Tommy and Eddie; Mr. and Mrs. Don Marshall and Mr. and Mrs. J. Bruce Jr. and Johnnie of Stratford; Mr. and Mrs. Don Wilds, Sherrie and Donnie, Hamilton; Mr. and Mrs. Bob Hepburn, Doreen and Bruce, Everton; Mr. and Mrs. Bill Tjuts, Wendy and Wanda; Mr. and Mrs. R. Bruce, Susan and Gordie; Mr. J. Bruce Sr. and Mrs. J. Wilds, Acton; Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Russell, Karen and Ted of Ottawa were also holiday visitors.

Mr. and Mrs. Philip Klassen, Paul and Wendy Lynn have returned to St. John's, Newfoundland, after spending the holidays with Mr. and Mrs. George Paul, Mill St. Also spending the holidays at the same home were Mr. and Mrs. D. L. White, Susan and Shelley from Georgetown.

Miss Norma Leslie, R.N., was home for several days during the Christmas holiday season and has now returned to her work at Norway House, Manitoba.

On Sunday, Dec. 16 the Rev.

Notes from Acton High

By Janice Gibson
The first semester finishes in just two weeks. The four day turn around time includes the 24th, 25th, 26th and 29th of January. Several students graduate at the end of this semester. Things are getting a bit hectic as students hurry to finish assignments before final reports come out. Last Thursday, when school reopened after the holidays, we noticed a slight change in the school yard. The two portables have been moved in preparation for the building of our swimming pool. Construction is expected to begin in the spring.

Coming up
Coming up this week and next are several events. Option sheets for next year are being distributed to the Grade Eight classes in the



BILL and Betty Closson, Acton, are pleased to announce the forthcoming marriage of their daughter Nancy Dianne to Robert Daniel Legault, son of Mr. and Mrs. Fernand Legault, Hammond, Ont. Marriage to take place St. Mathieu Roman Catholic Church, Feb. 16.

Festivities at Tinkerbell Nursery

Tinkerbell Nursery for Mentally and Physically Handicapped Children had its share of festivities in December, starting with a potluck dinner attended by the volunteers and mothers the evening of December 11. Jane Hoddinott gave a warm welcome to 35 ladies who could not help but get into a holiday spirit with all the beautiful Christmas decorations throughout her home and with all the gastronomical delights that were served later, the evening was a great success.

On December 20, a Christmas party was held at the Nursery with many friends and guests invited. A visit from Santa, arranged by Martin Pollock, made the party complete.

Two special guests attended the festivities, Mrs. Gerry Logtenberg of Clinton, mother of the nursery director, Jennie Kuiken and Mrs. Betty Murdoch who had just arrived from Glasgow, Scotland to spend Christmas

Budget—that's a device for going into debt in an orderly manner.

Sheridan course

A new course at Sheridan College will help prepare you physically, mentally and financially for retirement.

"We want to develop the concept that a person retires to something, not from something," said Deana Mariatt, co-ordinator of the pre-retirement course which starts Jan. 17 at the Oakville South Campus of Sheridan College.

She said the response from industry and from those who attended a recent seminar for the aged indicated the need for such a program.

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