ANNUAL

EXHIBITION

Bessem, R.R. t, Georgetown. their interest in rock the losses, the Bessems had talked of owning a small Ever since two fires had

handleraft shop and doing some rock polishing.

participating in a geography lesson, delivered with all the Nine years ago they moved to their present home on Highway 7 and since then

there has been no looking which is characteristic of the the Bessem home is akin to

Bessems. One is first struck Crossing the threshhold of by the colorful display of stones polished and set cut by Herman himself with elaborate equipment some of enthusiasm and hospitality which was a gift to him from relatives in Holland. Ethel has set many of the pieces in

> colorful pendants, brooches and bracelets. Rock hunting has taken the Bessems out of their home and as far afield as Mexico and the Canary Islands. Since Herman's retirement three years ago they have often set out with their truck and trailer-the truck because it best accommodates their accumulation of rocks- and year they spent December to May in Mexico.

her gold wiring work to make

One of their fondest memories of that trip is their visit to a newly opened opal mine. As they pulled into a gas station nearby, they were immediately surrounded by a bevy of women crying. "Opals, opals?" When it was explained that there was "no money, no money," the women responded with a chorus of "dresses, dresses?" and a happy trade was made.

Herman can identify the many stones by name and origin. There is Iceland spar, John and Petoskey Stone from Petoskey, Michigan. There is also B.C. fade, amethyst from Thunder Bay, agate from Mexico and the Canadian Rockles, aven-turine, Michigan marble and

African Tiger Eyes. Besides the dazzling display of rocks and polished stone, the Bessems house interesting samples of coral, star fish, petrified wood and iron wood, so-called for its exceptionally heavy weight. Hobbies have been a part of

the Bessem's family life long before their interest in stones developed. Ethel Bessem has long gained a reputation for her remarkable and diverse handicraft skills. It is hard to believe her talents are the result of determination to conquer arthritis that struck when she was 25 years old. Only the most nimble of hands could have worked the two safety plns she used to knit the delicate doilie which is among her needle craft

Raising eight children who were eager to master dilferent crafts involved Ethel further and 4-II work was another incentive to learning handicrafts. Ethel explains her interest this way, "Like Topsy, it grew."

Nanie almost any craft and Ethel can produce an example. There are leather work coasters, enamelled carrings and brooches, stone in silversmithed settings, and potted plants hanging from macramed rope. In the living room, she has upholstered the chair you sit in, painted the oil paintings you gaze upon and copper tooled the lamp you turn on to better admire the bubble glass wall decorations fashioned.

"I love to knit in my spare time." Ethel says. "Spare time" has produced an afghan and three sweaters since Christmas.

demand as an instructress. She is teaching her fourth night school class at Acton high school in needlecraft. She has also taught an "Introduction to Handicrafts" course which in-cluded candlemaking, decoupage, resin casting and Labadorite, English Blue jewellery making. On February 21 she will be a guest speaker for the Ontarlo Association of Agricultural Societies at the Royal York

> She was president for this organization for four years.

Both Ethel and Herman enjoy camping in their trailer and taking part in country arts and crafts shows. This year they will be at the Learnington centennial show as well as the shows in Bracebridge and Barrie.

One would think, after seeing the various activities they devote their time to, that the Bessems hardly know the meaning of the word "retirement" but Ethel says, "With the first pension draw, I'm going to really retire and take my paints, sit outside, and paint clouds and flowers.

very well!

of the lady directors of the Acton Agricultural Society when 16 members answered at the home of hostess, Mrs.

As the news of her talents spread, Ethel has been in members congregation.

Hotel, Toronto. Many of her own skills have been acquired from classes sponsored by the Georgetown Arts and Crafts Association.

And she'll probably do it

Mrs. C. Aitken reports on agriculture society

Free Press

The Acton Free Press, Wed., March 20, 1974 B5

Birthdays and birthstones report of the Ontario were roll call answers at Association of Agricultural Thursday's evening meeting Society's annual convention

M. Madill. Two ladies, Mrs. Alger and Mrs. Cobham had attended a meeting of the men's board and Mrs. Alger reported. Mrs. Smith and Mrs. Matthews were appointed to 4 attend their next session. After business Mrs. C.

Aitken gave an interesting

A special service was held in the Trinity United Church Sunday when the Rev. William G. Onions officiated at the confirmation of six

Confirmation

The service was conducted with a large assemblage in attendance and, after a talk to the children, the rite of confirmation was bestowed on Susan Dedman, Donald Coats, John Kirkwood, Orval Chapman, Ian McGillivray and Lloyd Smallwood.

The service was consistent with the third Sunday in Lent and, to finalize, the congregation joined in the recessional hymn, "love divine, all loves excelling," culiminating the solemn ev-

accident Cars operated by Golko Cavic of 128 Church St. and John Krul of 121 Churchill Rd.

Minor

were laid.

were involved in a minor accident last week. Five dollars damage was done to the first vehicle and \$150 to the second. No charges

held on Feb. 20 and 21 at the Royal York hotel in Toronto.

Family

Lunch, served by the hostess and committee, culminated the informative meeting with Mrs. Archibald, courtesy convener. Mrs. Robinson offered her home for the next meeting to be held Thursday evening, April

ANNOUNCEMENT



FASHION TREND WEST

is pleased to announce that Miss Brenda Barry has joined their staff. Brenda brings with her 5 years of hairdressing experience.

rocks to prospective customers at a Bracebridge arts and crafts show last summer. The Bessens Consumers will pay



No spiel on waiting would

comment on how husbands

wait for wives, and I can

picture the knowing nods

The husband's version is

that he's always standing

waiting at the door ready to

foolishness (like getting

Wife's version? Well, we

went Out cone of those with a

capital "O") a few weeks

ago. Gord had a bath, supper,

and a nap before getting into

the clothes all laid out for

1 made, served, and had

supper, made sure the dishes

were being done, worked on

Gord's speech, made sure his

shoes were being polished,

stopped umpteen dozen argu-

ments, laid out all the clothes,

dressed, and would still have

been out the door ahead of

Gord if he hadn't asked me to

put his wallet in my purse.

That involved about five

And that's a "do" without

I feel it's a definite point

that, on my own, I can fly into

the house in jeans and back

out in formal dress in 20

minutes (30 if I have to bath)

-- five minutes to dress, five

for hair, five for makeup and

tive to change purses. With a

husband here for me to help

get ready tso he can "wait"

for mei I take twice as long.

on Waiting.

And that ends my thoughts

from both sides now.

ETHEL AND HERMAN BESSEM, left, show

Recently, I found myself in Milton, with no transportation, sitting waiting. The "brief wait" turned out to be two hours. After five minutes of conversation (with someone other than myself), 20 minutes of reading brochures, and 10 minutes wandering around, I had one hour and 25 minutes left to fill.

By Wendy Thomson

I amazed myself! There was a time when I would have be complete without a been a nervous wreck after doing absolutely nothing for that length of time. But like I said to the gentleman who kept popping out of his office to apologize for the delay-it does me good to learn patience.

Riding plans

As long as I can sit (preferably in the sun), lean my head back and look at the ceiling. I can while away time indefinitely, now. There's so much to think (or daydream) about. First and foremost is, of course, riding and plans to fit more in this spring. And walking-friends and I are going to start off on the Bruce

And the house-maybe Gord's pigs will be profitable enough this year that we can finish one more room in this unfinished house of ours.

Then there's day dreams, as always, about anything and everything from the sublime to the ridiculous. And failing that, I can

minutes of juggling on my always start writing columns in my head (like one on kids. Every wife knows that "Waiting". Unfortunately kids take after their father they're usually forgotten when it comes to finding before I get home. However, clothes. And often they need there's an endless variety of to be held down and scrubbed ways to wait. first (while hubby is nap-

At home it's different though. Waiting for an expected call, I'm afraid to go downstairs, turn up the stereo, plug in the vacuum, or submerge in the tub in case the phone rings and I miss it.

When company's expected, every car on the road sounds as though it's slowing down for our drive. I either worry they might come early or worry they might be late, until they finally arrive. Waiting gives me the jitters. Then there's the waiting for the animals to come in at

night. We keep one eye and ear open for ages, waiting for the bang at door or window, but it usually doesn't come till that eye and ear give up.

"Rowf!" darned nuisance that way. No Indian Harbour Beach, matter how long we waited up, watching TV, reading, or talking, his demanding "ROWF!" didn't echo off the doorstep until two minutes after our bedroom light was switched off when we went to bed. There was no fooling him by turning it on and off early,

more for meat

either have to tighten their prices up and the consumer to belts and eat less or be prepared to pay higher prices within a matter of months.

A recent report from the ministry of agriculture points out that present prices to the farmers are not meeting production costs at the farm level and more and more farmers are selling their grain, forgetting about livestock. This situation will

Consumers of beef and lessen cattle numbers on the other meat products will market in the future, forcing

became interested in rock collecting seven years

ago and have been avid collectors and finishers

The decision whether to feed livestock has been largely influenced by in-creased world demand for the crops that have traditionally provided a reasonably priced feed for livestock. Farmers now have the opportunity to market these crons at high

attractive when the farmer considers the fact that he can market his crop and receive cash in the year of harvest rather than buying cattle which are a large investment. Often such purchases require interest rates and the farmer must wait an extra year for returns from his crop.

The report indicates that. when all of these factors are considered, consumers can expect to pay more if they want beef, pork or lamb on These prices are even more their dinner tables.

go while his wife is dithering around over some sort of Delicious muffins baked Wed. by Dublin Junior Wheat Grains

The fun of muffin making and Kim Van der Eyken blending and pastry flour. was the constructive instruction presented at the fourth meeting of the Dublin Junior Wheat Grains held last week at the home of Sherry

President Marita Manina called the roll and collection was taken by Kim Van der Eyken. Muffins then became

the object of discussion.

Ogtrop and Julie Ismond made blueberry muffins. Sherry Ismond, Sandy Hall,

made bran ones. wheat, all purpose, instant on Mar. 27.

It was an enjoyable af-While waiting for the ternoon and Mrs. Ismond's muffins to bake the group kitchen smelled of delicious discussed the many kinds and baking. The next meeting will uses of flour including whole be held at Marie Davis' home

Zambia is W.M.S. topic

The kitchen was the place 14 meeting of the adult group of learning where Marita of Women's Missionary Manina, Debbie Rippon, Society of Knox church held Teresa McCarron, Alice Van in the Dr. A. C. Stewart hall.

Livingston, as their subject.

Zambia in the sun was the mandolin. Mrs. A. Near and

highlight topic of the March Mrs. W. MeIntyre were in charge of program for which they chose the story of the great missionary, Dr.

President Mrs. I. Anderson presided and the group was interesting program as favored with a music session served, by the group lunch Cathy Burke, Marie Davis by Mrs. R. Algie playing her committee

A lunch culminated an

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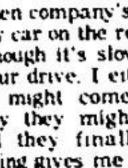
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Personals Mr. and Mrs. Dave

Roberton, Tidey Ave., have Our old hound Rip was a returned from a vacation at Florida. They report fine weather in the south, reaching 85 degrees last Wednesday.

Dr. and Mrs. Frank Oakes and Councillor and Mrs. G. W. (Pat) McKenzie have returned after a three week vacation in Florida.

