

# the painted box

by Wendy Thomson

Quite a few years ago, I read an article that said a person often does not know how they will react when suddenly confronted with a drastic situation.

I wondered about myself. Would my mind block out the element of danger so I could just pass right on by and let somebody else tend to it, or would I "become involved."

Well, last week I found out. While driving to Georgetown one dark rainy night, I was stunned to see a body beside the highway! My mind didn't do any hemming and hawing about what to do in such a situation. Before I realized what I was doing I'd pulled off, stopped and was running back.

It was an older man lying on the shoulder quite close to the pavement. I don't know how long he'd been there, quite in view to all drivers. I was in a string of traffic at least four cars passed before me and easily a dozen after without slowing down.

A truck stopped the same time I did, and another car pulled around to give us some light. Panic subsided as the man moved, spoke and we helped him to his feet.

I wish I could give the rest of the story, but I don't know it. The old man was dazed and didn't know where he was, and wasn't even sure if a car had clipped him. One of the other drivers bundled him up and took him to the Georgetown Hospital.

And that's all there is to the story. But for the following few days the picture kept sliding back into my mind of this poor old guy huddled beside the highway in the rain and everybody just driving blithely on by.

I'd like to add onto two other little stories I told before—one about waiting and one about stockings. You remember those nineteenth-cent-on-special pantyhose with no toe seam that I was worried would start rolling up my leg? Well, I found a match to it. I guess it just isn't my year for pantyhose, because the other night I pulled out another "special" pair (in a hurry

again) and found they had no top seam. All night they kept trying to roll down!

However, I guess I can't complain too much until I find a pair that insists on rolling both up and down from the middle.

And now to the tale about "waiting" I've been dying to tell all week. It all began when my husband told me he was dropping the truck off in Milton for lubrication or something and would I pick him up there after work.

Of course I said yes (what else could I say?) and being very determined not to give him a chance to get back at me for my previous comments on waiting, I landed in Milton at 3:30.

Knowing he couldn't possibly be there for another 15 minutes at least, I decided to wash the car (losing 25¢ in the process) then sit in the sun till he got there.

At five o'clock, I went inside to see if there was any message from Gord as to why he was late. No message. So I sat in there and waited, never doubting that he'd finally come.

A 6 o'clock I looked out the window to see Gord whizzing on past in the truck, up the road and out of sight, leaving me not only hopping mad but gasless and moneyless as well!

When I finally calmed down and stopped spluttering, one of the salesmen took pity on me and lent me gas money to get home.

And to top it off, when I got home there was Gord mad at ME for being away so long without leaving word with the kids where I was!

Me, I changed my clothes, washed my face, had a bowl of corn flakes, picked up the car keys and LEFT!

## Thompson-Coles wed at Knox church March 2



CONNIE COLES and Paul Thompson were married in Knox church and are living in Toronto. (Photo by W. Stuckey)

## Life membership for Mrs. R. Paul

The Daughters of Knox held their monthly meeting in the Mary Ellen Andersen Room of Knox Presbyterian Church, on April 1. Fourteen members answered roll call by finishing the sentence Happiness is... The hymn Living for Jesus was sung, then the minutes of the last meeting read.

Mrs. Robert Paul was surprised and pleased to receive a pin of life membership and certificate, due to her numerous years of

participation with the group. The treasurer's report was read by Mrs. Jack Pink. The study book was handed by Mrs. Clifford Ashley and her group, the topic being Let My People Go. The group participated in reading from the April issue of Glad Tidings, with Easter as the theme.

Hymns were sung, the meeting was closed with a prayer, then an enjoyable lunch was served.

## Gingerbread for 4-H girls

Dublin Senior Nuts and Bolts had their sixth meeting on Wednesday, April 3, at the home of Mrs. Kiron.

They separated into three groups: Two groups made hot water gingerbread then the other group made a lemon sauce for the gingerbread. While the gingerbread was cooking and cooling they discussed Achievement Day which is on May 11, at the School for the Deaf in Milton.

They learned how to write a menu for breakfast, lunch, dinner and snacks. They ate the gingerbread with the lemon sauce.

Mrs. Stella Brunelle and sons, Steven and Paul have returned from an enjoyable two weeks in Mexico City. They visited with her sister and brother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Ron Carter, who are living there.

Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Elliott have returned after a holiday in Florida, where they visited relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Salt are back in town after wintering in Florida.

Volunteers are needed for the program at Milton Jail, arranged by the district University Women's Club.

What are needed are two men who will visit now and then and talk to the inmates on job finding and financing. That's right, it's sexist—men only, please! Contact is Agnes Ruhl, Milton 878-9200. The plea was made at the last U.W. meeting at Halton museum last Thursday. Speaker was Mrs. Glynis Stowe, U. of G. professor, who spoke on our Indian heritage.

Mrs. R. Algie and Mrs. Marguerite Taylor have been enjoying a two-week holiday in Mexico.

Acton Soccer Club had a good crowd and a good time at their dance in the music centre Saturday.

Guests came from Detroit, Toronto, North Bay, Port Elgin, Kincardine, Sunderland, Mount Forest, London, St. Marys, Stoney Creek, Milton, Limehouse and Acton. Among them were the bride's grandmother Mrs. C. M. Hansen, Acton. The wedding cake, made by Mrs. Pearl Young, was in the shape of a church.

The couple took a trip to Hawaii and are living in Toronto.

A miscellaneous shower for the bride-to-be was given by the bridesmaids at Limehouse. A presentation in Acton was arranged by the matron of honor and her mother Dora Coles.

A miscellaneous shower was held in Toronto by Marg McKinnon and Elizabeth Ann Wilson, sister of the groom. A presentation to the couple was made by fellow employees at T. Eaton Co. in Toronto.

## Figure skaters pass

Members of Acton Figure Skating club recently passed tests at Fergus and Georgetown.

Results: First Figure Lori DeBruyn; Bronze Free Skating; Kathy Toth, Dawnne Streets.

Canasta Tango Christine Baginski; Willow Waltz David McGiloway.

Ten Fox Sharon Campbell, Dawnne Streets, Marilyn De Bruyn.

## Personals

## Books on retardation presented to library

The regular monthly meeting of L'Arche Auxillary was held March 20 at Mrs. Jessie Price's home. There were seven members present.

Mrs. Shirley Skeggs, president read the prayer and Mrs. Christine Steen the minutes.

Julie Conroy reported on the last dance which was very successful and well attended. She also reported that the copies of the Williston Report, and Welch Report have now been received and, together with the Ceidic Report will be placed in the Acton Library for the use of anyone who is interested in these problems.

The Welch Report is by Robert Welch and is a government report on retardation in Ontario, and various agencies. The Williston is an earlier report on much the same, and the Ceidic Report is on children with learning disabilities, who are not necessarily retarded.

Swimming Mrs. Steen reported for Mrs. Kulken on the Tinkerbell Nursery, and said the swimming program was a great success. They have 10 children participating at the moment, with one volunteer per child in the water, and one auxiliary helper to dress the

child when they come out of the water. This is being held at the Credit Valley Club (previously Burgundy Club). The children are really enjoying the program, and after their swim time they have their normal class.

Mrs. Kulken wondered if any one had an old piano that they no longer used, as they would like one for the musical exercises and songs.

Volunteers are always needed and if anyone has an old piano or a spare morning, please ring Jennie Kulken 853-1175, or Edith Hillman 853-2588.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 24 at 8 p.m. at Julie Conroy's home. Anyone interested will be warmly welcome.

## Dublin 4-H gingerbread

The sixth meeting of the Dublin Junior Golden Grains was held at Mrs. Ismond's. Marita Manina asked Alice Van Ogtrop to read the minutes. Then Marita took the attendance and roll call. They talked about achievement day and what was to be done.

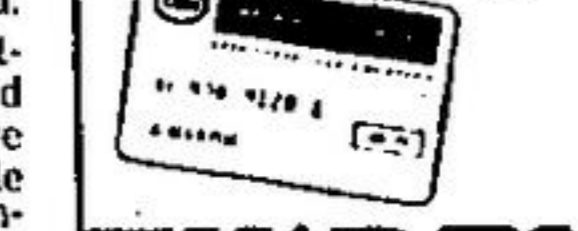
Mrs. Ismond read Convergence Cost and the Consumer, and The Cost of Convenience. Mrs. McCarron read The Consumer Looks at Cereals. Debbie Rippon read Buying Reminders and Storing Guide. Discussion followed.

They went out to the kitchen and made gingerbread from scratch and from a store bought package. They made lemon sauce to go on the gingerbread. The next meeting is at Mrs. Ismond's on Thursday, April 11.

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## Free Press Family Page

### Acton W.I. elects officers for '74

Thirteen members of the Acton Women's Institute responded to roll call requesting dues for the next year. The meeting was held in the library board room, on Wednesday afternoon, Apr. 3.

President Dorothy Simmons opened the meeting, welcoming all members and giving a reading entitled Easter Ideals. During business the W. I. Procedure Workshop was chosen as the short one-day work course to be held at the library some time soon.

The following reports were presented: Agriculture and Canadian Industries by Nellie Lindsay, Family and Consumer Affairs by Myrtle Lambert, Nora Kenney on streets of Acton, Mabel Denny on Education and Cultural Activities. Citizenship and World Affairs was the topic of Mrs. Doris Cook.

Election The regular meeting was closed and minutes of the last annual meeting read. Mrs. Earl Lambert took the chair for the election of officers. The following ladies were placed in executive positions: president Grace Neiles, first vice Agnes Holmes, second vice Nora Kenney, sec. treas. Marie Hargrave, curator Jean McLean. Standing conveners returned by acclamation are Dorothy Simmons district director, with Nellie Lindsay alternate, Jean McLean and Mary

Graham branch directors, the district annual directors, Mrs. Nellie Simmons and Marie Hargrave.

A committee of three ladies consisting of Dorothy Simmons, Myrtle Lambert and Alvina Wilderspin was chosen

### Games enjoyed at meet

Forty-five members attended the Tuesday afternoon meeting of Acton Golden Age club and were welcomed by the president, Ivan Harris.

Following a short business session, several tables of crokinole and euchre were played. Miss Annie Atkins, Mrs. D. Barket, Robert Warne and A. Mann were prize winners for crokinole. Winners at euchre were Mrs. Craig, Mrs. May Lambert, Miss L. Wilds and Mrs. A. Lambert.

Birthday greetings were for Mrs. E. Near and Mrs. Robertson and a belated greeting for David Robertson, wedding anniversary for Mr. and Mrs. Berry.

Fruit bread and cheese and a cup of tea was enjoyed.

The grass is starting to green up.

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