

# the painted box

by Wendy Thomson

June 1, 6.30 a.m. I've just woken up from a restless sleep in which I was having a great argument with the car rental agent here. But I suppose, considering yesterday, that could be expected.

When I received the coupon for the car rental back home, it had typed on it that I was to phone Avis to arrange delivery. At four o'clock yesterday, I tried to do just that. There were no instructions on the pay phone in the lobby, and none in the book, so I tried to phone same as back home — pick up the receiver, deposit money and dial.

Then, noting that there was a two pence slot and a ten pence slot, (and not knowing how much was called for of which, when), I had to head out for a store for change.

Once back in the booth, I found the phone wouldn't accept either pence. The next step was to try dialing first. Dial who? The operator and ask her how the ruddy thing worked. Dialed 100 for operator and just got a beep-beep, beep-beep.

Tried dialing the Avis number given me. Beep-beep. Must be doing something wrong.

**Cook assists**  
As there is no hotel reception desk with someone there all the time, I ended up fetching the cook to show me how to phone. She dialed, with two pence held poised in her hand, and said "No answer, try later."

I tried at five and got only beep-beep which I guess is their version of ringing. I started hunting in the phone book to see if the number was correct.

However, the book was only for Glasgow, with nothing at all for Prestwick, so I asked a girl waiting to use the phone and told her the problem. Luckily she knew the number of Prestwick Airport, and after she used the phone I tried again — dial the number, wait till the beep becomes a ring and deposit two pence. Two pence went right through into the coin return.

I repeated the performance twice more before fetching the cook again. She did exactly as I had; the coin stayed in! Wouldn't you know.

Anyhow, I finally got the information that someone would be at the Avis desk the next day from 7 a.m. till 12. That was fine and my visions of tromping around Prestwick for another day vanished.

**More doubts**  
While soaking in the bath that night I began to have doubt again, wondering if the 7 to 12 applied to Sundays too. So I got dressed, phoned the airport again and was given the hours of 6 till 2. That was even better. It would give me a chance to practice before too many other cars were about.

I phoned at 6.15. No answer. It is now after 7, and I'll try again.

**About Killin**  
June 2: I'm sitting on bed at

Killin, fully dressed, waiting for breakfast time.

Out the window, the view is (again) marvellous. Most of it is blocked by an old stone house with slate roof but beyond that are extremely steep high rolling hills. The mist is still covering the tops, and partway down, the hills seem to be covered in snow.

The sun's just come out, so it's all rather pretty.

I didn't mean to be in Killin — it just happened. Part of the time on the roads was a lost cause. The traffic was so thick and fast, the roads so narrow (and with no shoulders, so there's no room for error) that I had to concentrate on driving.

That was how I missed the proper turns to Loch Lomond and ended up on a road that isn't even on the map, through the Buchanan forest.

That was beautiful, with the yellow broom blooming everywhere. I sat for an hour or so, before continuing on to Aberfoyle, then up through Callander and Lochearnhead to Killin, stopping every few miles to take pictures.

It's hard to resist the urge, as the scenery is ever-changing.

Much of the land pastures sheep — thousands of them. Even to point where they're loose along the highway. One very sad sight was a lamb trying to rouse its dead mother, lying in the ditch alongside the road.

It's breakfast time. I'd better get up.

**Meets craftsman**  
June 3: Very little driving was done yesterday. I started to go around Loch Tay, but the wind was so strong I only went to Laver on the north side. There, a Cameron Thomson (no relation that I know of) showed me his shop where he works in horn making, absolutely beautiful things!

He fashioned a bird to show me how a piece of deerhorn is ground to shape then polished. It must be very satisfying work to see something emerge like that in a matter of minutes.

From there, I drove back through Killin and caught a glimpse of Highland cattle — great shaggy beasts — then on through Crianlarich and Dalmlally to Connel.

It's there I am now, in a little white house that looks out onto Connel Bridge, over Loch Etive.

It's early yet, but the coal trucks are out making



CANADIAN GIRLS In Training close their year's activities with a mother and daughter banquet held last week in Trinity United Church. Sing-song, food and plenty of tea ensured the evening's success. The meal was provided by the U.C.W.

## New facility for Simpsons-Sears

Acton shoppers may enjoy the convenience of a new air-conditioned Simpsons-Sears catalogue order office on the corner of John and Mill Streets.

The larger order office will be able to accommodate more customers and provide

better service. A spokesman for the new facility said the expansion was necessary in order to grow with the area and stay five or 10 years ahead.

Opening day featured free balloons and chocolates. The office will display major appliances on the floor for customers' examination.

Staffroom

Larger storage facilities under a numerical filing system are expected to increase efficiency. Downstairs is a warmly-panelled and carpeted staff room.

Small items ordered will be shipped in three days and larger orders, such as appliances, will be available for pick-up after one week. Herb Dodds will again provide delivery of large items at the customer's convenience.

Mrs. Ron Firth is the manager of the store heading a staff of three. Betty McDowell, Dorothy Hall and Jessie Coles, Diane Mann of Georgetown and Jean Chambers of Fergus were an

hand to help with the opening. Simpsons was formerly located next door, in the old Free Press office. They took over Manning Electric and the small store beside it.

## Charge

A pop bottle was hurled against the front of the pool room one day last week, just missing the window and smashing on the walk. An out-of-town man was charged with loitering by Acton O.P.P.

**Personals**  
A former Actonian was back visiting here, Mrs. J. R. Brown from Calgary. She's the former Ethel Coleman of Acton, and stayed with relatives Margaret and Mel McCullough. Mrs. Brown flew east with her son who was attending a librarians' convention in Toronto. While in town she enjoyed attending the 50th anniversary observances of Dublin Women's Institute. She flew home Tuesday with her son and his wife.

A group of 26 from the Golden Age club went together Saturday to attend the annual lawn party at Halton Manor. Many visit friends there while they look over the booths and enjoy the entertainment.

Acton Lions club as usual paid for the bus and Lion Vic Bristow went along. Members of local organizations sent down cakes, squares, cookies and buns for the bake table.

Gary Dawkins has been out meeting people in the Halton-Burlington riding. He was at the Halton Manor lawn party Saturday and museum festival Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Peter J. Papillon attended the reception in Burlington on Sunday, June 1, and a dinner June 6 at the Skyline Hotel, both events honoring Jim Singleton on his retirement as director of education for Halton county.

A tragic drowning has taken the life of a young child of Mr. and Mrs. Dave Elliott of St. Catharines. Last week one of their children was drowned in their own swimming pool. Dave, who comes from Campbellville, worked at the Free Press at one time. He is now with the St. Catharines Standard. The child was buried at Campbellville.

Tuesday provided beautiful warm weather for the Golden Age club bus trip to Midland and boat trip from there.

## Mrs. Dawkins distributor

It looks like a metal telephone number directory with its numerals and letters, and slide control, whose top pops up to reveal phone numbers under a specified letter. However, it is actually a remote-control television converter, capable of bringing in 35 possible T.V. channels.

Mrs. Pat Dawkins of 95 Agnes St., Acton is now local distributor for the item, which is distributed in Canada by Amcon Marketing, and made in Japan.

**Fewer moving parts**  
There are only three moving parts with this converter which attaches right to your television set, she explains. A fine tuning device set right in the converter allows the television set to be adjusted from the arm chair and the stations changed.

The station tuner, usually the first item to wear out on a television, is not moved, thus giving the T.V. a longer life, according to Bill, Pat's husband.

# Vacation Bible School

July 7th to 18th

9:00 a.m. — 12:00 noon

Children 5-14 are all invited and most heartily welcome

• Bible Study • Games • Crafts

For further information contact

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Pantry Shelf 14 oz. Tins (Save 46c)	<b>PORK &amp; BEANS</b>	<b>4/\$1.</b>
Vanguard 7½ oz. Tins (Save 20c)	<b>RED COHOE SALMON</b>	<b>79¢</b>
Pantry Shelf 10 oz. Tins (Save 14c)	<b>PIECES &amp; STEAMS MUSHROOMS</b>	<b>39¢</b>
Chef's Pride 3 lb. Pkg. (Save 40c)	<b>LONG GRAIN RICE</b>	<b>89¢</b>
Bicks 12 oz. Jars (Save 18c)	<b>CU-BITS RELISH</b>	<b>39¢</b>

**MEAT DEPARTMENT SPECIALS**

Tom & Pork	<b>REGULAR CHOPS</b>	<b>\$1.49</b>
	<b>CENTRE CUT CHOPS</b>	<b>\$1.79</b>
	<b>BROWN 'N SERVE CHOPS</b>	<b>\$1.89</b>
Submarine's	<b>RED HOTS</b> 16 oz. Pkg.	<b>89¢</b>
Submarine's	<b>MEAT PIES</b> 6 Pkg. Pkg.	<b>\$1.09</b>
White Granulated	<b>SUGAR</b> 5 lb. Bag	<b>\$1.29</b>
Rio 24 oz. Jar (Save 70c)	<b>PURE STRAWBERRY JAM</b>	<b>\$1.09</b>
Kimberly Clark (Save 26c)	<b>MAN SIZE KLEENEX TISSUE</b>	<b>2/\$1.</b>
Taster's Choice 8 oz. Jar	<b>FREEZ-DRIED COFFEE</b>	<b>\$2.49</b>
Case of 24 Tins (Save 40c)	<b>COCA-COLA</b>	<b>\$3.99</b>

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