the painted box

By Wendy Thomson

Many times when folks "back home" asked why we were moving to Alberta, we said something to the effect that we wanted out of the rut (however comfortable) we'd got into.

Both Gord and I were rushing around constantly, enjoying much of it but having little time to sit and talk now and then. We thought the move would give us a chance to rearrange our lives a bit and try life at a slower pace.

Well,—I'll have to admit it doesn't work—at least not yet. For three months we relaxed and puttered, going to bed when we felt like it. I got up at 7.30 to see David off to school but Gord often slept till 8.30 or 9. After 16 years of getting up at 5.30, that seemed like heaven!

Son Jim was unsuccessful in finding a job as an apprentice mechanic, which meant the three of us were falling over each other in this tiny house, getting bored. There's quite a bit of renovating to do, but materials are hard to come by. They're always "on order".

Finally I'd had it, pushed both Gord and Jim out the door and told them to find something to DO! Jim enrolled at Drayton Valley's high school and Gord found they needed help where he gets all the "fixings" for the house.

My turn

Then it was my turn. For weeks I'd been waking up quite early. It was too dark and cold outside to do anything out there; and after I'd washed the dishes, dusted the stereo, and swept the floor, nothing in here.

So on a whim I answered half the adds in the local paper, and contacted a few other people, figuring something would come out of five applications for varied types of jobs. Some weren't really my cup of tea, but I thought it would be fun to try all sorts of odd jobs and see how many dimensions I could add to my life.

I had five acceptances! That meant I had to weed a bit. The desk clerk job in a hotel could have been interesting, but it was solid night shift. The prospect of driving 16 miles home over country roads at midnight didn't enthuse me greatly, so I let that pass. Three of the other jobs meshed nicely.

As I'd already started writing for one local paper, I had to let the chance to write for another go. The bonus was that the one paper I helped out at was beside Gord's lumber yard, and that meant a lunch together now and then.

Last week was spent as a photographer for an Edmonton firm that takes sports pictures, the bowling leagues now, more to come later. There, I learned quite a bit about group pictures and heard much about the business end of such services.

Kindergarten

Next week I start on something that could be quite fascinating. On some far-out areas there's no kindergarten, and someone is hired to visit five year olds at home once a week with games, toys and projects, staying an hour at each house.

As this was being explained to me by the school association, (all of us keeping one eye on a red setter in first stages of labour in the corner) I began to have self-doubts and started pointing out how qualified the rest of the applicants were. That didn't work, and from now till May I'm "The Special Lady" in the red truck.

By then I should have enough stashed away in my money-sock to start on a venture of my own, one I've had in mind for awhile.

Oh yes—musn't forget about the guy who showed up here who was heading off on horse through the mountains and into Sasquatch country and hinted quite strongly that he was looking for a photographer to go with him and his four black and tan hounds.

Shades of the great Wagon Train! We let that one pass—for now.

SEEING THINGS eye to eye Sunday were two-month-old Matthew Bailey and his godmother Jo-Ellen Thomson, who's his aunt. Four generations gathered at the United church and Bailey home on Elmore Dr. for the occasion.

Fashion and beauty '76

by Marilyn Ottaway

I like to jingle when I move and not from the safety pins that hold my clothes together, but from bangles I wear on my left wrist.

I remember during my early high school days I never considered sewing a seam or hemming a hem. I just relied on my skilled use of safety pins. I was once reminded that if I did not start sewing and stop pinning I would soon be rattling. Well, now I rattle but now it's my bangles and not my pins.

I still think small gold pins are acceptable where you may not want to put something as permanent as a dome fastener. But check your rattles if you have them—they should be coming from your bangles!

Bangles on your wrist are an excellent fashion accessory. They add zest to sports and afternoon attire. However they are less appropriate for evening and cocktail apparel. They would go well with long casual skirts and hostess gowns.

Bracelet

A formal wrist accessory would be a single bracelet of gold or silver. A single

bracelet can be worn with matching bangles for daytime and sports. But the reverse is less appropriate as it creates a casual impression.

When you attract attention to your wrist naturally your hands become even more obvious. If your hands are rough in texture and red in appearance they are typical products of this climate.

However they need work. I would recommend a 24 hour saturation treatment. It's not difficult but is best carried out at home. Simply apply a generous amount of hand lotion to both hands. Then put on tight-fitting rubber gloves, only removing gloves to apply more lotion. Wash your gloved hands between chores just as you would your skin. Continue this treatment for 24 hours.

During the night cotton gloves may be more comfortable and pleasing to your husband.

You'll be amazed at the difference in 24 hours.

Lotion too

Protect your hands as much as possible by wearing rubber gloves for household chores and always wear gloves when out-of-doors. Keep hand lotion conveniently located near the telephone, your desk, or next to the sink and apply when you have the opportunity.

Let your hands express your true feelings about yourself—"I'm worth taking care of."

Contrary to popular behaviour, fingernails are not strong enough to cut, pry or scrape. Use the proper tools for these jobs and you'll be amazed at how your nails will stop cracking and breaking. Use clear nail polish after a weekly manicure.

If you do have time to manicure daily do not use coloured polish. It all chips. Finger nails need protection—don't leave them without a coat of nail polish or nail hardener.

If you don't protect them, then who?

GOOD PLACE for birds to keep their feet warm — right on top of the chimney.

C.W.L. members hold spring meeting

Members of the Catholic Women's League throughout the Kitchener Region, which includes Acton , will be attending the forthcoming Spring Regional Meeting to be held at Sacred Heart Church in Kitchener on Saturday, March 6 at 10 a.m. beginning with a concelebrated mass.

Following Regional and Diocesan business under the direction of Mrs. R. C. O'Neal, Diocesan President and the Diocesan officers, the Parish Presidents from throughout the Region (which totals 44 in the Kitchener Region) will present highlight reports of programs and outstanding events carried out in their respective parish during the past year. (The CWL fiscal year ends in April.)

Two similar regional meetings will be held during the month of March in other regions of the Hamilton Diocese-St. Mary's, Brantford on March 13 at 10 a.m. and St Anthony of Padua, Kincardine at 10 a.m.

Members unable to attend the meeting in their respective region are all eligible to attend the other meetings.

Free Press / Family Page

Staff expanding with new advertising person

The Acton Free Press' sister paper, the Georgetown Independent, has a new advertising salesperson.

Janice Johnson, daughter of the late Councillor Len Coxe, will be selling advertisements for the Independent. She was transferred there from a similar post with another sister paper, The Milton Canadian Champion.

Free Press / Personals

Mrs. E. Norton of the Dublin Women's Institute and Mrs. C. E. Nelles of the Acton Women's Institute attended the Ashgrove Women's Institute's 50th anniversary on February 17 at Hillcrest United Church.

+ + +

Many Actonians are joining the exodus south this long, cold winter. They're setting off by bus, car and plane.

+ + +

The annual convention of the Ontario Agricultural Society's Class B and C fairs again drew a good-sized contingent from Acton. The convention was last Wednesday and Thursday in the Royal York Hotel, Toronto, and the delegates found plenty to interest them.

Attending were Miss Acton Fair Jill Pardy, Mrs. Joan Waldie and Mrs. Irene Swackhamer of the ladies' board, past president Ken Murray and his wife Doll; president Russell Murray and Marilyn; first vice-president Brent Marshall and Janet; second vice-president Brian Evans and Diane; secretary-treasurer John Rowe and Helen.

+ + +

Acton fire chief Mick Holmes attended a special Board of Education meeting on Thursday in Burlington.

At the meeting a man from C-I-L Paint spoke about chlorine leaks and what to do about them. He also spoke on the dangers and hazards of the gas.

+ + +

Mr. Holmes also attended the Halwell Insurance Company's annual dinner and business meeting in Ospringe church yesterday, (Tuesday). Here, firefighters gave a talk on fire protection, Chiefs from Burlington, Milton, Pakville, Acton and Georgetown attended.

+ + +

Twenty guests attended the firefighters' annual Appreciation Night held Saturday at the fire hall. Fire chief Mick Holmes explained the special guests were individuals in the community who had given the firefighters service and co-operation and helped the volunteer department do their job. Jack Newton of Toronto, a former fire chief in Acton, also attended the dinner.

Reach objective for 1975 campaign

The Ontario Society for Crippled Children's 1975 Easter Seal appeal reached its $2,000,000 objective in the closing days of the year, with $1,000 coming from Acton, according to local chairman Ron McKnight.

"The resounding success of last year's efforts," said Ontario campaign chairman W. D. Whitaker, will serve as an incentive for the 1976 appeal which opens March 18 with a $2,200,000 objective."

Mr. Whitaker complimented the efforts of the 233 Easter Seal service clubs throughout Ontario that conduct the campaign on behalf of the Society. Half of the funds raised through Easter Seals remain with these clubs to meet the local needs of physically handicapped children. The remainder is used by the Society to provide regional services and programs beyond the scope of individual communities.

Donations in Acton will once again be accepted at the Bank of Nova Scotia.

Oxfam topic for TAG meet

Trinity Activity Group met in the church for their February meeting. Dianne Butler conducted the business meeting during which the World Day of Prayer was noted. It is to be held at the Anglican Church, Friday, March 5 at two o'clock. A babysitting service will be available during the service.

The group decided to hold a rummage sale in the church, Thursday, April 1 at two o'clock and to pack a bale for the Alan Lauder Indian Mission in Portage La Prairie during the second week in April.

In keeping with the theme of "Ten Days of World Development," Cathy McGillivray led the devotional on "The Grace of Gratitude" and guest for the evening was Eldon Comfort speaking on Oxfam. Mr. Comfort emphasized that Oxfam was more than charity, it was a move for social justice. It is encouragment for the needy to support themselves. A film entitled "Half the World" showed Oxfam in action, teaching reading to the eighty per cent illiterate in Bolivia, and providing sewing and knitting machines to a mission in Lima Peru. Also impressive were the works in human development being done in Haiti and Lima to provide water in times of drought. Mrs. Comfort explained the Oxfam trading program to the group. She displayed many beautiful hand made articles made in these countries to be sold here.

Cathy Masson wins swimming gold medal

Cathy Masson of Georgetown won a gold medal at the Ontario age group swimming championships in Burlington on the weekend. Cathy competes for the Chinguacousy Swim Club.

Competing in the girls 15-17 age group, Cathy won the gold medal in the 100 metre butterfly in a time of 1.15.4, then took fourth place in the 200 metre backstroke.

In a dual meet with the Ajax club on Sunday, Cathy's brother Robbie and Mary Lynn Morrow, also of Georgetown placed well. Robbie was second in both the boys 13-14 breaststroke and 200 metre individual medley. Mary Lynn was third in the girls 13-14 breaststroke.

Paul Carter, John Girvan and Pauline Heaton of Georgetown also compete for the Ching club, which is holding a swim-a-thon, Sunday, March 14 to raise operating funds.

There were 400 swimmers from 35 clubs across the province at the three days age group championships.

Cathy is formerly of Acton, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Pete Masson.

Two babies baptized

The Rev. Charles Beaton of the Trinity United Church performed his first baptism since coming to Acton on Sunday.

William James Wieck, son of Gerald and Marilyn Wieck, R.R. 1, Acton, and Matthew Joseph Bailey, son of Richard and Elizabeth Bailey, 96 Elmore Dr., were baptized.

Keep sheet handy

March is Red Cross campaign month and Halton Hills residents are advised by the Red Cross to keep the information sheet, delivered by mail, handy to the phone.

The sheets list all available Red Cross service and phone numbers. However, one number (8)—emergency and transportation is listed as 877-6943. It should be 877-6398.

Acton and Georgetown district residents, business and industry, canvassed by mail have been asked to send donations to P.O. Box 106 of the Georgetown and district Red Cross Branch.

The Red Cross is asking residents who are not canvassed by March 13 to send donations in. If sufficient canvassers Acton will have a residential canvass during March.

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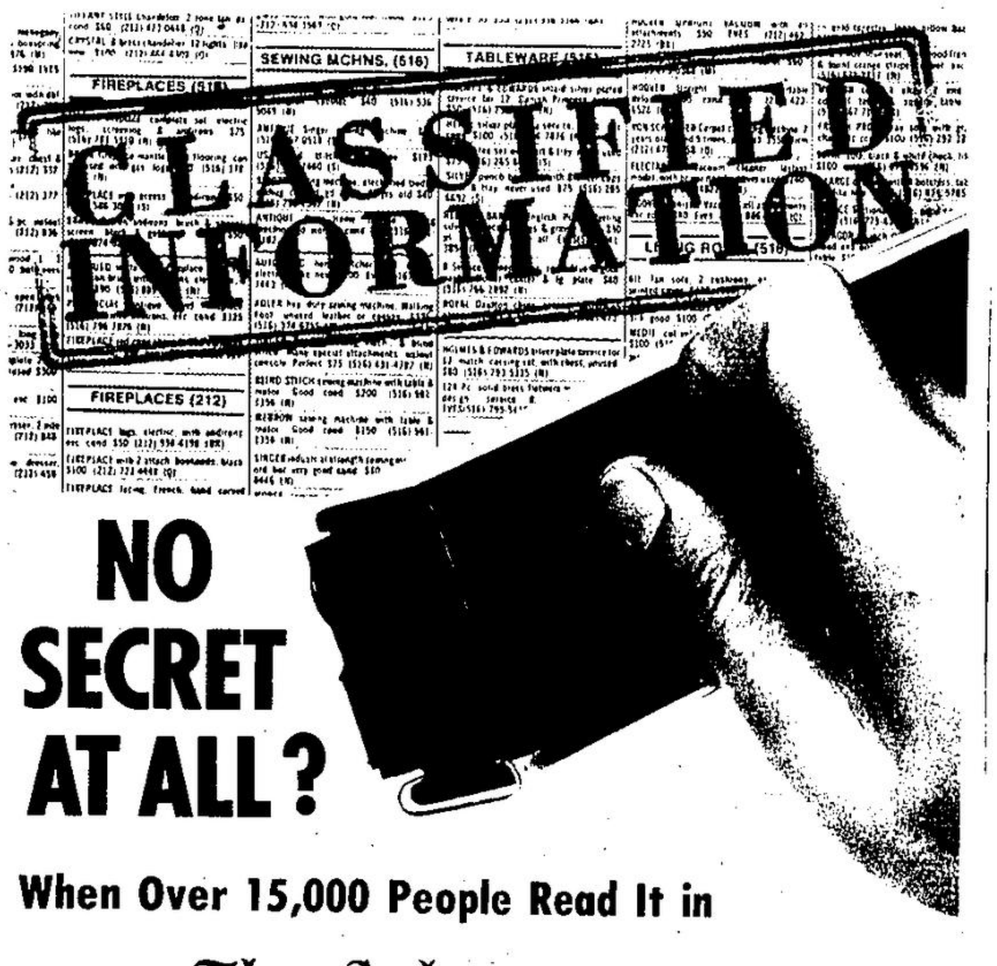
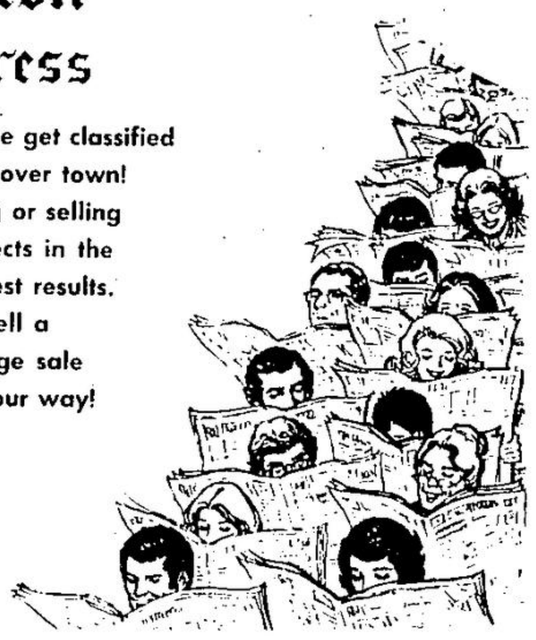


NO SECRET AT ALL?

When Over 15,000 People Read It in

The Acton Free Press

We can't keep a secret when we get classified information . . . it's spread all over town! Rely on us to carry your buying or selling message to many likely prospects in the area . . . for the best and fastest results. So whether you're looking to sell a house, buy a boat, run a garage sale . . . whatever. It pays to do it our way!



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