



Peacocks on the porch

Saturday, February 12. All that moaning about the weather did the trick. Today it's 40 glorious degrees and sunny. Boy, did we need this! Doesn't a hint of spring in the air make you want to whistle?

Ever since the peacock family arrived just before Christmas, I've been keeping the barn doors closed after horses and cattle went out. The peacocks had to become acclimatized to their new home before freedom was allowed.

Apparently peacocks aren't happy penned up and prefer to roam free. However, if they don't like a place they'll take to the air and live wild. The fact that peacocks are extremely expensive birds makes most people very cautious with the freedom thing.

However, I abhor confined animals except when absolutely necessary and today was a day when no self-respecting chicken wanted to be in. So, I left the barn doors open after the stock was out.

Bribed by nuts

With heads held high and necks craning, the chickens minced outside to see what had happened to the world since December. The banty rooster crowed "unto death" while his assorted wives had a good scratch and peck.

With trepidation, I watched the peacocks venture out, young Gabriel in the lead. Standing on tiptoe they had a stare around while I waited for them to take to wing and leave me forever. Nothing happened. They poked about, undulating up and down the yard and seemed quite content.

I needn't have worried about their leaving. They spent most of the day on the back stoop looking for walnuts. When Erica noticed the peacocks close to the house, she rushed out with some chopped walnuts, their favorite treat. From then on they hung about waiting for more. Instead of fleeting semi-wild birds ready to fly away at the slightest provocation, we kept tripping over a solid group of friendly turkeys, happily messing on the steps. Just like the rest of the animals.

At one point we looked out of the kitchen window to see Mama Peacock staring in. She had hopped up onto a tree stump to get a better view of the nut people.

Erica had much company while she played in her snow fort. Between the dog, her young cat and five peacocks, it got a bit crowded.

Along about three o'clock, the family filed sedately back into the barn, Gabriel experimentally spreading his tail.

I guess they like it here.

Pet of the week



CAT IN A CORNER—good place to be until spring. This little kitty hibernates in a dressing table.

Ballinafad

Church project, U.C.W., Valentine dance news

By Mrs. Winifred Smith
There was a very good crowd at the Valentine dance sponsored by the Hall Board on Saturday night. Every one reported a good time. Bingo games are held every Tues. night at the Community Centre.

The Recreation Committee were talking over the idea of having a girls' baseball team this spring. Any girl sixteen or over who is interested could get further information on the store bulletin.

Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Colton and family were visiting relatives in Creemore on Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Given entertained members of their family on Sunday. They first took in the Ice Capades at the Georgetown Memorial Arena. Afterwards enjoying the family get-together around the supper table, at the Given home. A beautifully decorated cake in honour of St. Valentine graced the centre of the table.

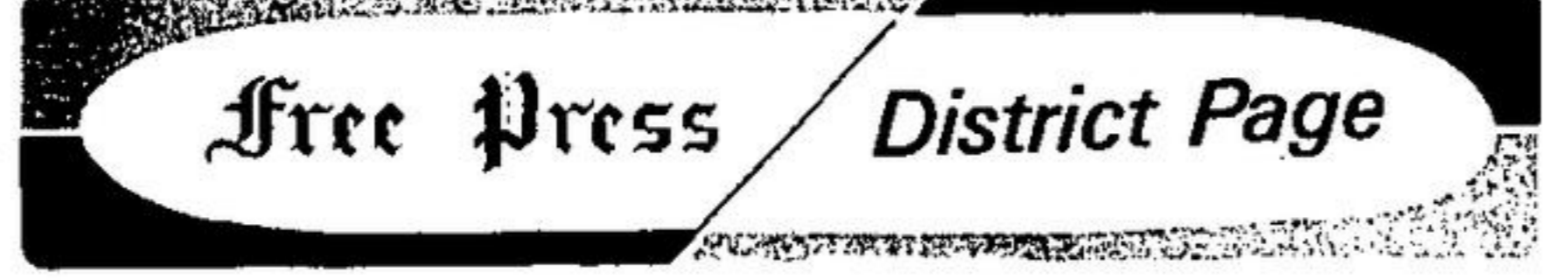
At church
Rev. Stiles had an impressive sermon on Sunday when he outlined the program the United Church, along with other major churches in Canada is presently engaged in. The program World Development supports projects in dry land farming, irrigation, and many other ways whereby the hungry peoples of the world could be trained. Many problems could be solved by means of

development, which of course costs money. Literature and envelopes were given out. Donations small or large would aid in letting "The Hungry Feed Themselves." The men's choir favoured with the beautiful anthem Whispering Hope.

The U.C.W. gathered for their February meeting at the home of Mrs. Archie Lawr. There were 17 members present to answer the roll call by repeating a verse of scripture containing the word Family. When the meeting adjourned the committee in charge assisted the hostess in serving a cup of tea.

Accident

Friends of Mrs. E. J. (Eldon) Lambert will be sorry to hear of his recent accident. Mr. Lambert, formerly of Acton, fell on the ice and broke his hip. He is staying in Room 306 in St. Joseph's hospital in Sarnia. This week.



Ospringle

Australian girl sees first snow—likes it!

By Doris Fines
Melissa Gregory flew from warm summer weather in Australia into our cold Canadian winter, to spend a year in Canada along with her parents, Bruce and Judith Gregory, and 11-year-old brother Paul. She is living on the first line and attending school at Ospringle.

Mr. Gregory is one of the exchange teachers from Australia, and is teaching woodwork at the Ernest C. Drury School for the Deaf, at Milton. They are living in the house of James and Eleanor McCulloch, who have taken up residence in the Gregory house in Austinmer, a suburb of Wollongong, 40 miles south of Sydney, for a year. Mr. McCulloch is teaching at Keira Boys High School in Australia, where Mr. Gregory was a subject teacher.

I talked with Melissa, a bright, pretty little girl of eight years. She is in grade 3, but it is a little difficult for her, as she is just beginning the grade, so the rest of the class have a head start. Her summer holidays began in

December for six weeks, thus beginning the school year Feb. 3.

The family stopped in San Francisco for three days to visit Melissa's uncle on the way here, and he took them to see Disney Land. They arrived here on Boxing Day, to the first snow they had ever seen. She says it is cold, but she likes it. They had to buy warmer clothes to suit the climate. The school lessons are about the same, she says, also the games. At home they play baseball, football and field hockey on the grass.

Asked about her likes and dislikes of Canada, Melissa says "There isn't anything I don't like."

Attends camp
Flora Stewart attended Georgetown Baptist Church camp as a guest last weekend, at Family Acres in Alton. Workshops were held in the morning, and recreation in the afternoon consisted of tobogganing and skating. Sunday morning worship service was held in the basement. She reported a good time. Sing songs were also enjoyed.

Ebenezer

Guest speaker U.C.W. in news

By Mrs. Ron McLean
Rev. Bernard Warren was the speaker at Ebenezer Sunday morning. He spoke on "Guidance." Everyone asks himself, does God really love me? How can I receive guidance from God in my life? The sheep need to know the shepherd and must draw close to him. Submit to the shepherd and read his word. On the citizens' band radio, there is a squelch button, so you can tune out what you don't want to hear. We can also tune out the voice of the shepherd. If we have unconfessed sins, we will find it difficult to hear God.

Malachi asked, "Will a man rob God?" If we don't give God His tithes, we are robbing Him. We need to eliminate the static of an unrepentant heart.

Guidance doesn't have to be difficult. Basically, it should be a natural flow. If we're off the track, God is ready at any moment to take us into the road where He can guide us. Come to Him, that He may be your friend.

Next Sunday, the young people will be in charge of the service.

Ebenezer United Church women held their February meeting in the church, with 16 ladies in attendance. Mrs. John Kitching, the president, opened the meeting with a selection from "Look to this day for Tomorrow." The roll call was answered with the word "charity." The price of serving weddings was discussed.

Presbyterial is to be held in Dublin St. Church, Guelph, on Feb. 21. The choir rally is to be held on April 24.

Mrs. D. Jess was the convener. I've got the Joy, Joy, Joy, Joy in My Heart was sung. Mrs. Ward read the scripture from Exodus.

The ladies divided into groups of three and discussed various topics related to male-female relationships. He's got the Whole World in His Hands was sung. Mrs. Blyth and Mrs. McLean served lunch.

The World Day of Prayer is being held March 4, in the evening.

Limehouse

W.M.S. meeting at Benton home

By Mrs. A. Benton
The W.M.S. met at the home of Mrs. A. W. Benton on Feb. 7, seven attending. President Mrs. Roughly read scripture from Ps. 77 and

commented on the meaning of I Wonder as I Wander, and Mrs. Crichton led in prayer.

Text word "Justify" and roll call were answered in verses of scripture and each read an interesting item. Mrs. Patterson read from Rev. McDougall's book Faith and Practice. Several hymns were sung and the Mizpah closed the meeting. The hostess served lunch afterwards.

Gold ribbon for Holstein

Tara Duchess Deirdre, a purebred Holstein cow bred by Daniel Jones, Hornby, and owned by Indian Garden Farm, Acton, has received a Gold Ribbon Lifetime Production Award from the Holstein-Friesian Association of Canada for a total of nine lactations on twice-a-day milking, yielding 207,101 lbs. milk, testing 3.61 per cent for 7,470 lbs. fat.

Deirdre is the Very Good daughter of Tara Hyacinth, classified Good Plus, who was on the Honour List in 1961. She is sired by Ridgebrook Achilles Prince, classified Good Plus.

Tara Duchess Deirdre has one Very Good daughter.

Closing roads in Speyside

Halton Hills works committee approved the official closing of two roads which aren't open in Speyside Monday night.

The town is going to official close Ashbury and Spey Streets which are around the Speyside Store.

The streets will be sold to abutting landowners Howard Stull and Leo Cassivi.

Silverwood

W.I. tour hospital

by Alicia Scott
The February meeting of the Silverwood Women's Institute was held at the home of Miss Lindauer on Thursday 10. Members met at the Memorial Hospital for a tour of the new section and also the laboratory and X-ray.

The business part was conducted at Miss Lindauer's with 13 members and one guest present. Sickens kept several members away.

The members decided against sending a delegate to an officers' convention in Kitchener. A contribution

was made to the Children's Aid and they'll continue a collection of stamps till fall. A discussion about the upcoming 26th birthday eucure and the Manor party was held.

Mrs. Corbett and Mrs. Breen are home from the hospital. Friends and neighbours extend get well wishes.

Georgetown Snowmobile club held a recent party with hot lunch at the home of Mrs. Margaret Campbell on the Eighth Line. There were 16 wheelchair residents and four attendants of Belwood Park House present. The club holds a summer party at the same home.

Flood control problem

Representatives from Wellington County, Dufferin County and Halton Region, as well as police and fire departments, met at Sand Dam Thursday. Bill Catton, district manager of the ministry of natural resources, told them that it is imperative that each municipality have a plan for provision of emergency action.

Jim Bauer, chairman of the GRCA, said that plans should be made so that a township can get help quickly if it needs it.

Visitors collide

Two visitors to Acton met on Mill St. E. under unhappy circumstances last Thursday. Cars driven by Allan Hassall, London, and Yogesh Chanelorana, Burlington, collided, causing \$400 damage.

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