



QUILTING INSTRUCTOR Joan Albert of Georgetown discusses stitches with Alison Ginn, left, and Virginia Hogan of Erin Saturday. The two sessions of quilting at the library had over 20 registered. Participants are making cushion covers and wall hangings, mostly in nine patch or fireworks patterns.



WORKING on their quilt blocks at the library short course Saturday are Mary Kenney, Kae Hotchen and Mildred Heffernan.

Red Cross homemaker keeps things running

New mothers, convalescents, the elderly, the invalid, children whose mothers are ill are some of the people who benefit from the homemaker service offered by the Canadian Red Cross.

The main aim of the service is to keep the home running smoothly, said Margaret Bundy, North Halton supervisor of Red Cross Homemaker Service. "They're definitely not cleaning ladies!" she emphasized.

The concept of the service changed about 10 years ago. Today, the homemaker's work is not only practical. The psychological and educational aspects are stressed as well.

Red Cross homemakers are a "special kind of people," Mrs. Bundy said. They work with many different families in many different situations and need to have the ability to fit in with all kinds of people. The homemakers are very willing, she commented, adding that jobs are never turned down.

Homemakers perform such practical chores as light

housework and the planning and preparation of nourishing meals. But they also provide emotional support where needed, for example to the family which has a member suffering from cancer.

Some people who are terminally ill prefer to die at home, among family and familiar surroundings. The availability of a homemaker service has made this possible.

Homemakers serve an educational function as well, helping individuals to become as independent as possible. For instance, they might help a person recovering from a stroke learn to cook again.

When a homemaker undertakes a job, she and the family discuss her role. "A workable agreement is made out between the family and the homemaker," Mrs. Bundy said.

To date homemakers in North Halton have had to go to Brampton for training. This spring Mrs. Bundy expects to have a training program under way here. The wheelchairs and other equipment, first aid, diets, mental

health, and aging. Once a month, homemakers get together for an educational session at which guest speakers are featured.

Private requests are only one source of calls for the service. The Home Care Program, the Cancer Society and the Regional Department of Social and Family Services are others who purchase homemaker services from the Red Cross.

Although Mrs. Bundy's office is located in Milton, the service is extended to all three towns in the north. There are two homemakers in Acton, three in Georgetown and three in Milton. If needed, however, they travel to work in one of the other towns.

Mrs. Bundy has been supervisor since October. Although her job is classified part-time, she receives calls at home, even on her "days off."

Before she was married Mrs. Bundy trained as a nurse in Australia. She finds her job interesting, providing her with a variety of activities and lots of contact with people.



THE 1978 EXECUTIVE committee of United Breeders Inc. watches as Dr. C. Reeds, general manager, demonstrates the latest in machinery for filling and ultrasonically sealing plastic semen straws. From left are Ken Murray, Acton; Clarence Glenn, Peterborough (Vice President); Glenn Atkinson, Schomberg (Past President); Dave Inglis, Walkerton; Allan Orr, Bradford (President for 1978); Ron Lipsitt, Annan, and Dr. Reeds.

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Painted Box



Sometimes I wonder about this family. It often seems we can't live a sane and sensible life.

I'm having mental pictures of us, in past years, blowing icing sugar all over each other, of us chasing round and round the front yard trying to spread someone with peanut butter, of some member of the family suddenly appearing in an outlandish outfit fashioned from odds and ends around the house, and so on.

The animals caught the strangeness too; the rooster slept perched on top of the dog, the cat adopted the gosling, Tansy-cat spent time sitting on goose eggs.

Even with everyday matters like having families, the animals managed to do things with a bit of flair; the mare had twins, the dog (whose breed usually has six) produced 11, the cats formed their own commune.

Now, after over 20 years of experience, we view almost everything as normal everyday happenings.

But sometimes, when the day isn't just an "everyday", but a special holiday, I think it would be rather nice to have a day when everything goes smoothly and without these constant surprises.

Fourteen years ago we were having a subdued holiday with little fuss and fanfare, due my being six months pregnant. All went well until Christmas morning when I woke Gord to wish him Merry Christmas and he pulled back from me in horror, almost falling out of the bed.

"Good God, Wendy!" he cried. "You've got chicken pox!"

Yes, that was some holiday. I prowled the house wrapped up in a blanket, gradually breaking out in more and more spots till I was in full bloom.

The next day, when Dr. Moore came to call, he broke into uncontrollable laughter at the sight of me sitting in the middle of the bed like some great spotted budha.

And then there was the New Year's day about four years ago. It began with me driving Gord to the hospital after a steer he was loading knocked him off the truck, then added insult to injury by jumping off on top of him!

When we got back home, we found my hound sitting on the doorstep full of porcupine quills. By the look of him, he had more quills in him than the porcupine had left. Frank Oakes agreed.

I remember sitting in front of the fire that night with Ky, the hound, unconscious by my feet (from anaesthetic), Gord across from me with his broken foot up on a cushion, and half a dozen young puppies happily shredding a roll of paper towelling all over the living room. And I thought "THIS is a Happy New Year's!"

And then came this Christmas. Oh—it wasn't a complete schmozzle. Other than we couldn't get through to daughter Beth in Ontario on the phone, and I didn't have brandy for the pudding sauce and had to use Southern Comfort, things were going well. Gord was engrossed in a

new western, the animals were asleep and out of the way, and son Jim was touring around on the snowmobile.

David, who broke his leg in July, had been out of his cast for four weeks and was maneuvering pretty well again. He was at a neighbour's inspecting their new snowmobile.

The phone rang. An apologetic little voice said "Mrs. Thomson? The snowmobile tipped and David's hurt his leg."

Gord and I just looked at each other and sighed. We knew without saying that he'd broken his leg again.

So there's one thing I know for sure about this past holiday—it will be one of the ones that are remembered.

—Keep your children away from creeks and ditches, the ice can be soft and some of the streams are deep at this time of year.

—School holiday break is just two and a half weeks away.

Missing a miracle's point

by James A. Taylor

The United Church of Canada Heinz Guenther, the professor of New Testament studies at Emmanuel College, says we're missing something valuable when we focus on the supernatural or unexplainable parts of the Gospels.

For example, we read the story of Jesus walking on the water. (Matthew 14:22-33) But our experience says that it's not possible to walk on water. So either you dispute the Bible, or you work out some explanation. Such as the theory that Jesus knew the lake so well, he knew where all the sandbars were.

So he wasn't really walking on water; just wading through the surf. How would a carpenter from a mountain village know a lake better than local fishermen...the explanation fails to explain.

Alternatively, we reject our own experience and argue that the impossible is possible, because the Bible says so, and that's that.

Dr. Guenther says that both these reactions are a waste of our energy. They lead us astray. They take our minds off the real message—what happened to the disciples.

When the weather got rough, they were in a boat. A boat is a nice, safe, familiar place for a bunch of fishermen.

Then they saw Jesus, on the water. What he was doing, or how he got there, isn't important. What matters is Peter's response. Peter had the courage to leave his safe, familiar boat, and leap out into the storm to be with his master.

Of course, he sank. Like

many who earn their living on the water, even today, he probably never learned to swim well. So he cried out, "Save me!"

Now says Dr. Guenther, look at what the other disciples did. "Did they too leap over the side to save their endangered friend?" he asks. "No! They held a committee meeting, to decide who would succeed Peter as the rock on which the church would be built."

The only help Peter got came from Jesus' outstretched hand.

Georgetown Citizen misses own dinner

Georgetown Citizen of the Year banquet was held Friday night, but the Citizen of the Year could not be there.

Walter Gray, 86, was in Georgetown hospital with a severe attack of sciatica in his hip. His voice was there, however, and friends, guests and fellow Lions heard Mr. Gray thank the town for the honor on a tape recorder. All the proceedings were taped for him to hear in hospital the next day.

Friday afternoon Mr. Gray gave his message from the hospital bed, and the tape brought to the dinner. He said it was a great honor and privilege to be chosen at this time in his life, and recalled moving to Georgetown in 1941 where he found a great community spirit.

As the reels spinned the audience heard the Citizen of

the year tell of his involvement with welfare in the town, and his enjoyment with the various organizations in town such as the Legion, the Rotary Club, the Kinsmen and his own club the Lions where he has been a member since coming to town. He also paid tribute to Mrs. Roma Timpson who headed the Good Neighbor Service in later years. He said he had been privileged to sit on Georgetown council and to be deputy-reeve for three years.

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