



## the painted box

by Wendy Thomson

Why do ordinary everyday situations that most people sail right through, usually end up full of complications for me? It seems that nothing is a simple act anymore; outside influences keep making my journey through life more like travelling an obstacle course.

For example, last week son Jim asked if I'd drive his truck from Drayton Valley to Buck Creek that night. Since it solved a transportation for me, I was more than happy to oblige.

Shortly after 10, I hopped in the truck, started it, and—couldn't get it into reverse. (There's the diagonal parking in Drayton, and to go forward would have meant roaring across the RCMP's lawn.)

I waggled the gear shift every way possible, and got a cramp in my leg letting the clutch in, out, half-way-in, half-way-out.

Finally I headed for a phone and spent 15 minutes tracking Jim down. When I eventually caught up to him, he gave me explicit instructions as though he'd been doing this quite often.

"First you get the flashlight out of the glove box, put the clutch in, let it out, lift the hood and look way at the back with the light. There's two levers there. They won't be even, but they should be, so push the first one level with the other."

Surprisingly, it was all quite easy, which was a good thing for although Jim said it only jammed going from third to first, for me it also jammed going from second to first, and reverse to third as well!

I was out and under the hood at every turn and stop sign, and whenever I slowed down. However, I put it all down as being another step in my all-over education.

Another example—I phoned our daughter in Ontario, "a person-to-person call for Beth Thomson," I told the operator, "Mr. Thomson?" she asked, "No—Beth," I enunciated clearly.

"Tess?" "Beth—th. 'B' as in bubble, 'th' as in thimble. Beth."

Having finally got this clear, the operator instructed the girl who answered "Mr. Thomson, please, Long distance calling."

Needless to say, he wasn't there.

And last night Gord casually mentioned folks were dropping in tonight at 8.30, on their way to the monthly dance at Buck Creek.

That's great! I love company—but I'm scheduled to take a set of bowling pictures at 8.30 and another at 9.30, with a quick side-trip at 9 to pick up 40 pounds of roast beef for the above-mentioned dance, which also starts at 9.30.



EVERYBODY has a snowmobile in Buck Creek, Alberta.

Photo by Wendy Thomson.

## Region won't spray mosquitos

In spite of a plea by Halton Hills Councillor Roy Booth, Regional Council refused to offer any support for a mosquito abatement project in the region.

The region's Board of Health had rejected the program on a number of occasions before it went to council Wednesday.

Booth told council the matter should be referred back for yet more consideration at the Board of Health level. The council cannot overrule the Board.

Booth argued that no-one could tell whether or not there would be a problem and the program should be instituted, to be on the safe side.

He received support from Community and Social Services Committee Chairman Walter Mulkevic.

Mulkevic said the Board decision went against advice from the Medical Officer of Health and the Ministry of Health, and was contrary to decisions made by other regions.

The program of spraying is promoted by the Ministry of Health as a means of controlling an outbreak of St. Louis encephalitis, a mosquito-borne disease. In 1975 there were 67 cases and five deaths reported due to SLE in Ontario. But in 1976 there were only four cases reported and in 1977 no cases were reported.

Most councillors suggested the program would be of little value and that the Board of Health had made the proper decision in the first instance.

Milton Councillor Jim Watson said if the region spent 10 cents on the program it would be 10 cents too much.

Oakville Councillor Carl Eriksen said the argument in favor of spraying is an emotional and silly one. He said the program included only a small area of the region and shouldn't be looked upon as an insurance policy against SLE.

Oakville Councillor Laurie Mannell said the program had been voted down five times at the Board of Health.

## Region supports shift in power

Aspects of the sewer and water services should not be handled at the regional level of government, Halton Regional Council agreed Wednesday afternoon.

Council passed a resolution indicating the timing, location, and installation of watermain and the timing, installation and location of sanitary sewers be returned to the four area councils.

According to the resolution, the region would retain control over water plants and pumping stations, as well as sewage plants and sewage pumping stations.

Burlington Mayor Mary Munro proposed the split in responsibility. She claims the split would be more efficient and would allow the municipalities to carry on with work they want to accomplish and yet leave the control for overall growth in the hands of the region.

Control over sewer and water facilities has been a controversial matter ever since the implementation of regional government. Control over hard services is seen as control over development in any community.

The passing of that motion would indicate a desire of regional councillors to reduce the power that now rests with the region.

Following the meeting Public Works Chairman Jack Raftis said he doesn't feel splitting the power for sewer and water services is practical.

"It is all part of a system. You can't divorce the trunk lines from the water filtration plants and the pumping stations," he said.

But Mayor Munro said there was a great deal of duplication in planning and constructing hard services now. She felt the change would be a definite improvement.

Oakville Councillor Gord Reade said it is illogical to have the region charge municipalities for work done but leave the municipalities without the authority to go ahead with the work.

"This will give accountability back to the areas," he said, noting that that area councils aren't accountable under the current system.

Regional Chairman Rick Morrow indicated to reporters after the meeting that the recommendation and the report of the Bill 151 Committee wouldn't be taken seriously by the powers that be at Queen's Park.

An hour after passing that recommendation, council agreed to take a second look at a move towards equalized assessment.

Following the meeting several councillors suggested the motions tend to be contradictory.

One recommendation implies greater authority at the region over water and sewer and the second would indicate a shift in power away from the region to the areas.

## Day-time meeting raises hackles

A special budget meeting held Tuesday morning raised the ire of Councillor George Maltby who said he could not attend in the day time and asked it be changed to evening.

The mayor said he had been asked to set the date and he did. He told Maltby, "If you can't leave your job to get here in the morning, you'd better get off council."

Maltby said he sets aside Monday and Tuesday nights for council and planning board meetings every week, and contended since this Tuesday was free the meeting should be held at night.

Councillor Peter Morris said he couldn't make it either. He said he was under the impression this was a part-time council. "If we want to institute a full time council let's consider that!"

On a vote the meeting went as scheduled, Tuesday morning.

Rotarians put Easter seals into envelopes for mailing at their meeting Tuesday evening. The letters will be out in the mail soon.

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- ### Rockwood bowling
- Rockwood Bowling League  
Team Standings: Pelters 65, Nortons 61, Optimists 61, Kay's Feeds 61, Rovers 60, Guelphites 58, Happy Gang 57, Countrymen 56, Four Corners 53, Pimpals 52, Dynamites 45, Carneys 41.
- Results of games bowled Tues., Feb. 28: Guelphites 7 points, Sam Lawler 692, Bill Scott (spare 658), Four Corners 0 points, Don McKersie 604, Marg McKersie 572.
- Pelters 5 points, Dick Halliburton 588, Randy Peart (spare) 559, Nortons 2 points, Alice Johnson 607, Roy Nightingale 588.
- Countrymen 5 points, Eva Bosch 611, Peter Bosch 602, Carneys 2 points, Howard Dunk 597, Diana Carney 559.
- Optimists 5 points, Ted Justin (spare) 606, Gerda Birkholz 585, Kay's Feeds 2 points, John Polo 586, Marion Allan 558.
- Pimpals 7 points, Kathy Holman 583, Danny Bolton 571, Dynamites 0 points, Fred Vandervalk 625, Jim Dales 583.
- Happy Gang 4 points, Nini Coverdale 684, Rick Seim 661, Rovers 3 points, Harvey Justin (spare) 600, George Smith 542.
- Men over 600, Sam Lawler 692, Rick Seim 661, Fred Vandervalk 625, Lloyd Marsden 816, Ted Justin (spare) 606, Don McKersie 604, Peter Bosch 602, Harvey Justin (spare) 600.
- Women over 500, Nini Coverdale 684, Eva Bosch 611, Alice Johnson 607, Marion Allan 588, Gerda Birkholz 585, Kathy Holman 583, Marg McKersie 572, Diana Carney 559, Joy Halliburton 542, Erke Van Driel 529, Ivy Ritchie 523, Ann Parkinson 516, Mary Nightingale 514, Denise Bolton 500.