

Every Friday night, this summer, my phone rings and an, operator's slightly nasal voice asks if I will accept a longdistance call from Mr. Thomson.

Yes, Gord is off guiding on trail rides in the mountains

again, and I'm batching it. this point in my writing as I question up as a lost cause. considered whether "batching" was the appropriate call ... word. If husbands who are left Of course, I accept each back out." on their own in a temporary call, and we go through the bachelor state call their way whole "How are You? I'm

woman's equivalent? could cup with was "tem- much to say, except that I've

There was a long pause at it," then gave the whole asked "But . .?"

of life "batching it", what is a fine" routine, and swap small bits of unimportant news.

After much thought, all I Actually, there's not too porary spinsters must spinst been working overtime with

the newspaper here, have cats winding around my feet, go into Drayton Valley. On been going through an opened the frig to get them arrival, I found that the pack enormous amount of film, and some milk, and while I was other similar unexciting standing bent over, deciding wet. Most of the time was pieces of information.

Things have been going smoothly around home with no broken legs like last summer and the few problems that have arisen, I don't want to bother Gord with anyhow, as there's nothing he can do about them from 300 miles away-except worry.

Last Friday, though, Gord listened while I blithely said things were great and everybody was well, then he

He knows me too well to buy Anyhow, back to the phone the "no problem" hit, so I told him the truth-"Well, I put my

"How did you do that?" "Looking at the milk." Well, you can guess the the back of my jeans. reaction, but that's exactly what happened. I got up one morning, stepped over two

whether to given them skim or spent trying to keep my back whole milk, there was a loud to the walls of the stores. pop in my back and I couldn't I mean, how do you explain straighten up!

something like that? I felt ridiculous, I hadn't "Yes, I am a little wet, but I even been lifting anything or had a baggie full of ice cubes standing crookedly!

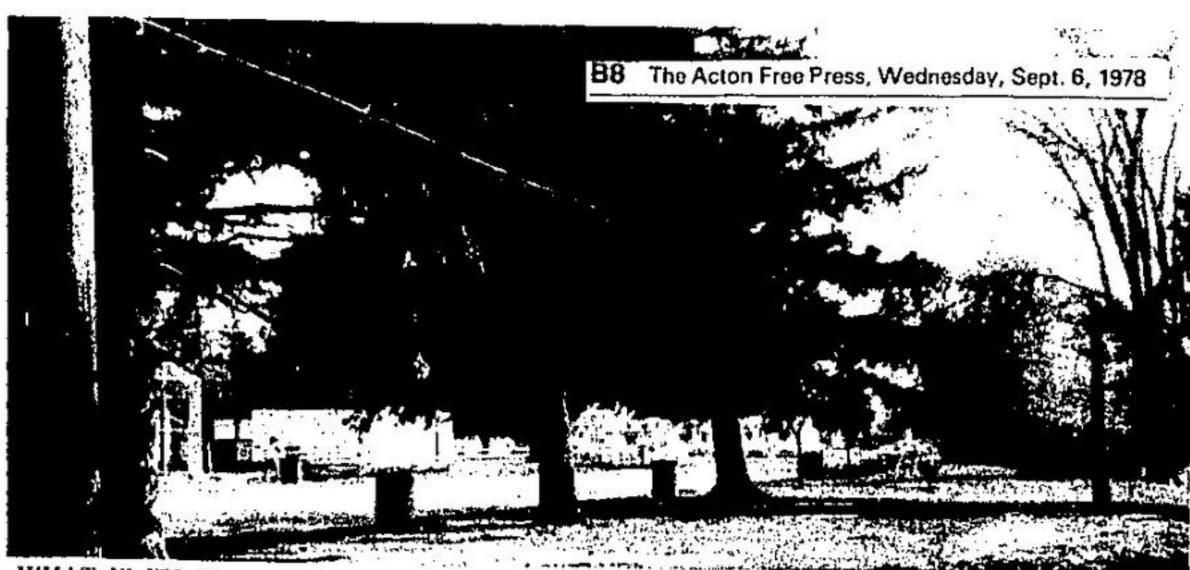
sutck in my Jeans, . ." And I guess I looked a little ridiculous too, walking around You can see how I have all bent over. I felt better once trouble explaining things to I sat down, seeing as sitting is Gord, Much of what I say a bent-up position on its own; sounds so implausible.

had leaked, and I was rather

and therefore it was no Even long distance, I can problem to drive into town to see him shake his head, and the chiropractor to be popped settle back to hear the rest of the stary.

Next week I suppose I'll be telling him how I took my ice was repositioned, the pain cubes and sun cot to work with me to curl up with baggie on and I spent much of the time with an icepack stuffed down coffee breaks.

But right now, excuse That caused a bit of a me. ..my baggle's leaking problem one day when I had to again.



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Free Press

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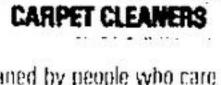


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