

### An Attic.... Salt-Shaker

CHATTY WEEKLY  
BUDGET OF  
STORIES ABOUT  
FAMOUS PEOPLE

— BY —  
W. ORTON  
TEWSON

THE recent brief visit over here of Lord Baden-Powell, founder of the Boy Scouts, reminds me of a story about him told by Cyril Maude, the actor, who, as a boy, was a school-mate of B-P's. At a school examination, chuckles Maude, young Baden-Powell was asked:

"What did Eliza say when he saw Elijah go up in the burning fiery chariot?"

"Eliza said," answered the future General, "Goodness me! I never saw anything like this before."

THE enthusiasm aroused among New York players over the production of "The Green Pastures," Marc Connelly's story of the old Testament as it is understood in the childishly simple faith of the Negroes of the deep South, recalls a story told by F. Hopkinson Smith, painter and writer, to Chauncey Depew, and included in the latter's privately printed book "Marching On," which he sent out as a present to his friends on his ninety-second birthday.

SMITH said that he was sitting one day on the piazza of his plantation home when he saw an old negro, a former slave, coming up the road.

"Well, Uncle Job," he said, "how are you?"

"Oh," answered the negro, "I'm very bad. I've got rheumatism so I can hardly walk. I'm full of trouble, full of pain. All night long I pray to the good Lord to take me away before morning, and all day to take me away before night."

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SAID Smith:  
"Uncle Job, you are all wrong about that. Go around to the kitchen and see the folks."

Saying which, Smith sent word to the kitchen to fill up the old man with solid and fluid refreshment. After a while Smith found the old negro jubilant, dancing and singing.

"Why Uncle," he said, "I thought you wanted the good Lord to take you right away."

The old fellow paused while shouting Hallelujah and said

"Why, Boss, that excursion am postponed."

ANOTHER of Mr. Depew's Southern stories had to do with a negro who had been detected making moonshine whisky. The Judge said to him:

"What is your name?"

"Joshua, your Honor."

Then the Judge asked: "Are you the Joshua that made the sun stand still?"

"No," answered the negro, "I'm not that Joshua. I can't make the sun stand still but I can make the moon shine."

Six months!

KING GEORGE, were he an ordinary citizen, would be "Mr. George Windsor." In similar circumstances, King Edward would have been "Mr. Albert Edward Wettin," and Queen Victoria before her marriage, "Miss Guelph." The family name of the House of Hanover to which Queen Victoria and her predecessors belonged was "Guelph," or as some say, "Guelph d'Este."

DID she change her surname on her marriage with Prince Albert of Saxony (or Saxe-Coburg and Gotha whose family name was "Wettin"? asks Michael McDonagh (in "The English King.") That is a question which never arose, for the reason that her husband's status was inferior to hers.

BUT, adds Mr. McDonagh, the name of a dynasty of succession of Sovereigns is derived from and through the male line, changing in the case of a Monarch who succeeds his mother, and accordingly King Edward's house took its name from that of his father "Saxe-Coburg and Gotha" (the family name being "Wettin") of which in turn, King George was also a member. However King George settled the matter when during the World War, he changed his family name to "Windsor."

EDWARD BOK has related in one of his books how Edison once wrote for him the Lord's Prayer in a space covered by a dime. Now I read that a Londoner has written it twice on a piece of paper the size of a sixpence—twice in circumference of the dime. And some time ago a farmer of Portland, Oregon, engraved all the letters of the alphabet on the head of a pin. Then a resident in Alberta, Canada, once presented the Duke of Connaught—when he was Governor-General of Canada—with an address of welcome containing 360 letters on a grain of wheat!

ONE of the most remarkable of all such achievements was that of a Bulgarian, M. Paikoo, who managed to write on a ordinary postcard the whole of the Bulgarian constitution and a number of extracts from patriotic poems and speeches—12,000 words in all.

What a hobby!

SERIOUSLY, George Bernard Shaw writes an almost inconceivably small "file," frequently getting hundreds of words on a postcard. But to do him justice, his handwriting is remarkably clear, and with the aid of a glass—in my case—it can be read with ease and, of course, enjoyment. In fact:

### PALPITATION Throbbing of Heart After the "Flu"

Mrs. J. Cunningham, Sanit Sta. Maria, Ont., writes:—"Last February I had a severe attack of influenza which left me with palpitation and throbbing of the heart."  
"I felt very weak and tired so began to take



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one is struck by the care with which each letter is formed.

OF novelists in the public eye, and favor, at the moment, the world's worst penman, according to Coulson Kernahan (in "Celebrities") is Warwick Deeping Says Kernahan:

"The only writer known to me whose penmanship is worse than mine, is that brilliantly gifted ex-medico writer of romance, Warwick Deeping. He was at one time in the Territorial Army, serving with distinction in the World War.

"I WAS writing a little book on the Territorial Army," explains Kernahan, "and I asked Deeping whether he recalls any stories of happenings in camp, drill hall, or on the range, which I could use.

"I'll think it over," he replied, "and if anything occurs to me worth the telling, I'll jot it down and send it to you."

"My dear Warwick Deeping," I replied, "I have known you since you were a little fellow in knickerbockers, so I have some claim on your kindness. Call me up on the telephone, telegraph at my expense any story you have to tell; but as you love me, I beg you, I beseech you, I implore you—don't for the love of heaven 'jot it down.'"

CONAN DOYLE has said that the worst handwriting he ever encountered belonged to James Payn, novelist and some time editor of "Cornhill" magazine. So bad was it, swears Doyle, that some one who could not read a note he got from Payn, took it to a chemist thinking that he—as an expert in deciphering prescriptions—might be able to read it. After contemplating it for awhile the chemist disappeared, and later emerged with a large bottle of medicine.

ANOTHER of Conan Doyle's stories—he says he first heard it in St. Louis—is about a man who pretended to be wonderfully well read. Some friends put him to the test.

"Have you read Thackeray's 'Pendennis,'?"

"Sure."

"Have you read Dickens' 'Pickwick Papers'?"

"Have you read Scott's 'Emulsion'?"

"Sure."

That'll do!

NOW it's your turn!

When two birds in neighboring territories are singing in rivalry, it is the rule that each in turn listens while the other sings; then the bird that has listened replies. This goes on indefinitely until one tires of the combat and gives in, says Earl (Sir Edward) Grey, bird lover and famous statesman, in "The Charm of the Birds."

INTO a trap set in a garden for rats and other small nuisances, there had entered a duncock and a great tit. When Lord Grey visited the trap it was to find the duncock dead—a pitiful sight, head all pecked to pieces—while the great tit was alive, a thriving murderer. A lady to whom Lord Grey gave the sad news, asked

"What did you do with the horrible tit?"

"Madam," he replied, "I set him free, not feeling competent to assess his moral responsibility in the matter."

LORD GREY'S interest in birds—shared with his friend Theodore Roosevelt—was awakened by his father when he was a small boy. Someone gave him a bow and arrow and, boy-like, he made it uncomfortable for the birds in the garden at Falldon. One day his father said to him:

"Do you hear all those little birds singing?"

"Yes."

"You wouldn't like to kill them, would you?"

"No," answered the small boy, somewhat reluctantly.

And the birds lived happily ever after.

FACING the Eldon Hills on Bemsersyde is "Sir Walter Scott's view." It is perhaps the loveliest on the Scottish Border. Here Scott used to drive his carriage and sit silently for half an hour gazing over the land whose people he loved and whose legends were in his blood.

"I met an old man returning from work and talked to him," reminisces H. V. Morton, author of "In Search of Scotland." Gradually I led him him to Scott, and found, as I had imagined, that he had never read a line of him!

"But you must not imagine that he did not admire Scott! He had been

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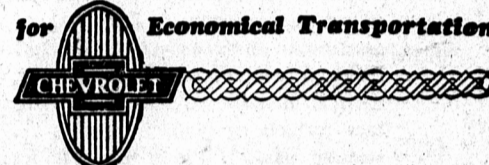
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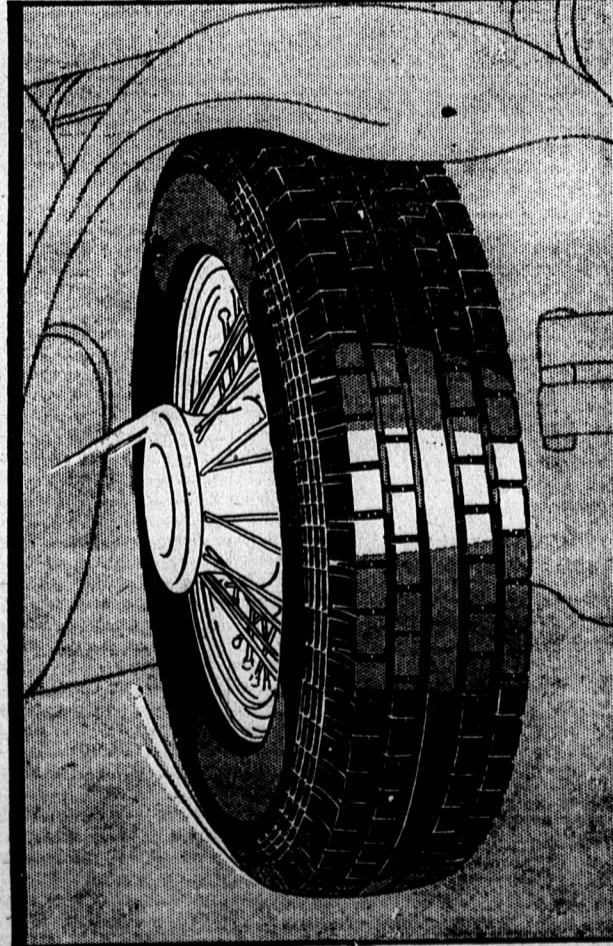
### IT'S BETTER BECAUSE IT'S CANADIAN

brought up on the Border! He told me the story of 'Sir Walter Scott's' funeral, how the long line of carriages was held up on Bemsersyde because Scott's carriage horses, drawing the hearse, stopped at the view he loved so well and stood patiently there for half an hour, as they had done so often.

"Aye," he was a grand man! said the old fellow who had never read a line of Scott.

WRITING of Edinburgh, Mr. Morton says: "She is plainly a capital." Then he goes on: "I have used the wrong pronoun to Edinburgh. This city is 'he' not 'she.' Edinburgh is as masculine as London. The three great feminine capitals are Paris, Vienna, and Dublin; the first two have all the lure of woman, and the last has all her charm and all her spite. But Edinburgh, London, Berlin, and Rome are as masculine as a herd of steers. I am told New York is feminine; but I cannot say. How about it?"

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