PEOPLE and THINGS

MARGARET'S visit to Canada set me recalling other Royal visits there since the war. It is remarkable how frequent they have been. The Queen, as Princess Elizabeth, was there in 1951 with the Duke of Edinburgh; then in July, 1954, the Duke returned alone. He left in August, and a few days later the Duchess of Kent and Princess Alexandra began their own Canadian visit.

In the autumn of 1954 the Queen Mother was there, and in September, 1955, it was the turn of the Princess Royal. Last October's triumphant visit by the Queen herself to open Parliament at Ottawa is still fresh in Canadian memories, and next year the Queen and the Duke hope to return once more to open the St. Lawrence Seaway.

Although hardly twenty-four hours have elapsed between President Eisenhower's departure and Princess Margaret's arrival yesterday, the hospitable Canadians are taking it in their stride.

excellent development, made possible by the speed and noon." safety of modern aircraft.

Claret and Progress

NE of the most ambitious historical works since Lord by Dr. J. H. Plumb, the Cam- Nervi, Genoa, last week. bridge historian. It is a twenty- The group, led by Svetlana Chinese' folk music and Society.

and Toynbee.

He is convinced that it is little short of miraculous how far human society has come in speed.



Dr. J. H. Plumb.

which is due sometime around 1970, will be evocative as well as analytical.

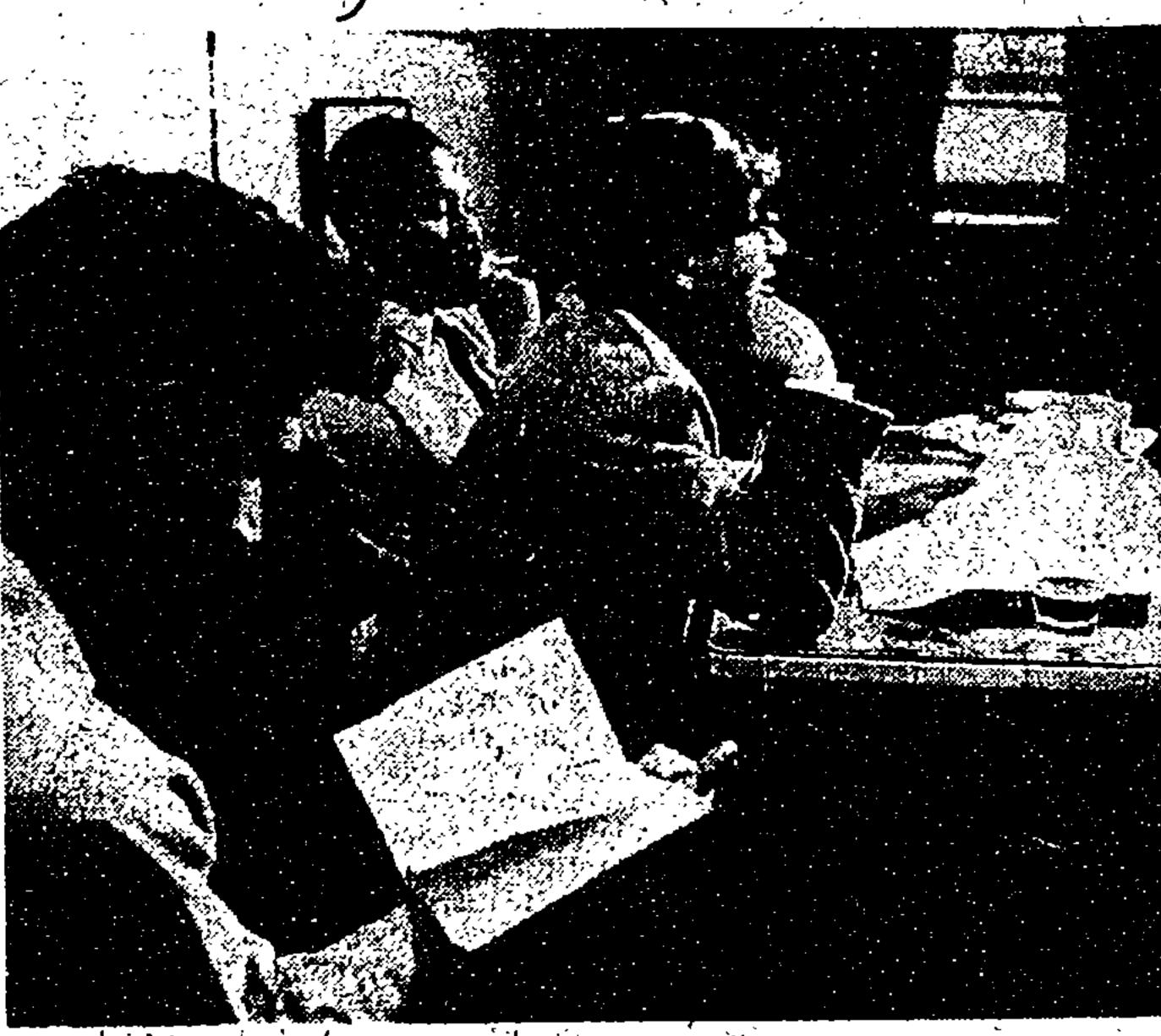
with something of the novelist's ceived it silently retreated. approach to their subject."

Caribbean Quartet

West Indian dialect now being conversational perimeter. ("We are not the sort of permits. people who get together"), but last week four of them joined to the Institute of Contemporary Arts—and reduced a forbiddingly intellectual-looking audience to tears of laughter.

This quartet—Samuel Selvon, language." V. S. Naipaul, Stuart Hall and George Lamming—represented Brotherhood of Music what Hall calls "a culture that is at this moment coming to CLUTCHING his famous passimperturbable outlook on life. artist and not a politician.

By ATTICUS



Three of the new school of West Indian writers who gave readings from their works at the Institute of Contemporary Arts-Samuel Selvon, V. S. Naipaul (leaning forward, centre) and Stuart Hall.

"Bartok,

pentatonic scale."

carried away by his idea of

are written according to the

your Benjamin Britten. I would

most of all," he concluded, "I

would like to get some of the air

from your Sussex downs into my

AM indebted to Mr. George

trical Industries, Ltd.

deux-jour allumette.

quatre. Beurre-doigts!

Courses, 38; Guichets, 0.

Il s'assied dans le pavillon.

Il est couru dehors.

Il prend son chauve-sourls.

On boule. C'est un chinois.

C'est un coup de vache.

L'arbitre lève son doigt.-

premier jour.

Papa est dans le pré tout

pas-balles. Il est frappe pour six.

Les joueurs courent. Le guichet-

teneur casse le guichet. Celui

qui court n'est pas dans son pli.

Pucelles,

About his own future he was

fully in the soft near-Welsh lilt he said as if to clinch the of the West Indies, "is a good matter. "It is the Lords, isn't agency before the war with a This Royal strengthening of day. I finished writing a novel it, Essie?" he asked Mrs. Robe- Balkans thriller to end all the Commonwealth bonds is an at half-past four this after- son. "Yes," she replied, "a Balkans thrillers—"The Dark rang this morning."

Nerves at Nervi

T HEAR that a group from our Royal Ballet had some nerve- passed to musicology. All the colonel in charge of Army films racking moments at the Inter- world's folk music, it seems, is at the War Office. Today he national Festival of Ballet in written in the pentatonic scale. Modern History is being planned the famous Park Theatre at and at once the great voice was

five-volume History of Human Beriosova and David Blair, Hebridean love lyrics to prove were to contribute "L'Ile des his point. Dr. Plumb himself is an Sirènes" by Rodrigues and a optimist—and incidentally one Divertissement from "Casse- Mussorgsky," he continued. of the best judges of claret in Noisette"—but their costumes the University. The idea of his were held up by the customs at brotherhood of all music, "all History originally came as a re- Modane. In desperation they action against the pessimism of telephoned the Scala, which in world historians like Spengler five minutes whisked out of store their own costumes for "Casse-Noisette" and drove vague. "I would like to meet them to Genoa at breakneck your Dr. Vaughan Williams and

numan society has come in They arrived just in time for did thirty years ago here. And his History, the last volume of the dancers to try on before the performance. Meanwhile, for his own ballet, Rodrigues bought some coarse net which lungs." was draped over practice costumes to suggest sirens of the Papa Joue Au Cricket sea. And it all went off well.

Prize Poet THE drawing-room of the Arts Mr. Walker, whose "More James's Square is one of the most delightful of semi-public Thursday afternoon it was good to see, in its chaste ornateness, a glittering cross-section of in- Papa joue au Cricket. tellectual London gathered to C'est une grande allumette-une the first post-war award of the Hawthornden, prince of literary prizes in

Lord David Cecil, in the chair, diffused angular charm, Miss C. V. Wedgwood was all Son capitaine le met sur à bouler. graciousness, H.E. the Indian Il boule deux larges, et trois villainous villain. It is significant that Dr. Ambassador all modest satis-Plumb, a schoolfellow of Sir faction as the prizewinner, Charles Snow, at Leicester, Dom Moraes, received the prize should say that he has chosen for his book of poems, "A as his contributors "historians Beginning." and having re-

His father, the best-known Il est dernier homme dedans. journalist in India, is inevitably the centre of any group in ONE of the most delightful which he finds himself—a new literary idioms I have ready and brilliant talker. Dom heard for a long time is the hovers' unobtrusively on the written by several young emerges politely—indeed with novelists from the Caribbean notable sweetness—from his who have come to live and work private world if need be, but in London. They seldom meet retreats as speedily as civility Papa est dedans.

And from his grave abstrac- Il marche à la poix. give readings of their work at tion come those lyrics which, as On boule. C'est un casse-jambe. John Press said in reviewing "A Papa ferme ses yeux. Il coupe en Beginning" in THE SUNDAY Times, prove him "a natural poet" with an "intuitive feel- Papa ferme ses yeux. Il accroche. ing for the sensuous quality of

birth." They are new and re- port and a copy of his freshing voices in the somewhat autobiography, mellifluous and Il n'a pas cassé son canard. stark world of our own younger immense in a blue silk suit, Mr. Hélas! writers, with a humour which Paul Robeson arrived in Engseems to reflect a remarkably land insisting that he was an Girl Parachutist

Selvon in particular looked . "Why, I'm having tea at your -

young woman. She is Miss Sue Burges, a member of the Parachute Club, which practises on Sundays at Chobham aerodrome in Surrey. During the week she is a secretary. Behind the Iron Curtain, women parachutists have taken

championships in Czecho-

slovakia next month will be a

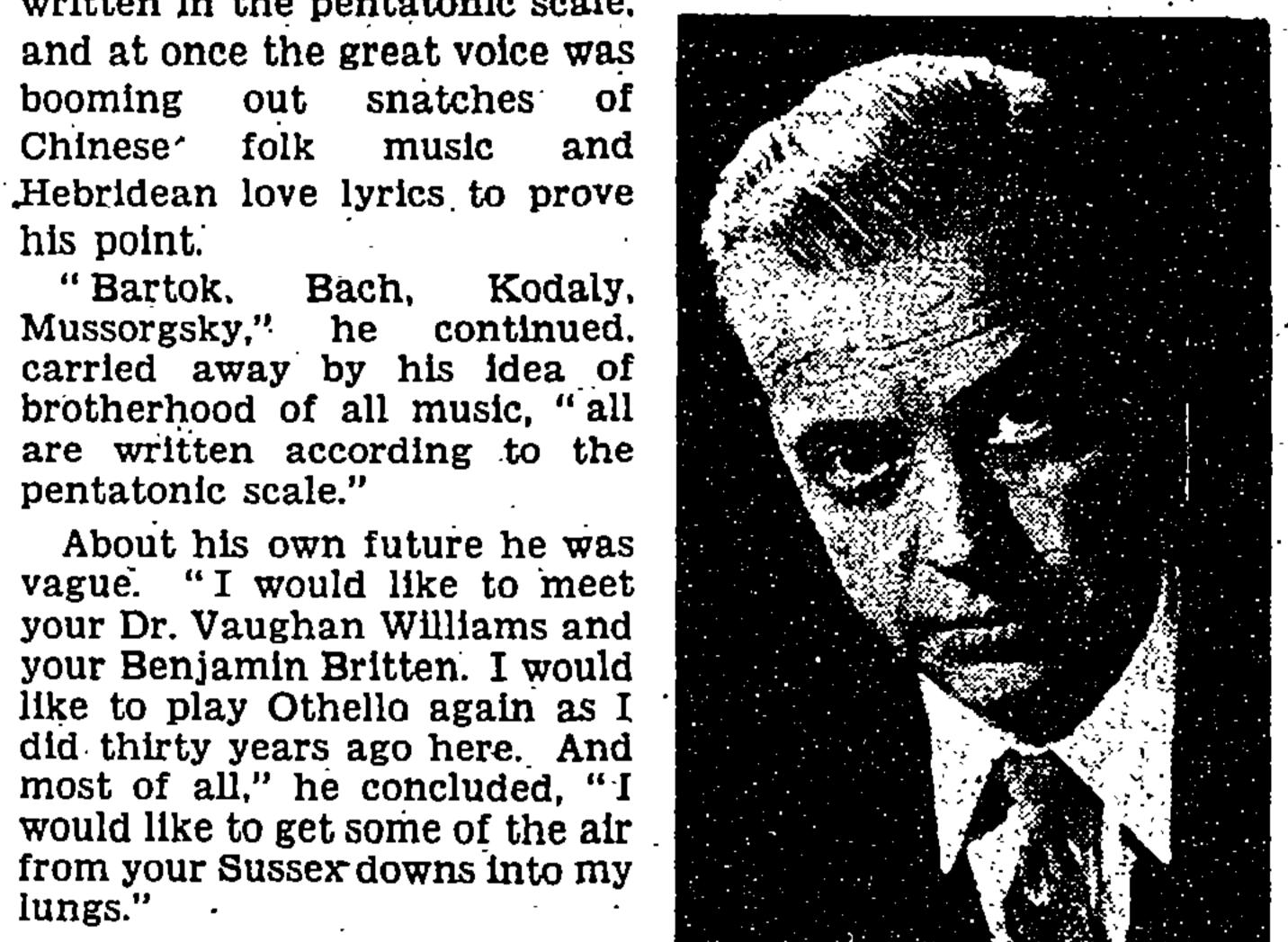
part in competitions for years. 'All the same Miss Burges, twenty-five years old, slight and attractive, will inspire many an apprehensive male to wish her luck.

Like her companions, she is entering the individual championship. British parachuting is not strong enough to enter the team-competitions. She will need to use her skill as well as her judgment; for the tests include controlled movements of the body during the free fall before the parachute is opened, using arms and legs as control

Sophisticated Villains

TVER since he wrote his way of an advertising Lord named Stansgate. He Frontier"—Mr. Eric Ambler has been obsessed by the cinema.

Ignoring politics, Robeson During the war he was



Eric Ambler.

Walker for permission to continues to sandwich his sagas pass on the appended lines. of sophisticated villainy into the highly technical work of Occasional Verses" have delighted a wide circle of friends, making film scripts. He has is in more serious moments just turned Mr. Walter Lord's Secretary of Associated Elec- "A Night to Remember" into the successful film of the Titanic.

Now he is working a regular 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. day at his desk in Chesham Place, finishing off his latest adventure story, based on Il laisse tomber deux attrappes, et a recent visit to the Far East. manque trois balles dans le pro-One sign of advancing years, he fond, qui vont à la borne pour says, is that he finds it more difficult to invent a really

Il boule des plein-jets et des Ambler visited the Balkans for the first time. I asked him if 0: they were anything like the places of mystery and intrigue he has described so convincingly in his books. "Not Il regard son capitaine, qui fait un really," he replied, "but I still crazy, inhuman price" think it would be better for human lives. Les guichets tombent. Il y'a un them if they were."

qui est attrappé dans le profond. un autre dans les glissades, un à Death of a Hero jambe-carrée, et un dans le ravin.

THE death of Luigi Musso, Italian drivers pressing forward champion racing driver of to fill his place. Italy, in the French Grand Prix last Sunday, cast his country- People and Words men into a deep gloom, according to my colleague in Rome, Henry Thody. Motor-racing the Old Testament—greed, love of is one of Italy's greatest spec- easy money, jealousy, lust and tator sports and the person-cruelty. able, dashing young Roman was a national hero. The great veteran aces Farina and Villoresi have retired, while Ascari of heroism, drinking is a sign of La balle lui frappe au genoù. Le and Castellotti of the post-war weakness and lack of will power. pré hurle, "Comment ça?" generation have both been killed, ironically enough while Cloches d'enfer! practising. "Musso was the last Papa est dehors, jambe-avant- of our great aces," said the newspaper "Il Mattino" sadly.

Press did not blame anyone or him up to the mark. suggest any curtailment of the sport. The exception was British competitors at the Romano," which denounced Hood. happy. "This," he said cheer- House of Lords in a day or two," international parachuting motor-racing for its "usurious,

strikes the predominant note: he looks one, and he is one. He loves good living and good wine. His gifts as a gardener are-quite outstanding and, combined with his strong paternal instinct, make him a man of equable temperament,

most happy amid his family and flower-beds. He covers his walls with French Impressionist paintings (chosen with great acumen), and fills his greenhouse with an astonishing tumult of begonias. Another of his passions is the cricket field; no local match in his part of Kent is complete without his happy figure quietly looking on.

BEHIND the man the writer moles away. The publication tomorrow of "The Darling Buds of May," H. E. Bates's forty-sixth book, speaks for professional diligence. The fact that most of these books have been translated into many languages, are indeed best-sellers in many European countries as well as in Britain

In fact, says Thody, Musso's death is only likely to increase the number of young unknown

The causes of crime today are the same as they were in the days of

Chief Justice. Far from being a manifestation

-Lord Goddard, The Lord .

-MR. KHRUSHCHEV. Schoolmasters and parents exist to be grown out of.

-Sir John Wolfenden. Every wife has the duty to keep But the Italian public and her husband humble and to keep —SIR ARTHUR FFORDE.

Britain's most popular ambas-I AM told that one of four the Vatican City's "Osservatore sador today is television's Robin -THE EARL OF BESSBOROUGH.

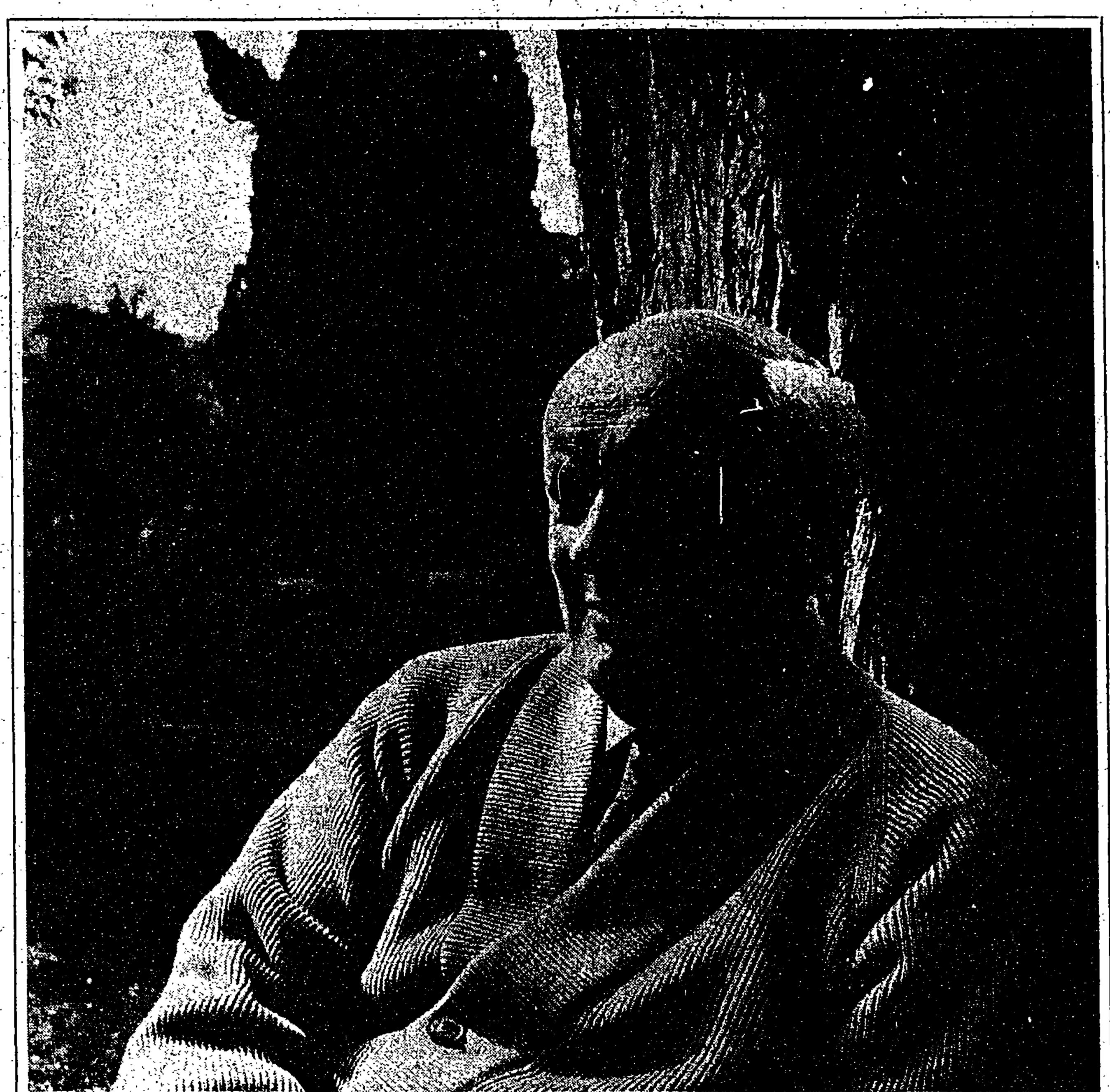
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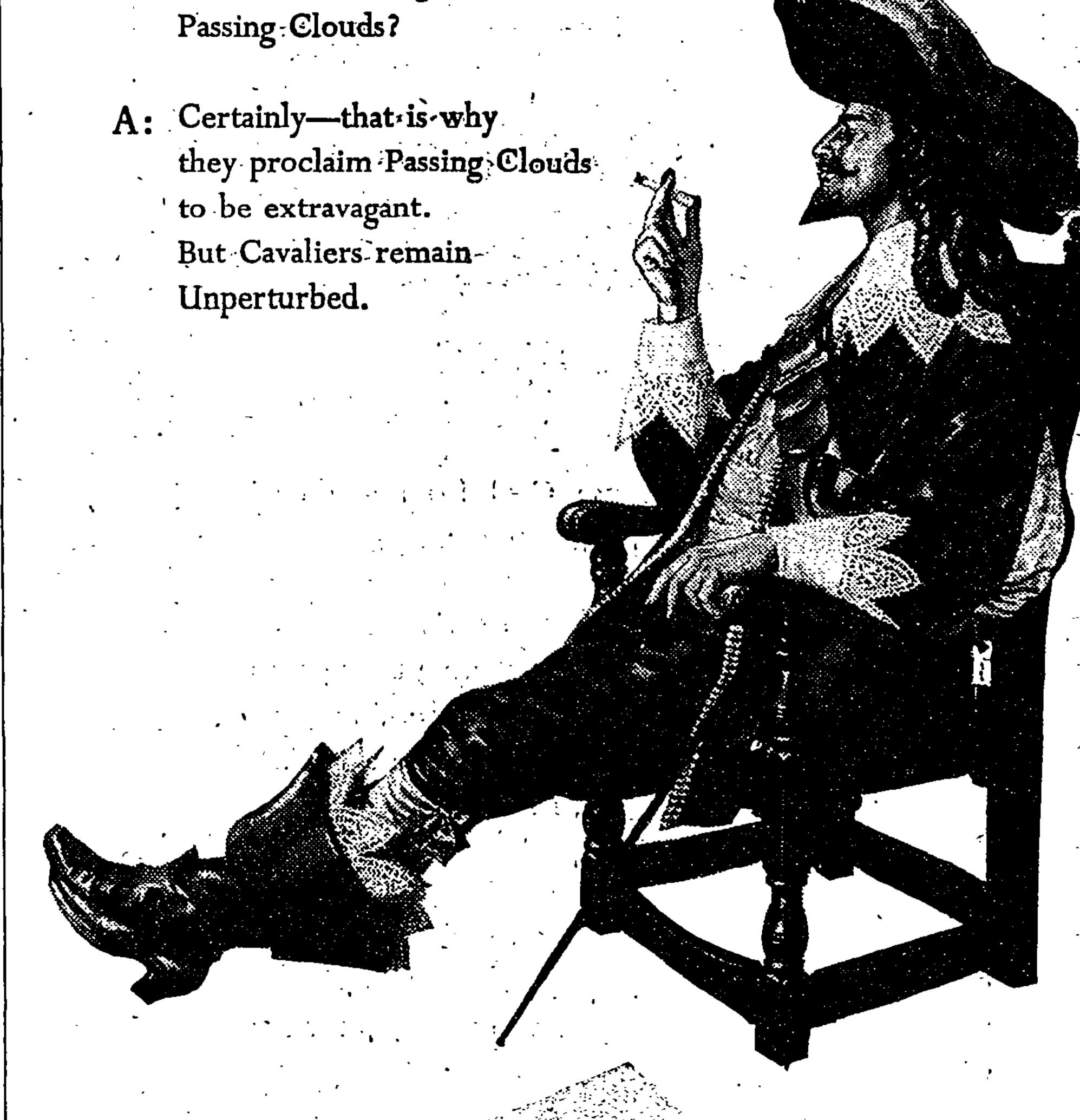
Cavaliers smoking

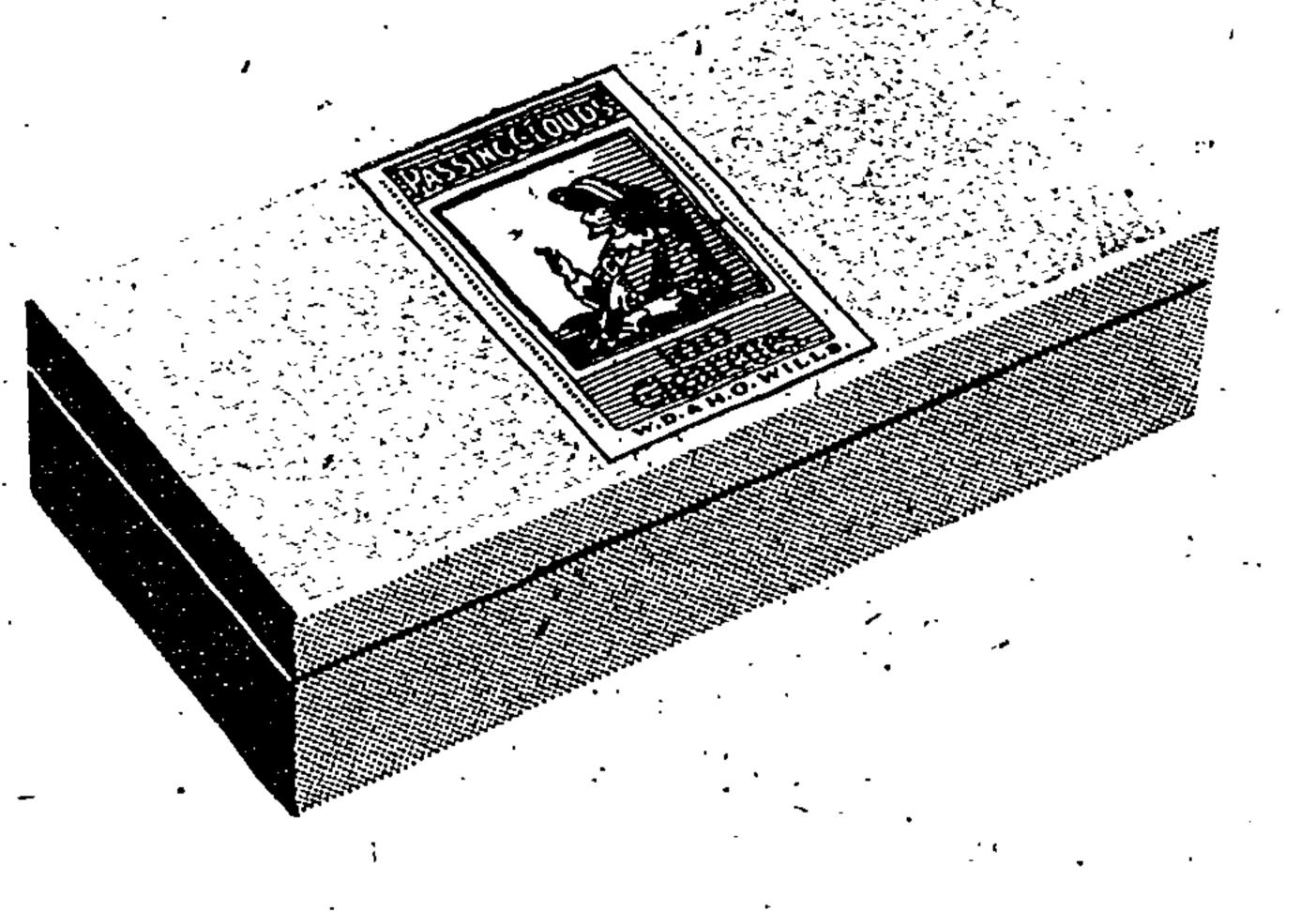
TE is sun-tanned, blue- and the United States, speaks quivering with colour, scent, and enhance their drama. eyed, fair-haired. The for something more. countryman in him instantly detected when springs, like Lawrence's, from brought him, during the war, and he is one. Bates, at the age of eighteen, beyled and worth in a Mid. awoke the interest of Edward boyhood and youth in a Mid- Officer X-" with his tales of the Garnett, one of the greatest of land countryside. He knows R.A.F. It is his direct grasp

heat.

publishers' readers (and the its seasons, weather, people of emotional patterns, his subject, many years later, of a (his celebrated Uncle Silas burning intensity of vision, his grateful and masterly memoir—their spokesman in one mood). unashamed—simplicity by Bates). It is a quality with He is not much concerned response which have carried dangers: an intense poetic with social discriminations, Bates's work around the globe. sensuousness — too intense, still less with niceties of intel- In the literary world, and in sómetimes, for the material to 'lectual relationships. Passions a personal sense, he is rather which it is applied; and this spin his plots; within the limit a lonely figure—he hunts with has led to some falling-off of that rather primitive no packs. But his friends in critical esteem, though not human world he creates recognise in him a great in public favour. His prose is stories moving to intense reserve of generosity and simple in structure, yet crises in settings that govern courage.

This ability to extract the





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