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Chatting ...

with M. H. B.

WHILE PINCH-HITTING for the editor a day or so last week, I had occasion to call the police office for details on a news item. And at the same time, as is customary, I asked if there were any other police news items suitable for

publication in the Herald. As it happened, there weren't any, but as the officer ran his finger down the record book, he came across one tem they had entitled "Unwelcome Visitor," which had element of the unusual, to say the least . . .

IT SEEMS THAT on a sunny afternoon a couple of weeks ago, a Georgetown citizen was sitting out in his backyard, looking over his garden and enjoying his pipe. His. wife was out, and he was expecting a

visit from his daughter momentarily. Consequently, when he heard the latch of the back door click, he looked up quickly, but was just in time to see it close. He rose to go into the house, and was surprised on reaching the door, to find it had been locked.

IN RESPONSE TO his indignant banging, the back door opened, to reveal a wild eyed stranger, brandishing the head of a pick axe. His face was bathed in perspiration ... "He's after me . . . he's after me . he'll kill me sure

", he shouted, before the surprised staggered house owner could even get in a word to find out what in the world was going on

You're getting out of here," he shouted back to the intruder, who was obviously out of his mind, in a frenzy of fright . . . "Don't put me out - he'll get me for sure - 1 sold out - he'll get me for sure - 1 did some work around his place and he wouldn't sign the contract and threatened to kill me! He's chasing me right now and will get me, sure!"

The explanation seemed far from satisfactory, but one thing was certain. The intruder was a badly frightened man Every neighbourhood noise brought forth more sweat and exclamations of "There he is now." . Hear him? Hide me! Hide me!"

YIELDING TO THE householder's determination to get him out of the house, the fugitive ' fled from the back door to the garage in record time. There he crouched in hiding. The indignant citizen, following him out, said he was going to turn him over to the police. The frightened man, trembling all over, said that was all right with him, but he begged the householder to take him down to the police station rather than have the police come to the "scene of

First relieving him of the pick axe head, which he kept in the front seat with him, the householder consented to do this. The intruder crawled into the back scat and lay on the car floor all the way down to . the municipal office. And the police took the matter from there. By this time our solid citizen was more than considerably upset -- as you can imag-

HE WAS INTERESTED, however, to find out if he had been harbouring a madman or if the man's story was true. The police found on checking, that the intruder's story was essentially the truth. He was a travelling sacisman being threatened and chased by an irate husband No charge was laid, and the man ad vised to get out of town by taxi as quickly as possible . . And the householder claims that the angry husband almost had his wish, indirectly, by nearly frightening his "unwelcome guest" to death. He's never seen anyone in such a state before . . .

And there at last, dear readers. we have a true story behind the storics of the "travelling salesman" . . . Honestly! . . .

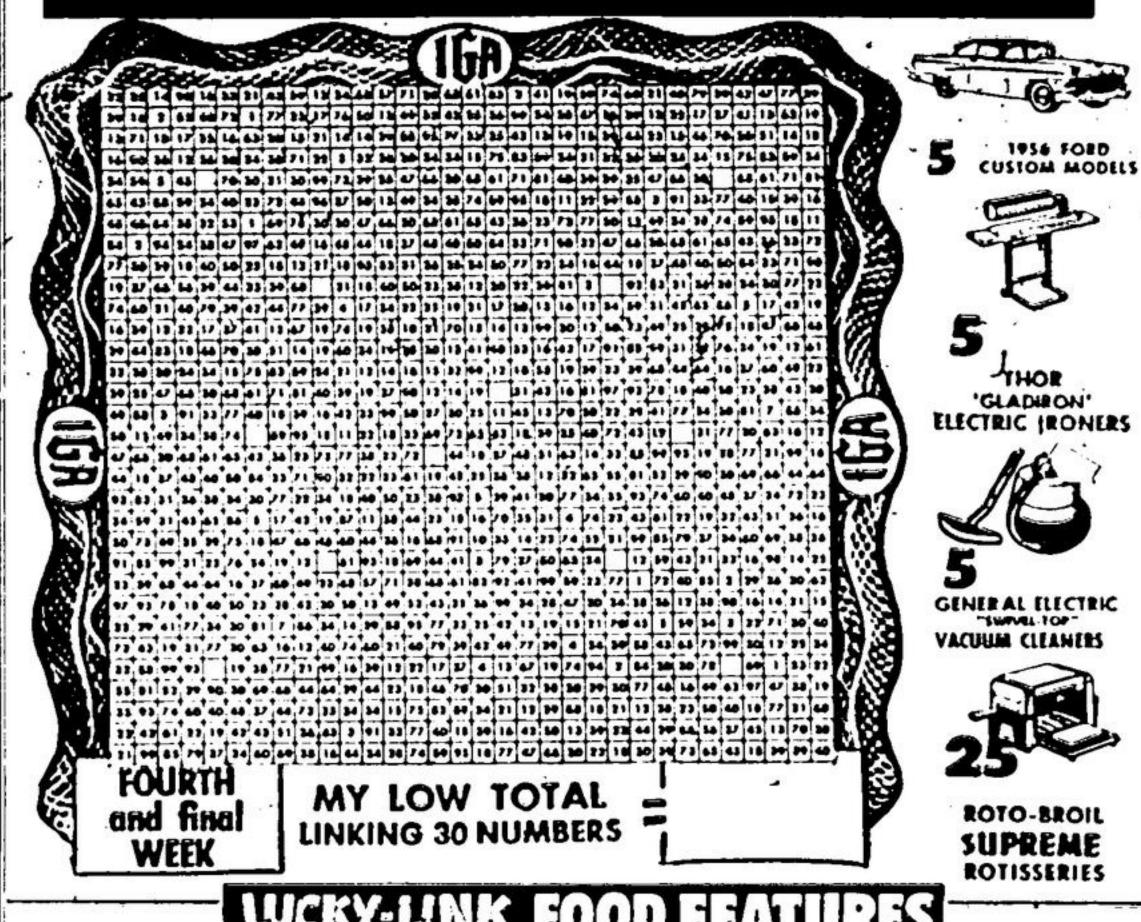
NOW I'M AFRAID the rest of the column is going to seem somewhat of an anti-climax. Just by way of a change, I'm going to have to take the Herald staff to task for being TOO good at proof-reading. I had a little item in about catchy cards the editor of the Palmerston Observer had printed and tacked up around his print shop. They actually read "Before you louse it up . . . Stop and THIMK!" The point of the story was somewhat lost when it appeared in Chatting as "Stop and THINK!" . . .

THE HIGHLIGHT of the IODE convention in Ottawa a couple of weeks ago, for the four local delegates who attended (Regent Ruth Evans, Mrs. Robert Jones, Mrs. A. W. Gilmer, and Mrs. Ed Wilson), was being presented to Governor General Vincent Massey, at an afternoon reception at Government House . . .

. . . Mrs. Wilson told us that merely seeing Government House itself was quite a thrill. It is a huge place, beautifully furnished, yet with a homey atmosphere. She was intrigued with the large room in which the 350 IODE delegates were entertained. Its decor simulated a garden-party atmosphere, with gaily striped walls, the ceiling painted to resemble the canopy of a tent and colourful Japanese lanterns supplying most of the illumination. The governor-general's beloved dog, a beautiful Irish setter, was present at the reception too, making friends with everyone.

ply -- hats, white gloves and afterdress. Each guest first approxched the governor's side-de-comp, to her good sense of humour and infor-

and FINAL WEEK



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The puzzle for the pust Four Weeks must be attucked to this form . . .

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passed it on to the Governor-General as each guest was presented. The honored guests then shook hands with the governor, made a small curtsey, and withdrew . . .

. . . The ladies from town were a little disappointed having just missed seeing the Viscount and Countess of Alexander, who were present at the reception for part of the time in another part of the large reception hall.

THAT SAME EVENING the big convention banquet was held in the Crystal Ballroom of the Chateau Laurier, with Sir Archibald and Lady Nye as honoured guests. The head table looked very impressive with the colourful standards of the many different IODE Chapters, as a background, and red, white and blue candles on the table . . .

. . . Another day, the delegates had luncheon at Laurentian House in Ottawa, This house is quite unique in that it is owned by the Ottawa IODE (there are several chapters). They bought this hig home, redecorated it, and now use it for their various meetings and activities . . .

... Mayor Charlotte Whitton was pre-THE ALLIMPORTANT question . sent on a couple of occasions at the of what to wear for the "pres- convention, and spoke a few words. Mrs. Wilson tells us she is "quite a gal." They were all impressed with her good sense of humour and inforPHONE OR WRITE

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