



IT'S THAT MAN AGAIN

The Face That Launched A Thousand Quips

THIS is a page of BBC photographs of some of the more notorious personages in "ITMA"—Dr. Thomas Hacksaw, for instance, that "dubious dean of the medical profession," alias Picklock Holmes, alias the Pukka 'Sahib from Rumblebellipore, alias Miss Thomasina (Farthingale) Handley; and with him are one or two others from the idiotic half-hour, whose names will be found under the photographs.

The photograph immediately to the left was chosen by the BBC because nobody had ever seen Tommy Handley looking serious before. It is, they assured us, the authentic face that launched a thousand quips. And the one on the right, dating back to the childhood of Thomasina Handley gives a fresh glimpse of his/her extraordinary background.



Here is Maudie Edwards being measured for a dress by Mr. Handley himself, in a half-hour described by the BBC as a "reprehensible relay of ridiculous, ribaldry." In this particular programme he made fun of the BBC's own programmes, in particular, one which he likes to call the "General Farces Programme."



According to his fellow conspirator Maurice Shillington, Tommy Handley is here seen *In Search of Truth*. He is investigating the workings of a stirrup-pump, and if Shillington is to be believed, some of his discoveries include how to get change for a bob, and the fact that you can't keep a horse in a lighthouse.



This time, it's a job of plumbing. The Principal Plumber (with moustache) is Mr. Handley of course, and his "fellow saboteur in this mad medley of muddled mumbling and misdirected minstrelsy" (we quote the BBC) is Sydney Keith. A flushing cistern is out of sight just beneath the newspaper, and another interesting object here omitted will be found in the picture to the right.



Here is that prehensile practitioner Dr. Thomas Hacksaw, whose discovery of the great new ink-stain eradicator Fountain Penicillin made such a mark. He is sounding the depths of a frightened patient (Maudie Edwards), whose alarm may be justified, in view of the fact that Dr. Hacksaw's stethoscope is merely the downpipe from the flushing cistern seen out of sight in the picture to the left.