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People Named Smith—

Pearson Resident Gets Mail, Pays Taxes In Odd Cognomen; Wife Calls Him Willie

CHAPTER FIVE

SOME STRANGE SMITHS, INCLUDING 1/2 SMITH
Early in the 19th century Sydney Smith, the great English wit, recognized the difficulties confronting a Smith afflicted with a common baptismal name.

He named his daughter Saba, after a king mentioned in the 72d Psalm, on the theory that anyone with a surname of Smith ought to have an uncommon given name by way of compensation. We will find more striking examples of this theory at work as we go along.

FOR THE PRESENT, let us look at 1/2 Smith, a respected citizen of Pearson, Ga. 1/2 is a person of some prominence in Pearson, being a member of the City Council, owner of a jewelry store, owner of a farm and operator of a plant which produces concrete blocks.

He was born in Dupont, Ga., in 1912, the son of a man named Frank Smith who was fed up with being mistaken for other men named Frank Smith (there were five other Frank Smiths in Dupont alone).

When his son was born, Frank Smith sat down and considered the problem, thought of all the confusions and embarrassments he had suffered because of his name. The more he thought about it the more determined he became that his son should have a first name the like of which no other mortal on earth possessed. In the end he chose 1/2.

Not Five-Eighths, spelled out, but 1/2 Smith. In the interests of accuracy it must be reported that while everyone else calls him 1/2, while he gets his mail in that name and pays his taxes as 1/2 Smith, his wife calls him Willie.

HIS GIVEN NAME has its opposites in the matter of length. A child born during a flood was named William McKinley Louisiana Levee Bust Smith.

In 1901 a boy born in Oklahoma was baptized Loyall Lodge No. 296 Knights of Pythias, Ponca City Oklahoma Smith.

Xenophon P. Smith is head of the Peoria Public Library System.

I have seen a picture of him and he doesn't look like anyone who would be named Xenophon P. Smith.

Here is a note about a Tennessee lawyer, Leonidas D'Entrecasteaux Smith, who named his children Kellah and Ucal.

Another note concerns Zemro Smith, who was a leading editorial writer in Indianapolis years ago.

THERE HAVE BEEN several Smiths christened with a first name that seems singularly appropriate—Increase Smith.

The father of a Michigan congressman was named Wanton Smith. Somewhere in the jungles of the Belgian Congo there is, or was, an old drum master, skilled in the use of that instrument as a means of communication, named Quarrelsome Smith.

One Lung Smith was a character in the Chicago underworld years ago. Fox Smith was the name of a "sea poetess" in England. Ulysses Grant Smith was a top diplomat for many years and Paul Revere Smith is prominent in New York society.

Young Smith is dean of the Columbia School of Law and then there is Nevada Smith. Nevada Smith is not a cowboy (that's Whispering) but one of the most publicized of New York's showgirls. She brought consider-

My alma mater would not have been the World-Telegram, for the Telegram wouldn't have been the World, but perhaps would have been the Sun, and the Sun would have been something else, maybe the Herald.

And things would have been so balled up generally that the Herald-Tribune today would be known as the Journal-American, and the Journal-American the War Cry, and the paper we know as the World-Telegram & Sun might have wound up as the New York Daily Peshine.

A MAN BEARING the interesting name of Coffin Smith was a character around Exeter, New Hampshire, some years ago. Coffin was well-to-do and particular about what he ate.

In his old age he had a daily routine. Each morning he called at the homes of each of his six children in Exeter, inquired about the menu for dinner, arrived back at his own house, sat down and considered, and then chose the one he would eat with that evening.

Near Hartford, Conn., is a house that was once occupied by a Sandemanian (Glasite) minister named Stephanian Smith. Stephanian had an eccentric wife named Hannah and five eccentric daughters bearing the interesting names of Nancy Zephina, Cyrrinthia Saretta, Laurilla Alereyia, Julia Evelina and Abby Hadassah.

These females are said to have been the first of their sex to have book called "Abby Smith and Her Champion the abolitionist cause Cows."

That book was to taxation what "Uncle Tom's Cabin" was to slavery and, for quite a while people everywhere, inspired by Abby's example, were chasing tax collectors with sharp hatchets. Tomorrow: The Only Smith and the H. Allen Smiths.

Bus Rider's Protests Declared Too Strong

RICHMOND, Va. (UPI) — Loudly-squeaking air brakes on a city bus caused a passenger, Garthina Crawford, to lose his patience—and his freedom.

Crawford, 27, after complaining to the driver, J. A. Haifield, about the noise, advanced on Haifield with a knife. Police arrested Crawford on charges of disorderly conduct.

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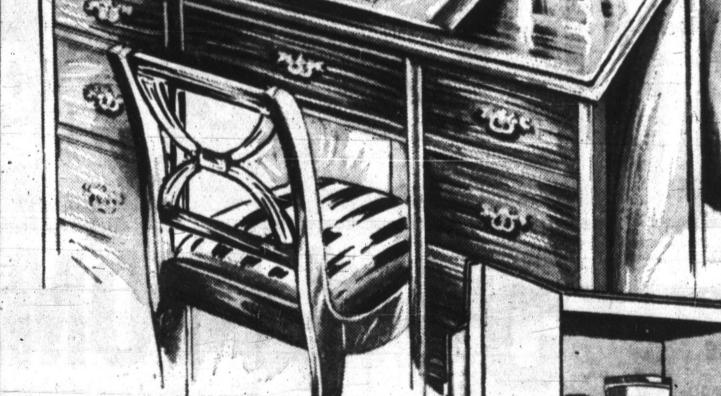
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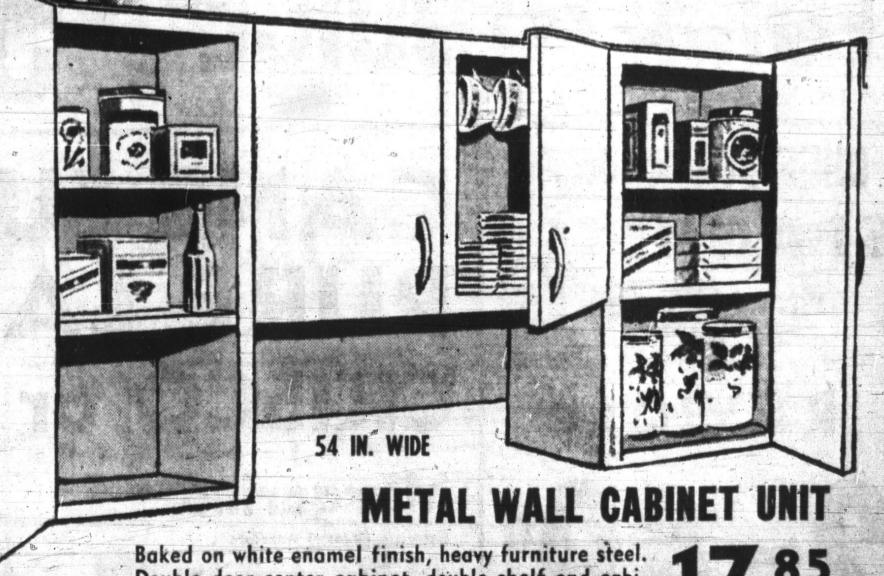
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Comes dressed in a little playtime outfit, with extra pants and diapers, a bottle of soaped-up soap and wash-cloth. Imagine the fun your favorite little girl will have giving this baby doll a bottle and changing her diapers...bathing her in the baby bath...feeding her in her highchair (which has a shiny potty attached)...putting her in her playpen...rocking her to sleep in her cradle...dressing her. Baby has her own bottle, too.

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