

ROSE LAWN,
KINGSGATE-ON-SEA,
BROADSTAIRS,
KENT.

May 2nd, 1950

Dear Leonard Packman,

Very many thanks for your letter this morning with the two cuttings, which I am very glad to have. By a coincidence, I received by the same post a cutting from last Sunday's "People", reporting Dr. Edith Summerskill's remarks on the Gem and Magnet, which pleased me very much. Perhaps you have seen it. The old papers were ~~re~~ferred to in an address by the Minister of National Insurance to the Married Women's Association in London. I should never have guessed that Dr. Edith was numbered among my old readers!

Yes, I was very pleased indeed with the articles on the "Toff" in the C.D., and if this was a first, or almost first effort, I think it reflects great credit on the writer. I have always held the opinion that a writer's first duty is to be readable: and Mrs. Packman has performed that duty admirably. The subject, of course, interested me very much, as I have always had a soft corner for Talbot. I have lately finished the book about him for Mandeville Publications. It is called "Talbot's Secret", and

will be published about September. Just now I am getting busy with Billy Bunter, who has some wild adventures with a Blue Mauritius, ---which may interest readers of a philatelic tendency!

I hope you will enjoy your trip to the North, --or rather, I am sure you will. Many thanks for your kind inquiry about Edith. The poor dear has had more illness in twelve months than I have had in over three quarters of a century, which is very rough luck, and doesn't seem quite fair. But I am glad to say that she is pulling round, slowly but surely. As for myself, I go on just the same as ever, with rather more than my fair share of good health for my time of life.

Kindest regards to dear little Eleanor, I enclose a letter for Mrs. Packman.

Always yours sincerely,

Frank Richards