

Coming Round the Bend

WITH DENIS GLOVER

ONE girl said to another, "He must be a very unhappy man—he didn't even look me up and down."

A WITTY friend says that democracy is always right about its rights and wrong about its values.

AN old man died the other day at ninety after having been drinking himself to death for seventy years.

AS if to emphasise his wandering eyes he had bags under them.

THERE'S a song which begins, "Good morning, Brother Sunshine." Other characters in the cast are Sister Song, Brother Gladness, and Sister Smile. A man called Foley wrote the words, and Liza Lehmann set them. I know nothing else against either of them.

"GOD give me—" is a popular beginning to a certain kind of song. In it the singer makes a number of requests—it may be for the moon, the stars or, more modestly, for a loving heart. But I can think of no occasion when anybody has asked straight out for a better singing voice.

THE Lord giveth and the Law taketh away.

WOULD that we could bring to the examination of our stupidities the clarity and insight that we do to those of others.

IT'S hard to fit everything into the week, but I admired the lack of rancour of the woman who told me that theirs was a proper golfer's garden.

THE bigger the deceptions in any profession, the more strenuous the efforts to present an impeccable code of ethics to the public.

THE ballad began as "popular" poetry. Then it became a literary exercise. Are even the best of the literary ballads as widely effective as "Paddy McGinty's Goat"?

LIFE is change—mostly short change.

IN these days Jack is not merely as good as his master: he expects, and gets, rather more money.

IT is a dubious sort of flattery to be told, "This is a poem you are not yet worthy of writing."

NOR is the pun to be appreciated by the Progress League when someone said, "I am plain sick of Canterbury!"

IF you ever meet a journalist who isn't a cynic, he's not a good journalist.

A VERY nice euphemism is that of the Maori chief who referred to "King George's farm at Port Jackson."

"IN the worst situation there is usually a lighter side, and if someone's temperament is such that he can see it automatically, he can pull through. And, especially, if you can laugh at yourself without prompting from outside, you will be a lucky and a happy man."—The Hon. Ewen E. S. Montague, speaking from the BBC on "This I Believe."

N.Z. LISTENER, AUGUST 13, 1954.

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