

"It's the women's session discussion panel—somehow they got on to a mutual acquaintance"

rich scent. I must now wait till my own two have drawn themselves up to their full height.

# A Man and His Work

THIS is an age which is sometimes deprecated for its insistent interest in people. It is often so much easier to read a biography of the poet than to come to grips with his work; or to see a film about Lautrec rather than to learn to appreciate painting. But curiosity about people of some consequence in the artistic world also has a positive aspect. At least it is better than indifference, and it sometimes illuminates the man's work, or presents us with a more likeable person than we had created in our own mind. I myself do not care enough for T. S. Eliot's poetry to explore it fully, nor do I share his opinions about society. Nevertheless, when earlier I heard him read some of his own verses. I came closer to a proper understanding of his poems, and now that I have heard Robert Speaight's very fine 3YC talk on Mr. Eliot the somewhat rigid and pedagogical figure in my own mind unexpectedly unbends to discuss the manuscript of the younger poet who has come to see him in his room at the publishing house of Faber and Faber. -Westcliff

## **Ruthless Rhymes**

SOME rather haphazard listening last Sunday netted me a fair entertainment catch. Conquest of the Air (BBC) was a sound, satisfying programme undisfigured by excessive romanticism. Dominion Day, an anniversary programme by Celia and Cecil Manson,

N.Z. LISTENER, OCTOBER 8, 1954.

revealed a sense of historical piety in the authors without communicating it to their listeners. Then to 2ZB for Lesley Gordon's Sorrowful and Not So Sorrowful Tales. From the parental point of view these are delightful, being thoroughly cautionary and callous. Of Amanda Montmorency Maggs, a litter-dropper finally speared by the refuse collector, the author remarks "perhaps it was a pity, but London is a crowded city." These tales deserve, quite as much as Hilaire Belloc, to become family

## Man About the House

REMEMBER my first wrestling match, and my puzzlement at the way everybody hissed the man in the beard with the black trunks and applauded the smooth-chested boy in the blue trunks, till it was explained to me that it was all arranged in the interests of audience enjoyment. To my surprise (and gratification) the same consideration for audience enjoyment was shown in the recent Wednesday discussion "What is Man's Place in the Home?" when a certain Mr. Edwards, in defiance, I'm sure, of truth, cast himself in the role of heavy and expounded a policy of keeping clear of the sink and always oiling the lawnmower while his wife turned the requisite Two Spits. Accustomed as I am to the boxing-ring technique of the straight discussion, which very seldom gets as far as a t.k.o., I felt grateful to Mr. Edwards for putting himself offside often enough for the Goodies to score a resounding moral victory. But, dreadful thought, could it have been resounding merely because it was hollow?

# Tells you "HOW TO DO IT" POPULAR MECHANICS

"POPULAR MECHANICS"—America's finest monthly picture magazine—is full of "how to do it" articles for the home owner, hobbyist, craftsman... fully illustrated and WRITTEN SO YOU CAN UNDERSTAND IT! Interesting stories, too, from every part of the world! 500 colour and black-and-white photographs and drawings in each issue.

## "POPULAR MECHANICS"

MAILED DIRECT TO YOU FROM CHICAGO EVERY MONTH FOR 32/-. One year's subscription costs 32/- (a saving of 16/- on single copy prices); two year's subscription costs

57/- (a saving of 39/- on single copy prices); three year's subscription costs 79/- (a saving of 65/- on single copy prices).

MAIL THIS COUPON TODAY

# Win Friends, Popularity with Little Tricks of Everyday Talk

A well-known publisher reports there is a simple technique of everyday conversation which can pay you real dividends in both social and professional advancement and works like magic to give you added poise, self-confidence and greater popularity. The details of this method are described in a fascinating booklet, "Adventures in Conversation," sent free on request.

According to this publisher, many people do not realise how much they could influence others simply by what they say and how they say it. Whether in business, at social functions, or even

in casual conversations with new acquaintances, there are ways in which you can make a good impression every time you talk.

To acquaint more readers of this paper with the easy-to-follow rules for developing skill in everyday conversation, the publishers have printed full details of their interesting self-training method in a 24-page booklet, which will be sent free to anyone who requests it. Please send 6d in stamps to cover postage and despatch. The address is Conversation Studies, Dept. RL2, Totara Park, Kerikeri Central, North Auckland.