

Win Friends, Popularity with Little Tricks of Everyday Talk

A well-known publisher reports there is a simple technique of every day 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. L19/7, Totara Park, Kerikeri Central, North Auckland. — Advt.

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BOOKS

(continued from previous page)

novel as reminiscence, Miss Lucas has probably lowered the reader's tolerance and her own discretion.

Raising Demons, a sequel to *Life Among the Savages*, is Shirley Jackson's further account of her own household. The children's conversation, and their mother's comments, have grown more pungent. There is the same tonic attitude, the blend of warmth and astringency, of open-hearted verve and decent reticence. But an admirer of those taut, imaginative stories, *The Lottery* and *Hangsamen*, cannot enjoy seeing their author at work in this crowded field of formless, first-person-singular writing known as domestic comedy. Shirley Jackson's life, as seen here, comes close to the ideal of human happiness, and looks unpromising for a creative writer. It is an old dilemma.

In *Mother Signed the Contract*, a very young Australian actress tells of what lay between her academy training and her first West End Chance. Every-one planning to go on the stage should read this everyday account of the fun and horrors of job-hunting and of life in obscure troupes, and consider the resilience of body and spirit it requires. But Miss James's book offers neither the distinction of style nor the insight into plays and acting which would attract the general reader. —D.F.T.

IRISH STORIES, WELL TOLD

ERIN'S ORANGE LILY; ULSTER CUSTOMS AND FOLKLORE, by Sam Hanna Bell; Dennis Dobson, Irish price 12/6.

[T] is not so long ago since it could be said that Northern Ireland was a part of the British Empire which shared with New Zealand the singularity of never having produced a poet or a novelist regarded as of permanent worth. Not so now. When he died recently, Joyce Cary was probably the best novelist writing in English. And there is also Benedict Kiely, of *Land Without Stars* and *In a Harbour Green*. Although rather below their standard, Sam Hanna Bell is a reputable writer in whose books one can enjoy some good Irish stories well told. Nor does he let politics enter more than they must in Ireland. Three of the nine counties of Ulster are in the Irish Republic and six in Northern Ireland, but Sam Hanna Bell succeeds in convincing one that the province of Ulster is in many ways a unit.

If St Patrick returned to Ireland today he would be found at some hearth listening to Gaelic tales of pagan Ireland, says Sam Hanna Bell; and talking of Irish speech there is the story of the two friends lunching together. At the next table a couple were talking in rapid Gaelic. Said one onlooker, "What are they saying?" Said the other carefully swallowing his salmon, "They are discussing the pens of their respective aunts."

—F. J. Foot

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

THE SATURDAY EVENING POST STORIES, 2; Elek Books, English price 16/-. A second volume of stories selected by the Editors of the Post. Twenty authors are represented, including William Faulkner, Farley Mowat and Paul Gallico.

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