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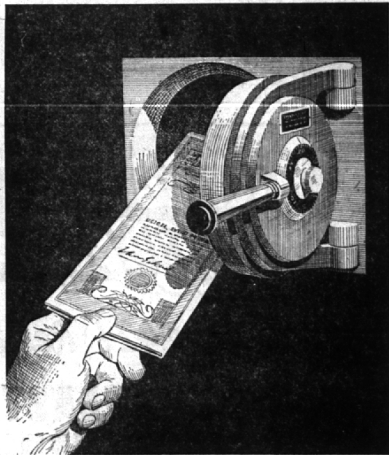
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BOOKS and REVIEWS

Author: Marguerite Yourcenar  
Publisher: Doubleday & Co.  
Reviewer: Gay G. Sykes

**Hadrian's Memoirs** speaks infinite and painstaking research by an eminently qualified writer, but the end product is simple and straightforward in its presentation. Its moderate length (290 pages) should prove reassuring.

This reviewer approached the book with some trepidation and slightly less than a casual knowledge of the Roman Empire. But through the form of the autobiographical narrative written by Hadrian to his grandson, Marcus Aurelius, one of the truly golden eras in human history comes alive. For the 21 years of his vigorous and judicious reign, we see Hadrian traveling extensively throughout the empire, Germany, Britain, Palestine and much of Asia Minor bore the marks of his influence and reforms.

HE WAS a patron of the arts

**The Pink Hotel**

The hotel world certainly seems to attract more than its share of scoundrels, off beats, phonies and, in general, the seamy side of life. At least that is the case in *The Pink Hotel* by Patrick Dennis and Dorothy Erskine.

The book is a far cry from the gay absurd, shenanigans of the famed Auntie Mame, Dennis' last book. At first it was disappointing. Your reviewer anticipated the same kind of lighthearted humor and ridiculous predicaments. Nevertheless, after the scene is set and the characters are presented, I found the book readable and absorbing. It is as funny in spots, though, that the humor has a real sting. And there are moments of tenderness and beauty.

SOMEHOW two very real and compelling romances blossom and bloom in this unlikely atmosphere. Mrs. Dukemer and Mr. Mather appear to be a most improbable match. Yet it is genuinely moving and at times hilarious to follow the course of their courtship. Sometimes the characters seem

**The Woman From Sicily**

The *Woman From Sicily* is not at all in the tradition of a true detective story, for Frank Swinnerton has attempted more than a mere mystery and has well succeeded.

Written in a leisurely and often witty style, the novel deals with the unexpected destruction brought into the quiet lives of the Grace family by the death of one extraordinary character, Hector Barraway, and the sudden arrival of another, Jerome Grace's mother. The mystery evoked by the events on a stormy July night creates a story that holds one's attention throughout the book.

However, it is the handling of the characters, and the tensions and intrigues among them that make Swinnerton an author, who can write as well as tell a good story.

OLD MRS. GRACE, who exudes malice and evil, is the novel's major figure, and she is contrasted with Jerome's wife, Mary, who although perhaps a little unconvincing in her saintliness, remains interesting.

The minor characters also, Rump, Midge, and Spink, as well as the Grace children, all have the individuality and liveliness that English writers are able to create with such regularity. The criticism of over-romanticism might be raised against the novel, and it could be called merely an imaginative tale. But Swinnerton's very capable handling of his peaceful and prosaic English countryside setting (which I am convinced is always the most likely spot for harrowing events to occur) creates an entirely compelling mood which dispels all thoughts of incongruity.

Author: Frank Swinnerton  
Publisher: Doubleday & Co.  
Reviewer: Jean Leness

*The Woman From Sicily* is not only a fascinating story, but also an example of how a capable writer can turn the often used mystery form into a novel that has more in it than mere suspense.

THE SOLUTION to the mystery may seem a little obvious, for it has been thoroughly led up to throughout the book. Nevertheless, one's suspense is extremely well maintained until the mystery is solved, and the novel's ending is quite satisfactory, if a bit vague.

THE OTHER characters, except Dave Furell, are extreme in eccentricity. Mrs. Westbury—the social climber; Mr. Wenton—the hotel owner; both honey-moon couples; the Mellot sisters with their unusual devotion to Chiang, their fiancé. Perhaps it is only the extremes that are attractive to the extremes of this type of luxury living.

AT ANY RATE the authors have done a good job of exploiting the commercial glamour of the hotel world, and their delightful humor lightens and relieves all the sordid and macabre.

If this picture of the day-to-day routine in the life of the "fabulous" new Florida hotels is accurate, people are best at home reading about it.

Author: Patrick Dennis, Dorothy Erskine  
Publisher: G. P. Putnam's  
Reviewer: Robin R. Bahr

Author: Frank Swinnerton  
Publisher: Doubleday & Co.  
Reviewer: Jean Leness

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WHY?



The "COLD SHOULDER?"

Expression has doubtful origin. Teutonic root for "bow" in greeting had some sound in use as "shoulder" before it became "bough" for tree limb. When we usually bowed deeply at meeting or introduction, a scarcely inclined shoulder to indicate cool acknowledgment might have become "the cold shoulder."

More likely it is variation of the shrugged-shoulder snub. But we can be sure we are being met with scant social pleasure when given the frozen mit, a handshake hearty as a raw veal cutlet, or the genuine deep freeze. (Copyright 1957, John Emery Ent.)



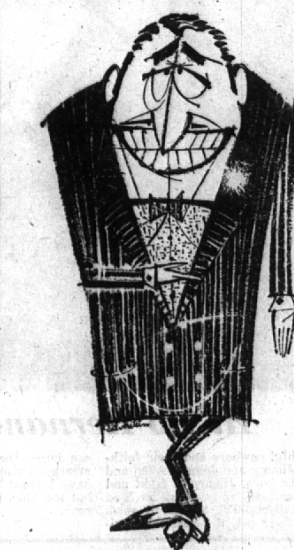
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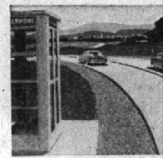
Like a lot of people, Harry was looking for a "good buy" in a new car. But no car is a bargain if it's outmoded before you drive it a mile. For the same money, Harry could have stepped up to a dashing Swept-Wing Dodge—so new it actually obsoletes other cars in its field. Obsoletes their high, boxy design with the low, low look of tomorrow. Obsoletes their old-fashioned features with such advances as Torson-Aire Ride, Push-Button TorqueFlite and Total-Contact Brakes. So don't do what Harry did—please. See your Dodge dealer today.

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AN ADDITIONAL PHONE is an awfully handy thing, especially if it's a bedside phone. Think of all the times the phone rings while you're in the bedroom—and you have to run to another part of the house to answer it. You'd certainly save a lot of tiring steps if you had a phone in your bedroom. It's a nice quiet place to make those personal calls, too. And if you're ever ill, a bedside telephone is mighty convenient and comforting. Why not order one now? You can select from eight modern decorator colors.



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A traveling salesman was Harry G. Blow, Who could sell ice cubes to an eskimo, But he fell for a line slicker than his, From a new car salesman—wow! what a whiz! The car had style—years out of date, The features were new—back in '48! Harry's still smiling, the tears hardly show, But how he wishes he could get back his dough!

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