

**THE YORKSHIRE OBSERVER  
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**The New Books.**

**A POET ON HIS CONTEMPRARIES.**

*"Some I Knew Well,"* by Clifford Bax (Phoenix House, 15s.)

Gossip by a celebrity about his contemporaries is always interesting, if sometimes a little disturbing, whether it springs from a politician, a prince or a poet.

Few description of the Edwardian Age and its literary figures could be as delicately written and as charmingly sketched as *"Some I Knew Well"* by Clifford Bax, whose versatility—he was a poet, a critic, a playwright, a cricket enthusiast, and a good deal more—brought him into intimate touch with a remarkable variety of men and women of his time.

His brief records cover a wide field, from poets like George Russell, W.B. Yeats, A.E. Housman and Gordon Bottomley (of Keighley) to Aleister Crowley (the "Black Magician"), Arnold Bennett and C.B. Fry.

**Good Stories**

They are frank but kindly, though some of the references, however, well-meant, might give pain to surviving relatives—e.g. the drinking habits of Stephen Phillips, the impertinence of Crowley and the "street-romances" of Arthur Symons. That, however, is a dilemma which every honest chronicler must face.

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