

COMMON ENGLISH
PROVERBS

**常用
英语
谚语**

江西人民出版社

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赖 余 编译

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编译者的话

每个国家和民族都有着自己的谚语，它们总是言简意赅，形象鲜明，各自从一些侧面反映了本国和本民族的社会历史，风土人情，并且总结了人民长期积累的各种经验和智慧。“水滴积多盛满盆，谚语积多成学问。”我国的这句谚语，充分说明了学习与研究谚语的重要意义。

在这本书里，我们总共选了英国谚语约一千九百条，它们的排列基本上是按照英文字母的顺序；对其中某些谚语常见的同义形式，我们都把它放置在一起，以便读者查阅。由于谚语多少带有历史的局限性和阶级的烙印，加之中英两国的社会制度又不一样，有些当前在英国常用的谚语，在我们看来却是不足取的。但是，正如毛泽东同志所指出：“禁止人们跟谬误、丑恶、敌对的东西见面，……它将引导人们思想衰退，单打一，见不得世面，唱不得对台戏”。（《毛泽东选集》第五卷346页）因此，我们除了尽量选择内容比较健康的英谚以外，也选入了极少数错误的和落后的，有的并作了简要的分析和批判，其目的只是为了使读者加深对英国社会历史的了解，和认识资本主义社会的腐朽。

在这本书里，大部分谚语是自己翻译或者是在原有译文基础上改译的，无论是翻译还是改译，我们尽可能注意了准确表达原意，同时兼顾谚语语言精炼，形象生动，读之琅琅上口，有节奏感等特点；另外，有一小部分谚语的译文，由于原来的

译者对原文的理解深刻，再现的艺术手法也很不错，我们就保留了原来的译文。至于某些难于理解的英谚，我们参考英国 W. G. Smith, *The Oxford Dictionary of English Proverbs* 和 A. Johnson, *Common English Proverbs* 两书作了些注释，有些英谚还注明了出处。

本书可供学习英语和从事英语教学与研究工作的同志参考。由于我们水平有限，加上编译时间比较仓促，书中可能有错误和不妥之处，欢迎读者批评指正。

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