J. L. AUSTIN

HOW TO DO THINGS WITH WORDS

Second Edition

Edited by J. O. Urmson and Marina Sbisà

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PREFACE TO THE SECOND EDITION

R. Sbisà has read through all Austin's notes for these lectures, comparing them with the printed text of the first edition and noting all points at which it seemed to her that improvements could be made. The editors have together examined Austin's notes at all these places and have, as a result, corrected and supplemented the printed text at a number of points. They believe that the new text is clearer, fuller, and, at the same time, more faithful to the actual words of the notes made by Austin. They have added to the appendix a literal transcription of a number of additions made by Austin in the margin or between the lines of his notes, the sense of which was not sufficiently clear for incorporation in the text but which might be of help and interest to the reader.

MARINA SBISÀ J. O. URMSON

PREFACE TO THE FIRST EDITION

The lectures here printed were delivered by Austin as the William James Lectures at Harvard University in 1955. In a short note, Austin says of the views which