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Belles lettres and bell ringers

Kiowa Art by Oscar Brousseau Jacobson, director of the school of art, University of Oklahoma. C. Swedzicki, Paris, France. Price, $3.20

From Apollo, a Journal of the Arts, (London) November

Our illustration below (an illustration in the Journal) is from one of thirty-one color plates issued in a portfolio and accompanied by a bi-lingual (English and French) text under the above title. The authors of these thirty-one drawings are five in number, their names, Tsa-to-ke; Hokeah; Asah; (Miss) Bou-ge-tah Smokey; and Mopope, who provides the greatest number, sixteen. Our illustration is from the only drawing by Asah. There is however an obvious kinship between them all, and an extremely interesting introduction, covering a much wider than the purely esthetic ground, explaining under what circumstances these drawings were produced and what they signify. One quotation from the text may be given as an explanation of the illustration, the title of which is "Asah Dancing."

"This art of the Kiowas," says the author, whose text is at least as well worth reading as the drawings are worth examining, "this art of the Kiowas should not be judged by the 'white' yard stick. They are created from a different racial point of view. Perhaps there remains in the subconsciousness of the Indian memories of his Asiatic origin. Although a slight Occidental influence may be seen in his work, there is something archaic in his feelings, and it may seem to have some subtle relationship to Old Mongolia. They know and have mastered foreshortening, but care little for the third dimension and for modeling. Theirs is a decorative art with a fine sense of harmony in line and color. They have an extraordinary faculty of observation, they can see with precision the human body in slow or violent movement, and their memory retains what they have seen. Unlike artists of the West they never use models, but paint from memory all the subtle and complicated rhythms of bodies in action."

The author is an enthusiast who dreams of a fusion of Red Indian and Anglo-Saxon blood and of a new indigenous purely American civilization. Perhaps; meantime these drawings are really interesting, not least because they are apparently painted in.

THE CAMEO


The tragedy in the life of a workingman who appreciates fine things, who saves and skimps to buy fine things, and whose wife does not appreciate them, is finely portrayed in this moving playlet by Professor Holcombe.

The Cameo appears in the Gateway Series of tested plays issued by Rowe, Peterson & Co. Of especial interest to little theaters and high schools is the introductory material by C. M. Wise, editor of the series, on lighting, producing and acting notes, etc. There are four characters in the play, Mont Evarts, a factory worker, Ed and Spike, his friends, and Maggie Evarts, Mont's wife.

The play is a segment of real life, realistically and movingly done. Mont brought home a fine print which he bought for five dollars. His wife was insulted because she thought it was bought at a five-and-ten cent store. But the birthday of the wife calls for another effort and a cameo, costing Mont twenty-five dollars, is the surprise offering. Mont's friends gaze on the cameo in awe, and listen fascinated as Mont, who lovingly has conned the rare beauty of the gift, explains the delicacy and artistic merit of the cameo. Placed in the top tray of the dinner pail so that the wife will not fail to see it, Mont waits in agony for her to discover the cameo.

FACULTY PUBLICATIONS

Karl D. Reyer, What is happening to the chain store?, Retail Ledger, September, 1929.

M. O. Wilson, What the Chicago doctors of philosophy are doing, School and Society, June, 1929; Elements of psychology, a syllabus, revised edition, 1929.

Ellsworth Collings and M. O. Wilson, Psychology for teachers, Scribes, 1929.

Anna Rinsland, The Rinsland spelers, Books I and II (in collaboration with Mrs. Henry D. Rinsland).


Charles M. Perry, articles in the Journal of Philosophy and other technical publications.

W. K. Newton, articles on the problems of municipal accounting in the Oklahoma Municipal Review.

Floyd A. Wright, articles in the Cornell Law Quarterly, the Illinois Law Review and the Tennessee Law Review.