

THE  
FRENCH  
ILLUSTRATOR

# LEGRAND



Since the war, the illustrated book has made extraordinary progress in France. A large number of editions de luxe have been issued, which to be sure, were not all equally valuable, but always of a certain interest. French artists showed themselves to be masters of illustration, especially Edy Legrand, one of the finest designers.

Edy Legrand was born in Bordeaux in 1893, educated in Switzerland and first studied painting in Munich under Knirr and Herterich, and then in the Ecole des Beaux-Arts in Paris. The academic method of instruction is foreign to his pioneer temperament. He left the school and began work for himself. Thus he not only learned the purely technical aspects of painting (his pictures reveal the clever artist, full of feeling, appealing to the heart and the brain at the same time) but also the varied technique of the illustration. After the war he occupied himself with painting and at the same time with the copperplate engraving. Soon after, following an inner impulse, he began to devote himself to book illustrating and his work gained him universal recognition. Edy Legrand has since acquired a degree of mastership which places him among the best artists of his time, whether we consider his plain and colored stencil sketches (intended for children, but usually found in bibliophile collections, such as his "Macao and Cosmage" and "Voyages et Decouvertes de Navigateurs Français"), his pen-and-ink drawings, water-colors, lithographs or etchings.