



Friedrich Wobst

The work of this artist of the younger generation does not betray traces of any „movement“ but rather personality and a modern habit of mind. This is a particularly agreeable conclusion to which the observer is inevitably led by the study of Wobst's various book-covers, book-jackets, illustrations, lay-outs and lettering. It would not be at all in accordance with his nature slavishly to conform to any fashionable dogmas and theories. Thanks to his versatile talents and his power to adapt himself objectively to the particular task in hand, he is not tempted to confine himself to any particular form of artistic expression. As a black-and-white artist, he shows wit and originality and can create caricatures full of delicious humor and unforced naturalness.

Wobst's most important work up to now has been the designing of book-jackets and book-covers for various leading publishers. They show a sensitive perception of the intellectual content of the volume and a striking instinct for propagandistic effect. The lettering is also interesting and original. Wobst is particularly interested in script. In this sphere he owes most to Professor E. R. Weiss, of whom he was a pupil. A modern printing type, the effective Globus Italics used by the D. Stempel Co's type foundry of Frankfurt on the Main, and intended for display headlines, is from designs by Friedrich Wobst. Wobst is still at the beginning of his career; we may expect to see many good and effective bits of graphic art from his hand in the future.

Trans. by E. T. Scheffauer.