



Dr. L. S C H R E I B E R:

# IVO PUHONNÝ

**S**OMETHING we always long for becomes a fairylike reality when Ivo Puhonny's marionettes are acting. Incomparable charm, all the grace of the dance, power of expression under most masterly control and perfect detachment from material reality give an ethereal quality to the actors on the tiny stage which seems so familiar to us and before which we laugh, cry, rejoice and are content to forget ourselves altogether. Happy dreams surround us from a magic land of youth, gloriously drastic puppet figures from the past—the very earliest past, once more exercise their irresistible spell upon our receptive spirits. And here we may remark that it never was by any means the "little minds" which were most susceptible to the influence of the dance of the marionettes. What a strange fate, to be born a lord of puppets!

When Ivo Puhonny was able to open his marionette theatre in Baden-Baden in the year 1911, he had already traversed a long and interesting path. On extensive journeys to the Orient and the Far East he has deepened his knowledge of the strange magic of the puppet-play and we can trace these influences in every phase of his development, so rich in achievement. Whether it is Puhonny the artist, exciting attention before the war, in the pioneer days of advertising, by advertising campaigns of striking originality or whether it is his fascinating designs for mural paintings which have

