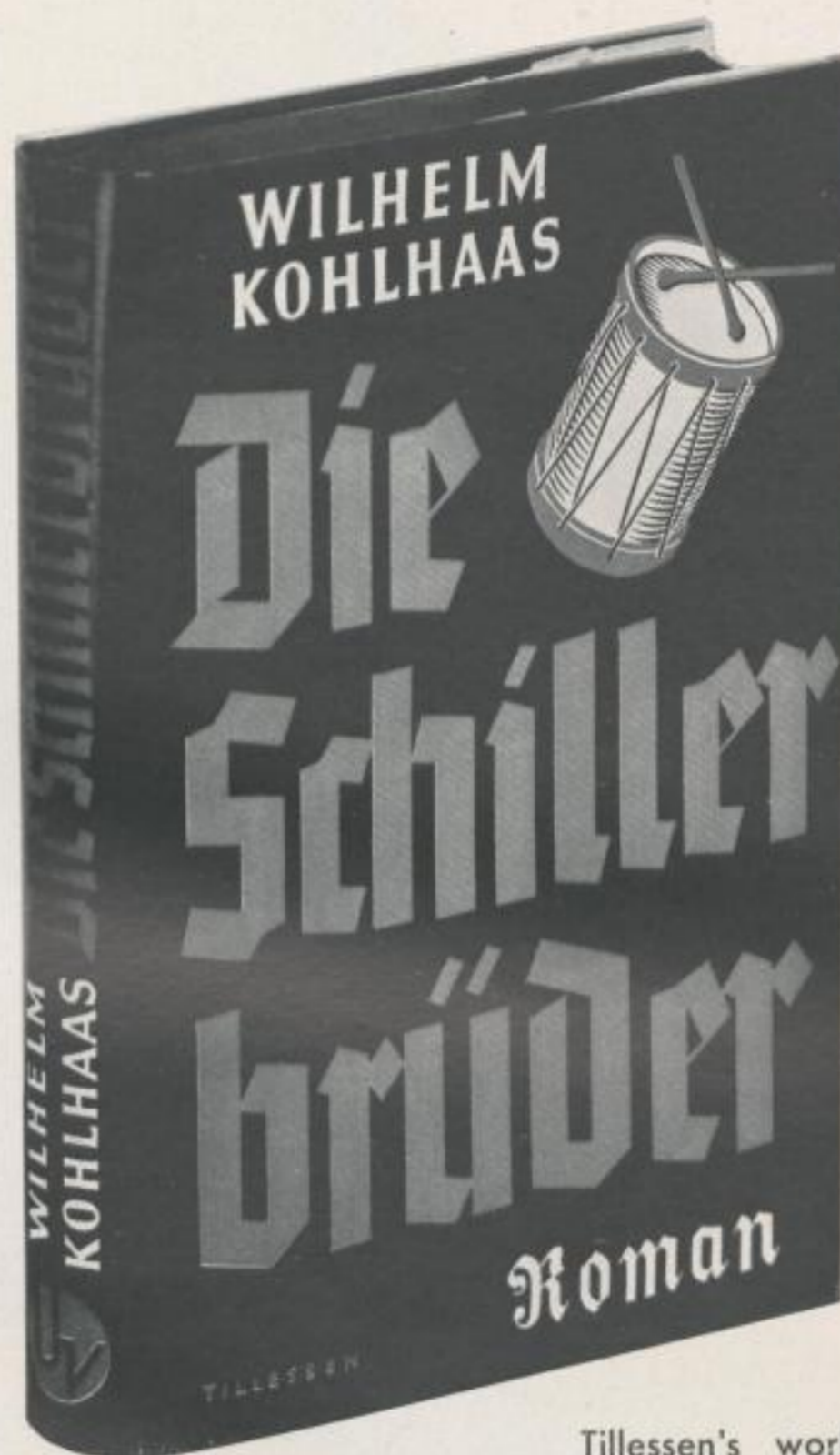


TILLESSEN

Book covers and
Book jackets



Tillessen's work betrays a very delicate sense of touch in establishing contact with his subject, which is particularly requisite in the domain of book covers and wrappers. He has adapted his methods remarkably well to the needs of various publishing firms and their output, and thoroughly understands the characteristics of each firm which ought to be recognizable in every publication, even purely externally. His marked aesthetic note is free from mannerisms, and varied enough to do full justice to requirements of the most different kinds. His wrappers suggest the subject and are good advertising matter. The cover, even when it has the same appearance as the wrapper, is treated in more delicate fashion, with less consideration for pure reality and more for the contents of the book. In doing so, colour and script have an equally symbolic effect. Good lettering for the title enhances its effect. Books show their backs in a bookcase. An impression of the intellectual atmosphere of a book can be given not only by the wrapper and cover but also by the make-up and distribution of the back. Tillessen can do that, and in his case the backs of the books are free from disturbing symbols and doubtful flourishes. His work is characterized by a quiet neat refinement which predestines him to give a suitable and attractive appearance to the high-class books published by enterprising firms.

Transl. by W. L. Campbell.