

jackets and book bindings designed in recent years, possesses this fortunate gift of being able to do full justice to all the æsthetic and advertising requirements which must now be demanded in the case of a good book jacket. The jackets she has designed are remarkable for their clear and comprehensible arrangement, while the general optical impression is determined, almost without exception, by very impressive script, which is not infrequently on the plane of the absolutely pictorially symbolic, and becomes the actual intellectual means of expression. In spite of all her obvious dislike of the purely illustrative, the artist by no means lacks the necessary gift of grasping the motif, as is proved, for example, by the striking jacket for "Winterpostille" with black musical notation on a grey ground. But the mental relation with the contents of the book is always provided, generally by the character of the script or sometimes strengthened by more additional small pictorial motifs of a signet-like or symbolic character, and generally further emphasized by very delicate coloration and the use of correspondingly tinted paper. The brochures and book bindings designed by Paquita Kowalski-Tannert are also evidence of full appreciation of the material and of a sure feeling for the different values of the surface, lines and scripts. The series of jackets for the brochures, which are designed from uniform points of view, vary only in colouring and lettering, while in the case of the book bindings, in which all superfluous accessories are avoided, emphasis is mainly laid on a clear and quietly refined arrangement of the back, which, of course, is what is most visible in a bookcase. Paquita Kowalski-Tannert's graphic book work is suited to the times because, apart from all artistic standards, it perfectly consciously takes into account the economic conditions of the present day.

Translated by W. L. Campbell



Photo: Pfankuch

BOOK JACKETS AND BOOK BINDINGS