

Dover Art Books of Good Quality



albert macdonald

the bookworm

This week I shall review several books from the Dover collection put out by the General Publishing Co. As you may have noticed last week, these books are special interest, and the theme this week will be art. Dover is noted for their art books, and they have sent me a random selection to review.

Unseen NewYork.
Photographs by Mark Feldstein.
95 pp.
\$4.75.

This book is a simple collection of photographic works on the architecture of New York. These photographs, done for the most part in black and white, show the unexpected dignity and beauty to be found even in the slums. Mr. Feldstein makes use of light and shadow techniques while concentrating on a single aspect of a building to emphasize a single point. The use mainly of this single aspect of a building facade has the effect of overpowering the background of age to create an object of beauty in the eye of the beholder. Mr. Feldstein appears to have the uncanny ability to create an image of timelessness by his photographs. I would recommend this book to anyone interested in the aesthe-

tic aspects of photography. One of the main charms of the book is the way in which it makes its point through the use of the subtle rather than the obvious.

Measured Drawings of Early American Furniture.
Osburn & Osburn.
82 pp.
\$3.50.

This book appeals, I would imagine, to a somewhat more limited audience than do the others discussed here. However, it would be an almost essential addition to the collection of that audience. For those interested in antiques, it is a well-written and interesting work. It begins with a short history of Early American furniture and furniture-making, then shows approximately two dozen pieces. Each section shows a photograph and the measured drawings of the item, gives a relevant historical quote and short discussion on the piece, then gives directions should one wish to build a replica thereof. This book should appeal to those interested in furniture making and/or the history of furniture, and, for the average reader, gives a glimpse into the day-to-day life of the people of those times.

Selected Etchings of J. Whistler.
Compiled by Maria Naylor.
190 pp.
\$5.75.

To those of you who are under the impression that "Whistler's Mother" was Whistler's only major piece, it will come as a surprise to know that Whistler was mainly noted for his etchings, a collection of which is found in this book.

The compiler of this collection, Maria Naylor, has provided an introduction to and an explanatory note on each of the one hundred and forty-eight prints. This note usually contains the state that was illustrated, the medium, the original dimensions, and the set to which the print belongs. I found this book to be of excellent quality, for the reproductions are both clear and accurate. Among the prints in this book are many of his most famous, such as "Nocturne", "The Two Doorways", "Annie Haydn", and "Black Lion Wharf".

Whistler's works strike one with their simplicity, while emanating a complex artistry. The scenes are very picturesque at a superficial glance, yet upon closer scrutiny contain a rich and varied meaning.

Although this book may appear to appeal to a special interest group, I feel it is one that can be appreciated by everybody. It is one of the few books where, after perusing it, your mind continues to return to it. It is this haunting quality which makes it a valuable addition to any collection.

Authentic Indian Designs
Maria Naylor, ed.
219 pp.
\$5.75.

This book has a specific appeal both to those interested in art and design and to those interested in the history and cultures of the North American Indians. In a wider sense, it can be read and used by any-

one interested in eye-catching and meaningful symbols, motifs, patterns, and designs.

The illustrations are divided into five categories: Prehistoric Art of the Eastern Woodlands, The Eastern Woodlands, The Plains Area, The Northwest Coast, Alaska, and the Arctic Regions, and the Southwest. The designs date from 1000 B.C. to the end of the nineteenth century.

The format of the book is as follows: First is a short text discussing each of the categories. Then the five sections are given in the order shown above. Various objects are used to illustrate the designs; masks, tents, belts, pottery, and baskets, to name only a few. At the bottom of each page are captions describing the items on that page.

Not only are the designs interesting for their intrinsic beauty, they are also valuable in that they graphically show the vast differences between the various Indian cultures. Many people have a tendency to think of the pre-white man Indians as an amorphous and uncivilized mass, and, to the average reader, perhaps the most valuable function of the book is to show that this is indeed not the case.

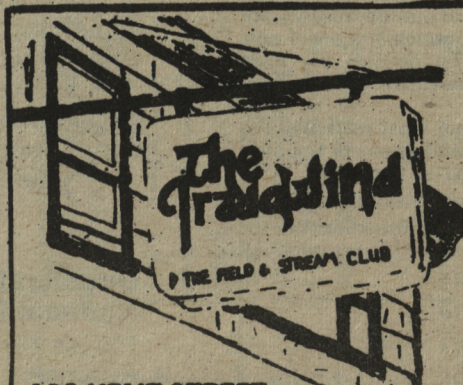
This book is to be recommended to designers, history students, and anyone interested in the Indian cultures. I might add that for any history teachers, this book may prove a useful teaching aid in that it gives a new perspective of Indian culture to both the student and the teacher.

To conclude these reviews, I would like to point out one thing. For those of you who feel the prices of these books to be high, the quality of the materials used in these books are excellent; the prices are, in my opinion, justified.



open 7:00 am
to 1:30 am
later on weekends

delivery to any residence 50¢
guaranteed hot food
pizza, lasagne
submarines and sandwiches



189 KENT STREET
CHARLOTTETOWN, P.E.I.

Phone 894-4291

STEAK ROOM

11:30 A.M. - 7:00 P.M.

MONDAY TO FRIDAY

FEATURING 8 oz. SIRLOIN STEAK 2.65
AND
OUR SMOKED MEAT ON RYE PLATTER 1.65
(A Dinner in itself)

DISCOTHEQUE NIGHTLY

9 P.M. - 1 A.M.

QUADRAPHONIC SOUND

Tues, U.P.E.I. nite 'Specials'

THE "INN OUT OF THE SUN" GAMING ROOM

11-7 MONDAY to SATURDAY

POOL PING PONG