Sketch

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Sketch Presents

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Abstract

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SKETCH PRESENTS

A study of human nature, from a dozen varied perspectives, in this first issue of its fourteenth year of publication. Written by students, run by students, supported by students, Sketch believes that the content of each manuscript is the author's own responsibility. We search for new perspectives, for clearer voices, for sincere questioning of ancient values. This spring, we find a common question in their work: how does the individual meet changing circumstances?

We start with a blunt and personal judgment on the experience of education, titled "Science with Practice." "Disavowal," by Dick Ellis, puts power and meaning into poetry that is almost terse. And to show that American officers fought in the war too, and had decision forced upon them, Burnell Held has written "In Line of Duty."

Pat Minear emphasizes the need for human flexibility, in a curt judgment of industrial conformity, "Brown Boxes." You may find a curious lack of guilt, almost a moral satisfaction, in Frederick Young's solution to "Belly Case." And for quiet suspense, read Howard Johnson's "Iowa Crisis."

Our center-section features a biographical exposition of Christian Petersen's sculpture, flanked by four poems, two of them illustrated by their author. "Unforgotten Silence," by Dycie Stough, and "Paradox," by Margret Wallace, are studies in contrast. Both have the quality that makes poetry out of versification. JJS's "Second Sonnet" demonstrates the eternal pleasure man can derive from his most fragile dreams. We leave Norm Filbert's "Weary Wick" to puzzle the reader. It is nonsense-verse? A caricature on modern living? Or a view from an extra-planetary perspective?

We see overtones of scientific hesitation in Harlan Mill's "The Last Week." Ruth Hackett does a sketch on human foibles and calls it "The Cigar." And Said Jibrin introduces "The Corrupter," who deals in eternal verities, truisms, and enigmas. "Vacuum," by Richard Caplan, is powerful and honest writing. We particularly like the absence of abnormal psychology in the motivation. Take a stubborn boy, a provocation, and the circumstances follow. To close, Bernice Fox writes "Threat of Genius," a delightful sketch of a modern mother, her growing son, and some scraps of paper.

Sketch is proud of its contributors; throughout our pages runs their theme. It needs your attention.

The Editor