

some names from whom we expect first class work, but the paintings here shown lack the essential spirit of their makers. Perhaps a lack of a sense of purpose is partly to blame, for one finds oneself asking : what are they all for? The craftsman to-day, who makes things for a definite purpose, has the advantage over the painter ; for there are so few patrons of painting for use, while the craftsman's skill has many uses. The local artists and craftsmen of Ditchling (Sussex) and district organised an exhibition of their work in the parish church. It showed a clear contrast between the craftsman and the painters. The lack of the sense of the quality of paint and canvas, and of the purpose of painting is as striking as is the deep understanding on the part of the craftsmen of their materials and of the use to which their things are to be put. The ' things ' were as truly holy as the paintings of ' holy ' subjects were mere pious descriptions.

At the parish church of Berwick (Sussex) the vicar, with the encouragement of the Bishop of Chichester, has given painters a chance to use their work for a purpose. Duncan Grant and Vanessa Bell tell again the story of the Annunciation and the Birth of Christ in language that the unlearned can understand. The application of the events is made clearer as the events are set to background of the South Downs behind Berwick, and the shepherds are local ones known to the congregation. But the artists have shown a complete lack of respect for a wall as a wall, its shape and purpose ; the chancel arch plays no part in the picture surrounding it. It is a pity that the English tradition of flat, decorative, linear wall painting, suited to and preserving the flat surface of the wall was not used. The medieval painters knew the necessity for the wall as a protection and a support, and did not try to deceive us into believing it was not there.

M.C.

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